NEW AUBURN LEP TO BOOST HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT

The Auburn local government area will become a major employment hub, with more than 40,000 new jobs to be created following the approval of a new council-wide local environmental plan (LEP).

Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, today approved the plan, prepared by Auburn City Council, which allows for the expansion of business areas and creates new enterprise corridors that will promote employment.

“The Auburn area has the potential to provide significant additional employment opportunities, resulting in shorter commuting times for local residents,” the Minister said.

“It is important to encourage greater development in town centres positioned around railway stations and much of Auburn’s new employment would be concentrated in the two centres.

“Under the LEP, Lidcombe and Auburn town centres will be expanded in line with the Government’s Metropolitan Strategy, with a focus on mixed use developments containing retail, commercial office space and residential units.

“Existing industrial land on the key arterial roads of Parramatta Rd and Silverwater Rd will be rezoned as enterprise corridors to encourage economic activity.

“These enterprise corridors will still allow existing industrial uses, while also encouraging new types of business operations including large-scale retailers and commercial office buildings.

“The Auburn LEP will encourage employment growth and potentially create 13,000 new jobs in the area.

“These jobs will be in addition to 31,500 jobs proposed in the Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2030, approved last year.

“That is a total of 44,500 new jobs across the council area within the next 20 years.”

The LEP also:

- Rezones land to accommodate 13,000 new homes by 2031 via a variety of housing options; and
- Provides for a new natural waterways zone which will protect Duck River and some parts of Parramatta River from inappropriate uses, while still allowing recreational use and scientific research.

Mr Kelly said the council consulted extensively with the community which was given nine weeks to comment on the draft plan.

“The standard LEP template provides consistency in the format and layout of council LEPs in NSW while still allowing councils the flexibility to address specific local planning issues,” the Minister said.

“The new LEP provides greater clarity for landowners and the community about what can be proposed within the Auburn local government area.”