Tuesday, 23 June 2015

BUDGET PROVIDES $1 BILLION FOR SIMPLER PLANNING, AND BETTER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR NSW

Planning Minister Rob Stokes today announced that the NSW Budget will invest $1 billion over four years in planning for the homes, jobs and services NSW needs for the future and making the system simpler and more efficient.

This is part of the NSW Government’s record $4.5 billion investment in the Planning and Environment cluster over four years.

Mr Stokes said the Budget outlines a clear plan for funding infrastructure where it is needed to help create vibrant communities across NSW.

“Providing record funding for infrastructure and amenity is accompanying record levels of housing supply in NSW and will help to put downward pressure on house prices,” Mr Stokes said.

In 2015-16, the NSW Government will invest:

- $77.6 million to support infrastructure for new homes in The Hills and Blacktown local government areas;
- $46 million towards new parks, streetscapes and roads to support communities in Priority Precincts;
- $26 million from the Hunter Infrastructure and Investment Fund to local infrastructure projects, including more than $12 million towards the University of Newcastle’s New Space project;
- $19.9 million to construct the on-line Planning Portal to make the planning system simpler and easier to use;
- $16.9 million to halve the time it takes to assess state significant projects, expand community consultation opportunities and ensure there is adequate capacity to assess environmental and social impacts to support the Government's unprecedented level of investment in transport and social infrastructure in NSW;
- $19 million to establish the Greater Sydney Commission and deliver the Plan for Growing Sydney.

“This investment represents a down-payment on the parks, shops and jobs needed to create distinct and liveable neighbourhoods as Sydney and NSW grow.

“We are investing in a simpler online system by building the Planning Portal – taking the paperwork out of planning for homeowners and businesses.
“The budget provides funding to establish the Greater Sydney Commission which will act to bring a better coordinated approach to planning across metropolitan Sydney.”

For more information please visit www.budget.nsw.gov.au

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