

Media Release

Mr Tim Pallas MP
Acting Premier



Tuesday, 17 September 2024

MORE HOMES ON THE WAY FOR MORE FAMILIES IN BOROONDARA

The Allan Labor Government has given the green light to hundreds more homes in Hawthorn as we get on and deliver more homes in established suburbs, close to jobs, transport, schools and services.

Acting Premier Tim Pallas and Minister for Planning Sonya Kilkeny today announced planning approval for 365 new homes on the site of a former University of Melbourne campus in Hawthorn, fast-tracked through the Development Facilitation Program (DFP).

The DFP streamlines the planning process for shovel-ready projects to boost investment, keep people in jobs and create more homes for Victorians.

Located at the corner of Auburn Road and Bills Street this development will deliver six buildings of one, two, and three-bedroom apartments, including 37 affordable homes – close to public transport, shops, schools and is surrounded by green spaces, including Patterson Reserve.

The current leader of the Liberal Party stood on the back of a ute to campaign against this development, but we're ensuring it gets built – because Victorians need homes close to jobs, schools, transport and transport.

Since the release of the Housing Statement, the Minister for Planning has used her powers to intervene or fast-track homes to approve 10,700 homes in the past 12 months, a more than 100 per cent increase on previous years.

The DFP has also seen 16 developments approved, unlocking nearly 2,000 new homes.

The approval comes after the Labor Government officially opened more than 200 new social and affordable homes on Bill Street last week – which were also fast tracked by the Minister for Planning.

The Labor Government's historic \$6.3 billion investment in the Big Housing Build and Regional Housing Fund is delivering more than 13,300 new homes for Victorian families, with more than 9,700 already complete or underway. At least a quarter of homes are being built are in rural and regional Victoria.

Victoria continues to lead the nation in housing approvals and completions, with the latest Australian Bureau of Statistics data showing we had the highest number of building approvals in the country, and we're leading the nation when it comes to home completions over the past 12 months.

Quote attributable to Acting Premier Tim Pallas

"Busy areas with great transport options like Hawthorn shouldn't be locked up. They should be opened up. We're delivering hundreds more homes for Victorians, rather than leaving applications stuck in the system."

Quote attributable to Minister for Planning Sonya Kilkeny

"We're fast-tracking thousands of good quality homes right across Victoria including here in Hawthorn."

Quote attributable to Member for Southern Metropolitan John Berger

"When this development opens its doors, more Victorian families will be able to live close to great schools, Kooyong train station, shops, and beautiful parks – this is exactly the kind of area where we need more homes."

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