



Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc.

PO Box 6118 – Clifford Gardens, Toowoomba QLD 4350
(22 Vacy Street, Toowoomba QLD 4350)
Ph 07 4639 2135; Email: office@hopeaustralia.org.au
Website: <http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au>
ACNC Registered Charity | ABN 48 036 173 161

Think Globally. Act Locally!

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, 28 April 2025

Re: Western Australia's Liveable Neighbourhoods Policy

The Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) is updating its planning policies to guide the development of sustainable and liveable communities, with a focus on accommodating the projected population growth outlined in the "Perth and Peel @ 3.5million" frameworks and embedding principles of good design.

Currently, the WAPC's operational policy, "Liveable Neighbourhoods," provides guidance for structure planning and subdivision of greenfield and large brownfield (urban infill) sites.

Liveable Neighbourhoods (LN) is a Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) operational policy that includes design guidance and requirements relating to structure planning and subdivision of greenfield and large brownfield (urban infill) sites state-wide.

This policy generally supersedes existing WAPC development control policies, unless an applicant can provide sufficient justification for an alternative approach.

The next stage of the "Design WA" initiative, "Neighbourhood Design," will update and revise the "Liveable Neighbourhoods" policy into a State Planning Policy. This revision aims to guide the structure planning and subdivision of both greenfield and large infill sites, complementing the "Precinct Design" framework.

The "Perth and Peel @ 3.5million" frameworks are central to this planning effort, aiming to accommodate 3.5 million people by 2050. These frameworks define the urban form for the next 30 years, seek to limit unsustainable urban sprawl, and promote greater housing diversity to meet evolving community needs. They provide guidance and certainty for State Government agencies, local government, and the development sector.

These frameworks determine the location of new homes and jobs, optimize the use of existing and proposed infrastructure, and protect important environmental assets. They lay the groundwork for the development of vibrant new communities, particularly around key transport links such as METRONET station precincts and activity centres, within a compact and connected city.

A significant emphasis is placed on increasing infill development, with a target of building at least 380,000 new homes through infill development out of the 800,000 new homes required. The majority of these, approximately 214,000, will be developed in existing

suburbs within the Central sub-region, aligning with METRONET and the State Government's "Our Priorities: Sharing Prosperity" initiative.

The "Neighbourhood Design" policy will be underpinned by the 10 Principles of Good Design outlined in State Planning Policy 7.0 "Design of the Built Environment". These principles emphasize:

- **Context:** Design that responds to its environment and contributes to local character.
- **Place:** Creating a sense of place and belonging.
- **Movement:** Prioritizing walking, cycling, and public transport.
- **Form:** Creating well-defined built form and spaces.
- **Functionality:** Ensuring spaces are safe, accessible, and functional.
- **Sustainability:** Incorporating environmentally responsible design.
- **Efficiency:** Optimizing resource use and infrastructure.
- **Diversity:** Providing a mix of housing and land uses.
- **Adaptability:** Designing for future change and needs.
- **Aesthetics:** Achieving attractive and engaging built environments.

The policy will include:


- A tailored, performance-based approach to neighbourhood design.
- Design review processes.
- High levels of community and stakeholder participation.

This focus on sustainable urban development aligns strongly with the goals of organizations like Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc., which advocates for environmental protection and sustainable living practices. HOPE Inc. emphasizes the importance of "thinking globally and acting locally" to create a more sustainable future.

"These planning initiatives in Western Australia," says Anna Kula-Kaczmarek, President of HOPE Inc. "demonstrate a crucial step towards creating communities that not only accommodate population growth but also prioritize environmental sustainability and the well-being of residents, reflecting the core values of environmental stewardship that HOPE Inc. champions."

The question now is "will every State and Territory Government develop a similar policy?"

Yours sincerely,



Anna Kula-Kaczmarek, President- HOPE Inc., admin@hopeaustralia.org.au
(Written by Meet Karan Rana – HOPE Media Officer NSW))

Please consider visiting and/or posting items to our Social Media platforms:
[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)