

ANNUAL REPORT 2005 - 2006



Urban^{N S W} Taskforce

Urban^{NSW} Taskforce

PROVIDING A FORUM FOR IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF OUR CITIES AND REGIONS

The NSW Urban Taskforce has been established to represent the views of participants and stakeholders engaged in the development and planning of the urban environment.

The Taskforce brings together a cross section of professionals in order to engage constructively with the government, media and community on issues associated with the urban environment.

The Taskforce recognises the importance of the urban environment to the NSW and national economy and seeks to promote policy that delivers improved economic outcomes and employment growth. In addition the Taskforce recognises the importance of the residents and communities in the urban environment and seeks to work with them to achieve good social outcomes.

www.urbantaskforce.com.au



NSW URBAN TASKFORCE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2005 - 2006

Over the last year, the NSW Urban Taskforce has liaised closely with government, industry and the community to encourage and advocate for effective and efficient urban development regimes and initiatives in NSW. We have established many 'wins' for our members and the property development industry as a whole and have presented our members position on every major issue. The NSW Urban Taskforce undertook intensive and informed lobbying throughout 2005 to ensure positive outcomes for the property development industry.

OUR KEY ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2005 INCLUDED:

1) Improved clarity in planning controls and regulatory frameworks with:

- a) The release of the Sydney Metropolitan Strategy.
- b) A new template for Local Environmental Plans that includes definitions and zones that will be consistent statewide.
- c) Significant changes to the approvals system for state significant development.
- d) An accreditation system for building certifiers ensuring accountability and consistency.
- e) Major changes to the Threatened Species Act, which have introduced greater accountability for the Scientific Committee's decisions.
- f) Changes to Developer Contribution Regulations to provide detail on the formation of planning agreements and the application of an industry supported levy system.
- g) Updated guidelines, which outline the relationship between BASIX Multi Unit and SEPP 65 and the RFDC.

2) Expedited delivery and financing arrangements for Urban Land Releases, with sound governance models to ensure good planning outcomes. This has been enhanced by the NSW Urban Taskforce's:

- a) Push for the public release of the Government's delayed Metropolitan Development Program.
- b) In depth negotiations with the new Growth Centres Commission on Regional Infrastructure Levies.
- c) Advocacy for a total revision of the Government's conservation planning mechanism for the Growth Centres and removal of the 'Landscape and Rural and Lifestyle' zone to provide clarity, certainty and better conservation outcomes.

3) Driving force for the development and effective resourcing of Regional Planning Strategies and the establishment of a committee to provide valuable stakeholder input to the Regional Planning Strategy for the Lower Hunter.

4) Closer involvement and relationships with Ministers, Government departments and other stakeholder groups.

The NSW Urban Taskforce is now a highly respected peak industry group, which is often sought as 'first cab off the rank' in the property development industry to assist the government's policy formation arena. This has been particularly noted with our:

- a) Increased representation on Steering Committees, working parties, stakeholder forums and discussion groups.

- b) A close working relationship with both the Department of Planning and the Department of Environment and Conservation to influence the new provisions for planning and environment reforms.
- c) Increased media citations and invitations for comment.
- d) Public speaking events, panel members on workshops and conferences.

5) Improved member services including:

- a) Regular events with noted public speakers providing candid insight into the development of policy affecting property development in NSW.
- b) A new website which enhances the NSW Urban Taskforce's profile and provides a valuable resource for members.

As this list of achievements attests to, the NSW Urban Taskforce has significant lobbying advantages compared to other property industry groups - as we are the only group that solely represents the interests of the NSW property development industry. Given our membership is by invitation and capped each year we are able to focus on our member's interests and this gives the NSW Urban Taskforce a considerable edge to other industry groups who can be conflicted by competing member's priorities as well as their national policy agendas.

A recent example was the gazettal of the Standard Instrument, which adopted the majority of the NSW Urban Taskforce's recommendations to the NSW Government. Most notably the NSW Urban Taskforce and its lobbying partner the Bulky Goods Retailer Association achieved a major 'win' after three long years of lobbying with our version of a new standard definition of "Bulky Goods" adopted by the NSW Government. This is a significant achievement for Bulky Goods development in NSW and will finally provide greater certainty in planning approvals.

