

Report to the Minister for Planning

No 6: for the period ending 30 September 2017

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Introduction

Since the previous Quarterly Report the Greater Sydney Commission has:

- launched *Directions for a Greater Sydney 2017-2056*;
- launched the Growth Infrastructure Compact (GIC) concept;
- released a new Data Hub to track broad trends, better distinguish specific District characteristics and allow people to explore the characteristics of the places where they live and work in an easy to use visual format;
- published an updated Engagement Strategy that outlines how the Commission has engaged to date, how we will engage moving forward, who we will engage with and how we will listen;
- hosted two Community Challenge workshops for innovators, experts, practitioners and passionate Sydneysiders to share ideas on *Shared Spaces* (22 July) and *Active Transport* (29 July); and
- brought together all we've heard and learnt through extensive engagement and collaboration with stakeholders over the last 20 months to develop a new draft Greater Sydney Region Plan and revised draft District Plans, which we hope to make available to stakeholders on public exhibition later in 2017.

10 Directions to make Greater Sydney even greater

In the first half of 2017 the Commission collaborated across Government to develop 10 Directions for Greater Sydney's future. These form the foundation of truly integrated strategic land use, transport and infrastructure planning across Greater Sydney.

Directions for a Greater Sydney 2017-2056, launched by the Commission in July, is a first for Greater Sydney, drawing together in two parts.

Directions (Part 1, *Greater Sydney to 2056*) is a first for Greater Sydney in that it:

- sets the aspiration for Greater Sydney to be a global metropolis of three productive, liveable and sustainable cities: the Eastern harbour city, the Central river city, the Western parkland city;
- establishes a framework for the integration of land use, transport and infrastructure initiatives across Government to guide the strategic planning for Greater Sydney as it experiences high rates of population growth from increased life expectancy and net migration;
- focuses on the city-shaping decisions that will drive Greater Sydney's future: where new housing, jobs, health, education and transport infrastructure will be developed, creating great urban places, fostering social capital and protecting landscapes, underpinned by collaboration across NSW Government agencies; and
- provides certainty and clarity to the community, investors and councils on the delivery of new homes, infrastructure, green spaces, services, jobs and skills development.

Directions (Part 2, *Greater Sydney Today*) is also a first for Greater Sydney in that it:

- draws together a whole-of-NSW Government picture of the record levels of Government investment in infrastructure; and
- demonstrates that the NSW Government is working collaboratively across portfolios to address Greater Sydney's unprecedented level of population growth.

Directions (Part 1 *Greater Sydney to 2056*) identifies ten priorities as the basis for future land use and infrastructure investment decision making:

- A city supported by infrastructure
- A city for people
- Housing the city
- A city of great places
- Jobs and skills for the city
- A well-connected city
- A city in its landscape
- An efficient city
- A resilient city
- A collaborative city.

Directions for a Greater Sydney 2017-2056 is available on the Commission's website.

Growth Infrastructure Compact – the concept

In July the Commission released the concept of a 'Growth Infrastructure Compact' (GIC), a tool to bring Government, business and the community together in identifying the timely and cost effective delivery of infrastructure needed to support high growth areas. GIC has the potential to be a 'game changer' for Greater Sydney. The need for place-based plans for growth and the sequencing of infrastructure delivery has been emphasised by stakeholders throughout the Commission's engagement activities and through the formal submissions process. The GIC is being piloted in one of the fastest growing and developing parts of Greater Sydney - the Greater Parramatta and Olympic Peninsula, affectionately known as 'GPOP'.

The Growth Infrastructure Compacts concept document is available on the Commission's website.

The new Data Hub

In July the Commission released a new Data Hub to track broad trends, better distinguish specific district characteristics and allow people to explore the characteristics of the places where they live and work in an easy to use visual format. Trends include changes to housing and rental affordability over the past decade, where greenhouse gas emissions are highest, and how people travel to work. The data hub is accessible via the Commission's website.

Engagement Strategy and Community Challenges

An important part of the strategic planning process for Greater Sydney is having robust conversations with Greater Sydneysiders about their ideas for the future of the city. In July the Commission updated its Engagement Strategy and made it available to all stakeholders on its website. The Strategy outlines how the Commission has engaged to date, how we will engage moving forward, who we will engage with and how we will listen.

In July the Commission held two ‘Community Challenges’ – bringing together a diversity of community members and some of Sydney’s top minds and innovators to generate game changing ideas to help shape the Greater Sydney Region Plan. The first was on how to maximise the effective use of shared space; the second on active transport (held in conjunction with Future Transport).

A total of 160 participants attended the events representing 74 groups. These included entrepreneurs, community groups (YMCA, parent groups, playgroups, disability advocates, cycling groups, etc), universities, police, policy makers (education, health, transport, environment, etc), and students. We also reached out to more than a quarter of a million additional people through our social media channels (261,300 impressions; 7,000 engagements). Our videos – live and post-event – were viewed more than 3,000 times and Twitter activity for the Active Transport event was the second highest trending topic that day in Australia.

A report is being written about the ideas, potential barriers to implementation, and opportunities to implementation. This will be shared publicly and with participants, policy makers, industry and community groups to progress ideas generated on the day.

New Western City District

The Commission is developing a draft District Plan for the newly established Western City District. All feedback and submissions on the draft District Plans for the former West and South West Districts are being considered in the new Draft Plan. It is anticipated that the new draft Plan will be publicly exhibited later in 2017.

This follows the Minister for Planning formally combining the West and South West Districts, which had bisected the airport site and surrounding land, to become the Western City District as part of the Three Cities Vision for Greater Sydney. Information regarding this change is available on the Commission’s website.