25-year vision a step closer for Tweed City Centre

The NSW Government has signed off on the exhibition of plans to create an additional 3,000 jobs and house a further 7,000 residents in the Tweed city centre.

Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, said the Government and Tweed Shire Council have been working closely to create a 25-year vision and new planning controls for the city centre.

“Tweed will be the first city outside the greater metropolitan region (extending from Newcastle to Wollongong), where the NSW Government and council have worked together to create a city centre plan,” the Minister said.

“It's part of the Keneally Government's vision to increase the vibrancy of major regional cities and help create jobs.”

Highlights of the plan will be:

- 3,000 new jobs by 2035;
- Housing for a further 7,000 people by 2035;
- A vision which gives an overarching future picture of the city centre;
- Increasing the allowable heights and floor space of buildings in some parts of the city centre, to better reflect the role of Tweed as the capital of the Far North Coast;
- Ensuring architectural design competitions take place for buildings higher than 35 metres and development worth more than $2 million on key sites such as the Centro Shopping Centre, the Twin Towns club site and north of Jack Evans Boat Harbour;
- Encouraging energy efficiency, water conservation and recycling in new buildings;
- Creating a pedestrian-friendly environment to encourage outdoor dining and weather protection for passers-by;
- A development control plan which outlines more finer details about future development, including street setbacks, landscaping design and access and parking; and
- A local environmental plan which provides the statutory development controls, covering issues such as zoning, floor space and heights.

Duty MLC for Tweed, Amanda Fazio, welcomed the announcement.

“I am excited people of Tweed Shire will soon be able to have their say about this important plan to build the economic role and vibrancy of the city,” Ms Fazio said.

Tweed Shire Mayor, Cr Warren Polglase, said Council is concurrently launching its public exhibition of the draft Tweed LEP 2010.

“This is a shire-wide roll-over of council’s existing LEP into the new state-wide template,” Cr Polglase said.

The Tweed Cities Plan and the draft Tweed LEP 2010 will be on exhibition from Wednesday, January 27 to Wednesday, March 31, 2010.