One of our key objectives for 2005 was to lift our profile as the peak industry group representing the property development sector in NSW. We have experienced considerable increased media exposure in relation to our lobbying interests, which will be described in our Executive Manager's report, but we have also successfully built our influence and are now regarded by the NSW Government as a key property development industry stakeholder.

We are committed to fighting issues on behalf of our development industry members. We will be expanding our Committee membership in 2006/07 to tackle new issues and I encourage members to participate. I thank all members who have helped make 2005 such a positive year for the NSW Urban Taskforce. I look forward to continuing success in 2006.

Bob Rose, Chairman, NSW Urban Taskforce



TREASURER'S REPORT

As Honorary Treasurer and founder of the NSW Urban Taskforce, I am pleased to report that the financial position of the Taskforce has significantly improved. We have had six consecutive operating surpluses since the formation of the Taskforce in 1999. The 2004/2005 year saw a continuation of the previous trend in increasing membership and securing new sponsorship funds with an operating surplus of \$29,833.

The commencement of a more robust business planning process has provided a sound basis for financial management. The financial result of a surplus of \$29,833 in 2004/05 is an excellent outcome. Our financial goal is to ensure healthy surpluses each year and secure the NSW Urban Taskforce's long-term financial future.

SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2004/05 FINANCIAL YEAR WERE:

- Auditors K Pocketwala Pty Ltd have conducted an audit and given the Taskforce a clean bill of health.
- Taskforce Membership increased by eighteen members to 65. Net effect increase to 2002/03 was 21%.
- Event Corporate Sponsorship raised \$14,000 in revenue.

IN 2005/06, WE ARE ALSO TRACKING WELL WITH THE FOLLOWING NOTABLE FINANCIAL RESULTS:

- Taskforce membership has increased from 65 to 78 members.
- Our surplus is \$94,901.

The 2006/07 financial year will see us increasing membership to 85 and focusing on increasing events income and sponsorship. There will also be a renewed focus on risk management in 2006/07.

David Tanevski

Treasurer/Corporate Secretary, NSW Urban Taskforce Ltd



EXECUTIVE MANAGER'S REPORT

2004/05 ACHIEVEMENTS

It's been a very successful year for the NSW Urban Taskforce. In addition to the achievements described by our Chairman Bob Rose and the financial results outlined by our Treasurer David Tanevski, we achieved in 2004/05:

- Membership growth of eighteen new members to a total of 65 members.
- A record number of NSW Urban Taskforce events were held including industry breakfasts, the Annual Dinner and Awards night plus boardroom lunches and member's workshops with total attendees of more than 1560.
- Improved member communications with regular "Urban News" newsletters.
- Improved media coverage for development industry issues with 27 Media citations (a 114% increase to 2003/04). We also issued 13 Media Releases.
- Enhanced Government Relations focus with 80 meetings held with Ministers and advisers in 2004/05.
- Improved lobbying and advocacy response with 9 submissions to Local and State Government.
- We launched our new website and corporate style to improve the NSW Urban Taskforce's corporate image and professionalism. The new website has an average 25,000 'hits' per month.
- We developed a comprehensive Corporate Policy Manual which addresses corporate governance and management, advocacy and representation, operations and administration and human resources.



2005/06 PROGRESS

2005/06 has been an exciting year, marked by some major campaigns and wins for our members. From an organisational management perspective we are performing well with the following notable results as follows:

