

3 September 2013

The Hon. Brad Hazzard, MP
Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
Minister Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure
Level 31 Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Minister

Penrith City Council Submission – Draft Structure Plan for the Broader Western Sydney Employment Area

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the *draft Structure Plan for the Broader Western Sydney Employment Area (BWSEA)*.

Penrith City Council supports the current NSW Government's commitment to increase the number of jobs located within Western Sydney.

The draft Structure Plan for the BWSEA provides a welcome advancement in the development of strategic planning to guide future economic employment opportunities in Western Sydney.

It is reported that each day approximately 200,000 people commute from Western Sydney to the east for work. The magnitude of this movement of people results in significant queues on trains and buses not to mention the substantial traffic delays along Sydney's major arterial roads. This daily exodus brings significant economic, social and environmental costs that will be exacerbated as the City's population catchment increases.

Previous mechanisms to kick start development of employment land have relied almost solely on the provision of appropriately zoned quantum of land. We are encouraged that this Government is looking beyond zoning to other implementation mechanisms such as Growth Infrastructure Plans and Long Term Transport Plans.

BWSEA presents an opportunity to learn from the past and implement the planning strategies that will result in real gains for Western Sydney. An emphasis in BWSEA on high employment generating developments that

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provide '*jobs of the future*' is crucial to addressing the employment demands of past and planned growth.

We also endorse the submission made by the Property Council of Australia dated 26 August 2013 including adopting recommendations by the Property Council and Urban Coalition to introduce innovative financing alternatives such as an Urban Infrastructure Fund offering growth area bonds.

The need for action is most urgent and we encourage the NSW Government to ensure catalytic projects are facilitated as a real priority.

Penrith City Council and our partners are committed to local job creation to match housing development in Penrith and the Western Sydney region. We look forward to working with government to achieve the vision set out in the draft Structure Plan for the BWSEA. Our detailed response is attached. If you have any questions regarding any of the issues raised in either this letter or the attachment, please feel free to contact me or Mr Paul Grimson Strategic Planning Manager on 4732 7701 or email pgrimson@penrithcity.nsw.gov.au.

We stand ready to facilitate the early roll-out of much needed jobs of the future in the BWSEA.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Davies', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Councillor Mark Davies
Mayor

cc: Mr Bruce Colman