Friday, 5 July 2013

Another chance for Penrith to have its say on Sydney’s future

Penrith residents are being given another opportunity to shape their region’s future at two more community consultations on the draft Metropolitan Strategy for Sydney.

The family-friendly sessions will be held at Penrith Panthers on Saturday, 13 July – a morning session from 9:30am-12 and an afternoon session from 1:00-3:30pm.

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure visited Penrith last month to hear the local community’s ideas and visions for the area and is returning following community requests for another session.

A department spokesperson said: “The feedback from the Penrith community at the first two sessions was really constructive.

“Around 50 people attended the sessions in June and we’re hoping to hear from even more Penrith locals this time around.

“The sessions will be really family-friendly, so everyone is welcome to come along and have their say on how the area should develop over the next couple of decades.”

Key feedback from the June consultation sessions in Penrith included:

- Support for the overall draft Metropolitan Strategy vision, particularly the need to build more houses and have a wide variety of different types of houses across Sydney.
- The need for economic growth and a greater range of jobs in Western Sydney.
- Delivering improved transport and protecting heritage and the natural environment as growth occurs.
- Farmers need certainty about the future of agricultural land on Sydney’s outskirts.

The draft Metropolitan Strategy for Sydney to 2031 was released in March and outlines how best to accommodate an additional 1.3 million residents by 2031, up from 4.3 million now.

The draft strategy also targets up to 625,000 new jobs by 2031 – of which 50 per cent are proposed to be in western Sydney.

Penrith is part of the West subregion, where an additional 37,000 new jobs, 39,000 homes and new infrastructure are planned. An additional 8,000 new jobs are planned for Penrith City Centre alone.

Registration for the events is required at www.planning.nsw.gov.au/sydney or by calling 1300 305 695. More information, including a short video and community guide, can also be found at this site.

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