



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 7 – PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

INQUIRY INTO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRANSPORT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

15 October 2024

The Legislative Council's Portfolio Committee No. 7 – Planning and Environment today released its report on the Development of the Transport Oriented Development (TOD) program. The inquiry was set up in February 2024 to examine how the NSW Government developed the TOD program, in light of concerns about the transparency of the policy development process as well as the content of the TOD program reforms.

Committee chair, Ms Sue Higginson commented: 'We are all critically aware that New South Wales, and Sydney in particular, is in the midst of a housing crisis, and that the NSW Government must act to ensure residents can access safe, secure and affordable housing, and younger generations are not locked out of the housing market. Transport oriented development is not a new idea and is a necessary part of a response to this housing crisis.'

'At the same time, this committee has heard substantial concerns that the program was developed and announced with inadequate external consultation. This was a missed opportunity to ensure that key stakeholders are part of the solution to the current housing crisis.'

'As a way to stimulate housing supply in the current environment, the TOD program is at best a partial solution. I am not convinced that the top-down, one-size-fits-all approach will get the best results either for housing supply and affordability or for the design and liveability of our city. I call on the government to take a more holistic, longer term view in its approach to the housing crisis, and ensure that density is 'done well' in terms of delivering community amenity and quality of life for residents, and maintaining access to open space and tree canopy.'

'Noting that there are many layers to the current housing crisis, including the need for more public, social and affordable housing, the committee has in this report made 10 recommendations to the NSW Government on its current housing reforms. While recognising the need to increase supply and affordability of homes in the short term, we hope to see the Government taking a long-term view to ensure the future amenity, liveability and sustainability of Sydney and the region.'

'I thank the many experts and local government, industry and community representatives who contributed to this inquiry.'

The report is available on the committee's [webpage](#).

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For further information please contact Committee Chair, Ms Sue Higginson on (02) 9230 3030