



# **Brad Hazzard MP**

## **Minister for Planning & Infrastructure**

### **Minister assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW**

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#### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **NSW GOVERNMENT IS COMMITTED TO THE REVITALISATION OF NEWCASTLE**

Hunter communities are being encouraged to have their say on Newcastle's renewal that will provide thousands of new homes and jobs.

"The local Hunter Coalition MPs and I understand there are a range of views on the Newcastle Urban Renewal Strategy and I have formally met with community groups, council and business groups to discuss their concerns," Planning and Infrastructure Minister Brad Hazzard said.

"Along with the Hunter Coalition MPs I would urge all community members to attend two Newcastle forums tomorrow on the city's renewal.

"The NSW Government has committed \$120 million to kick-start the city's revitalisation with 6,000 new homes and up to 10,000 new jobs expected to be created," Mr Hazzard said.

In addition to the partnership between GPT and UrbanGrowth NSW to renew the Hunter Street Mall precinct the NSW Government has also committed:

- \$94 million for a new court complex at Civic;
- \$25 million towards a new University of Newcastle city campus.

"Under the former Labor government Newcastle was left to languish," Mr Hazzard said.

"The Newcastle Urban Renewal Strategy highlights eight new crossings that will re-connect the city with its waterfront.

"A new state-of-the-art transport interchange at Wickham will ensure visitors from across the Hunter can get a bus that will drop them at more locations.

"The NSW Government will create a new commercial hub at Wickham and three new distinct precincts in the city of East End, Civic and West End.

"Newcastle is long overdue for a facelift and as Australia's seventh largest city it needs to be moved into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century," Mr Hazzard said.

The NSW Government will continue community consultation with two sessions to be held at Newcastle City Hall tomorrow:

- Session 1: 2.00 – 4.00 pm, Wednesday 20 February, The Concert Hall
- Session 2: 6.00 – 8.00 pm, Wednesday 20 February, The Concert Hall

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