- Membership has grown in 2005/06 to a total of 78 members. As you may be aware membership of the NSW Urban Taskforce is by invitation only and is capped. Our cap is 80 members for 2006/07 so as to maximise benefits for our members and ensure we focus on membership services which best suit your needs.
- Improved lobbying and advocacy response with 13 submissions to Local and State Government on a wide range of issues affecting the property development industry in NSW matters ranging from bio banking, the north west south west growth sectors, local planning reform to the Lower Hunter Strategy.
- Our events program has now expanded with monthly Industry Breakfasts at the Westin Hotel supported by regular member's workshops and boardroom lunches. Total Attendees at events July 2005 to June 2006 is 1497.
- Improved media coverage for development industry issues resulting from 27 Media Releases issued to June 2006 and 35 Media citations.
- Strengthened partnerships and alliances through involvement in three collaborative lobbying projects with other industry groups including:-
 - Bulky Goods (Bulky Goods Retailers Association),
 - Seniors Living (Urban Development Institute of Australia)
 - City of Sydney Business Forum (State Chamber of Commerce, Tourism and Transport Forum, Australian Retailers Association and the Property Council of Australia)
- Increased entries to the 2006 Development Excellence Award.
- NSW Urban Taskforce staff resources are expanding with the appointment in 2006/07 of an additional Policy Analyst to enhance our ability to advocate our member's issues to government.

With the NSW State Government election pending in March 2007, we are focused on lobbying and advocacy to support our member's key concerns.

2006/07 DIRECTIONS

In 2006/07 the NSW Urban Taskforce will focus on five equally important strategic priorities being:-

- Policy and Agenda setting
- Member Services
- Profile, Reputation and Influence
- Corporate Governance
- Financial Management

Policy and Agenda setting - Our members have requested that we broaden our policy and agenda setting priorities to present urban development implementation strategies and solutions. The key areas the NSW Urban Taskforce will address in its lobbying and advocacy work in 2006/07 are local government planning reform, urban renewal and infrastructure funding in new release areas.

Member Services - Membership retention and a modest growth target of 80 members will be our priorities for the year ahead in 2006/07.

Profile, Reputation and Influence - Whilst our profile, reputation and influence is growing, we need to further develop the NSW Urban Taskforce profile by continuing to build our media presence. Profile raising is our priorities for the year ahead in 2006/07. Strategies include media relationships, features and research.

Corporate Governance - Whilst the NSW Urban Taskforce operates under strict corporate governance requirements, we will focus on risk management in 2006/07 to ensure our activities cover a range of risks.

Financial Management - In relation to Financial Management our focus in 2006/07 will be building our income through events and sponsorship.

With your support, the NSW Urban Taskforce continues to grow in capacity, influence and achievement.

Sue Robinson

Executive General Manager, NSW Urban Taskforce

Urban^{N S W} Taskforce

MEMBERS OF THE NSW URBAN TASKFORCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2006/07

Bob Rose (Chairman) CEO - Rosecorp Pty Ltd
Geoff Cox, Managing Director - Crighton Properties
Bob Ell, Chairman - Leda Holdings/Leda Group
Shaun Hannah, Head of Property Development
Valad Property Group
Duncan Hardie, Chairman - Hardie Holdings
Allen Linz, Managing Director - Rebel Property Group
Steven Papadopoulos, Executive Director
Property Investment Banking - Macquarie Bank
Colin Rockliff, Company Architect
Macquarie Goodman Management
Richard Scheinberg, Director - McDonald Industries
David Tanevski (Secretary/Treasurer), Managing Director
KWC Capital Partners
David Tierney, Strategic Adviser - Multiplex

MEMBERS OF THE NSW URBAN TASKFORCE STEERING COMMITTEE 2006/07

Bob Rose, CEO - Rosecorp
Christine Covington, Partner - Corrs Chambers Westgarth
Paul Lalich, Partner - Allens Arthur Robinson
Sean Macken, Director - Hawker Britton
David Tanevski, Managing Director - KWC Capital Partners
John Wynne, Director - UrbisJHD

NSW URBAN TASKFORCE STAFF

Sue Robinson, Executive General Manager
Michelle Peters, Executive Assistant
Maree Worthington-Alder, Policy and Planning Manager

PATRONS

The Hon. Neville Wran AC QC
The Hon. Nick Greiner AC

PUBLIC OFFICER

David Tanevski, Secretary/Treasurer, NSW Urban Taskforce

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BANKERS

Westpac Banking Corporation

AUDITORS

K Pocketwala Pty Limited

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