Media release

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Planning for Sydney’s future moves into the digital age

Sydney residents are being encouraged to use social media to join the conversation on the future of Sydney, from the harbour to the mountains, over the next 20 years.

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure has today launched a two-minute video about planning for Sydney’s future and showcasing some of the views of Sydney residents.

The public is also being invited to use Facebook and Twitter to share their ideas on the big issues for them in their local areas – whether those issues are housing, employment, transport, or the environment.

Submissions are being invited until Friday 29 June, following the release of a discussion paper, *Sydney over the next 20 years*, by the NSW Minister for Planning and Infrastructure Brad Hazzard.

Deputy Director General Ian Reynolds said the new online engagement tools were in addition to the 16 drop-in sessions currently being held across Sydney to gather face-to-face input on the community’s ideas for a new Metropolitan Strategy.

“We want as many Sydneysiders as possible to be involved in the consultation process. There are a variety of ways to become involved,” Mr Reynolds said.

“We have already collected some very valuable feedback from residents at the drop-in information sessions, and through written submissions, and now we want to build on that feedback through social media.”

On Facebook, residents can ‘like’ the new ‘Plan Sydney’ page and submit photos of their favourite places and things they like about Sydney, or what they like about other cities that we could aspire to in Sydney. Residents can also join the conversation about Sydney’s future on Twitter at @PlanSydney or #SydneyHaveYourSay.

“This is an excellent opportunity for people to have input into what they want for their families and communities,” Mr Reynolds said.

“The new Metropolitan Strategy will guide Sydney’s growth over the next two decades and it is important to consult a diverse range of people about their vision for Sydney in 2031. This is your city, so we want to know what you want for the future.”

The feedback will be used in drafting the new Metropolitan Strategy, which is being prepared alongside the Long-Term Transport Master Plan for NSW and a new State Infrastructure Strategy. A draft Metropolitan Strategy will be released for comment later this year.

To view the discussion paper and the video, post a comment on the online discussion board or make a submission visit [http://haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/metrostrategy](http://haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/metrostrategy)

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