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UDIA NSW Newcastle CBD Development & Transport Strategies

The Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) NSW is the leading industry body representing the responsible growth of this State, with a member company base in excess of 500 and 3,000 active individual members.

Newcastle CBD is currently undergoing a vital urban renewal process, and UDIA NSW strongly supports this renewal process as it will lead to the creation of jobs for the development industry, investment in community infrastructure, and the delivery of more housing.

New businesses and institutions are choosing to establish themselves within the Newcastle CBD. As they do so, the number of professionals and students seeking to live within the CBD will increase, and this will drive demand for inner city housing. This new housing will also diversify the Hunter's housing stock, increasing the number of smaller dwelling units available.

The close connection between new centres of employment and learning, and these new residential buildings will mean that new daily commuting patterns will be established within the Newcastle CBD. Historic commuting patterns based on private car usage will no longer be the dominant transport paradigm as densities within the city increase.

UDIA NSW welcomes a superior and more contemporary transport program for the Newcastle CBD, one that recognises and considers its role in the vital urban renewal of Newcastle. UDIA NSW highly recommends the truncation of the heavy rail line, the installation of a new integrated transport program, and the construction of a transport interchange, as it will be a catalyst for significant urban renewal and will help make the city a vibrant and attractive place to live and work.

New developments within the CBD must consider the adoption of contemporary progressive transport strategies that encourage a sustainable mix of transport options, including park-and-ride, shuttle buses, cycling (including "bike-hubs" with designated bicycle spaces and shower facilities), car sharing, walking and enhanced public transport usage. By not providing car parking within the CBD, new developments will actively encourage the adoption of more sustainable transport options. These new strategies will need to be carefully and deliberately designed to reduce the reliance on private car usage and encourage people to keep cars out of the city precinct, creating a more liveable, accessible and contemporary urban environment.

We encourage all new developments within the city to adopt the most sophisticated contemporary sustainable design principals such as directional sun shading systems and natural ventilation, and strive to achieve 5-star, Green Star ratings. The city's new sustainable built form will then align most

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logically with its new sustainable transport system, a system no longer reliant on private vehicle usage.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact our UDIA NSW Hunter Manager, Nadine Hipps, on (02) 4920 1732.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Albin', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Stephen Albin
Chief Executive