More time to comment on vision for Frenchs Forest growth

The public exhibition period for a State significant site study which promotes jobs and housing growth at Frenchs Forest has been extended by three weeks, to allow extra time for the community and key stakeholders to provide comments.

In December, the Department of Planning released a State significant site study and proposed new zonings and planning controls to facilitate the growth of Frenchs Forest around the future northern beaches hospital.

*The Metropolitan Plan for Sydney 2036,* also released in December, identified Frenchs Forest as a new potential specialised centre, which could perform a vital economic and employment role.

Given the considerable public interest in this rezoning, the public exhibition period has now been extended by three weeks until 28 February 2011.

In addition to the extended exhibition period, Transport NSW will prepare a Transport Management and Accessibility Plan (TMAP) for the area.

Department of Planning Deputy Director General Tom Gellibrand said a number of the submissions already received on Frenchs Forest had asked about the proposed transport infrastructure and traffic measures that would accompany the future growth of the suburb.

“The Department acknowledges the importance of managing transport and traffic impacts in Frenchs Forest and in December, we asked Transport NSW to manage and coordinate the preparation of a TMAP,” Mr Gellibrand said.

“The TMAP will provide a multi-modal assessment of future transport needs and identify a range of transport measures, including infrastructure requirements, needed to support the growth of the centre over the next 25 years.”

Mr Gellibrand said the study proposed that Frenchs Forest could become a major transit-oriented destination with the potential to employ 25,000 people - including 12,000 new jobs and 5,000 jobs at the proposed hospital - and provide up to 1,300 additional homes.

“Frenchs Forest could make a significant contribution towards the target of 23,000 new jobs needed in the North East region by 2036,” he said.

Mr Gellibrand said the Frenchs Forest proposal would now be on public exhibition until 28 February, 2011.

“I encourage interested members of the public to lodge a submission providing feedback during this time,” he said.
The study will be available on the Department’s website www.planning.nsw.gov.au, or can be viewed at:

- Department of Planning Information Centre, 23-33 Bridge St, Sydney;
- Warringah City Council, 725 Pittwater Rd, Dee Why;
- Forestville Library, 6 Darley St, Forestville;
- Warringah Mall Library, 145 Old Pittwater Rd, Brookvale.

Submissions may be:

- Sent to Director – Strategic Assessment, Department of Planning, GPO Box 39, Sydney NSW 2001;
- Faxed to (02) 9228 6570;
- Emailed to plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au

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