



Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

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MEDIA RELEASE

More time needed to consider new planning laws

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc. calls on Minister for Planning, Deputy Premier Jackie Trad to extend the consultation period for the government's draft planning bills, saying the community has not had time to properly consider the proposed new laws.

The Deputy Premier released a package of three planning bills and five supporting documents on the 10 September for six-weeks consultation ending 23 October.

Frank Ondrus, President of HOPE said "the consultation process run by the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (DILGP) has been inadequate and community awareness is extremely low about the proposed new planning laws."

Mr Ondrus said his organisation was keen for DILGP to hold a public consultation session in Toowoomba to give local and regional residents a chance to better understand the governments proposed planning changes.

"Our members are concerned with many aspects of the proposed planning laws and, like other community groups, we have not had enough time or information to properly respond to these proposed planning laws. The new framework stretches to over 1000 pages of complex planning law. If this government wants meaningful input from the community, then we need more time to review and consider the implications of the proposed changes or state planning laws."

HOPE Inc. calls on the Deputy Premier to extend consultation on the draft bills by at least four more weeks and to instruct DILGP to hold more consultation sessions around the state.

Regards,

Frank Ondrus, President – HOPE Inc., ph 07 4639 2135

