



Brad Hazzard MP

Minister for Planning & Infrastructure

Minister assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW

MEDIA RELEASE

25 September 2012

STRONG RESPONSE TO GREEN PAPER

Residents and industry groups have welcomed a move towards enhanced community participation and upfront strategic planning in the State's proposed planning system.

"The ideas and feedback we've received from communities and industry groups since the release of the Green Paper in mid-July has been excellent and will help produce a world-class planning system," Planning and Infrastructure Minister Brad Hazzard said.

The community submission deadline was September 14 and to date more than:

- 800 submissions have been received;
- 1,200 planning practitioners and 330 community members have attended 22 workshops held in ten regions;
- NSW Government planners have spoken at more than 20 other stakeholder events.

"Green Paper submissions are being published on the Department of Planning and Infrastructure's website as they are received along with workshop summaries," Mr Hazzard said.

Some of the key points raised at community consultation sessions include:

- Community engagement must be well-resourced and designed to enable feedback from a broad cross-section of society at the upfront strategic planning stage.
- All layers of the system should be simplified and consolidated to remove duplication and confusion – with plain-English wording an absolute must.
- 3D visualisation and social media should be encouraged to assist participation.
- Heritage, design quality, ecologically sustainable development and well being objectives for the new system should be clearly outlined.

Practitioners made similar points but also added there is a need to:

- Depoliticise the planning system at all levels;
- Encourage a cultural shift for planners – in other words a 'can-do' attitude;
- Better integrate land use, transport and infrastructure planning; and
- Provide improved oversight of certification and accreditation of practitioners.

Mr Hazzard said the feedback would be used to prepare a White Paper with more detailed measures later this year.

Submissions can be found at www.planning.nsw.gov.au

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