

**From:** Peter Seamer  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 17 June 2009 2:25 PM  
**Subject:** Announcements

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Dear Colleagues

This is a short note to advise you that the Minister, the Hon. Justin Madden has just launched the draft UGB, and with the other relevant Ministers, alignments for road and rail projects in the Growth Areas, management areas for grasslands in Melbourne's west and other biodiversity matters. A copy of his press release is set out below.

For details please access [www.vic.gov.au/planningmelbourne](http://www.vic.gov.au/planningmelbourne).

As you can imagine there are a large number of matters underway at the GAA at present and I'll send you an email in a couple of days so you can keep up to date with these.

Cheers  
Peter

## COMMENT INVITED ON PROPOSED URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARY

Wednesday, 17 June 2009

The public and community have been invited to make submissions on the proposed changes to Melbourne's Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) flagged last December in the Brumby Labor Government's Melbourne @ 5 Million strategy.

Planning Minister Justin Madden today released the draft UGB as part of the Brumby Labor Government's Delivering Melbourne's Newest Sustainable Communities package.

The draft UGB also incorporates the proposed alignment of the Outer Metropolitan Ring Road, proposed alignment of the Regional Rail Link and the creation of two new grassland protected areas in Melbourne's west.

"In these tough economic times the Brumby Labor Government is taking action to ensure Melbourne's housing remains the most affordable on the eastern seaboard," Mr Madden said.

"Recent population forecasts indicate that it is vital to plan now for the future needs of growing communities in Melbourne's west, north and south-east.

"Last December, the Government said it would expand the UGB to accommodate 284,000 more dwellings in growth areas to maintain housing affordability and manage population growth. Some 316,000 dwellings will also be located in Melbourne's established areas."

"Maintaining Melbourne's liveability and safeguarding our future housing affordability depends on making good decisions about urban development and infrastructure now.

"We need more homes to accommodate our growing population, so we must plan now to give future growth areas communities access to the transport, jobs, education, goods and services, health facilities and open space they need and expect.

"That is why Delivering Melbourne's Newest Communities brings together planning for future urban development with planning to create transport infrastructure and protect Victoria's biodiversity," he said.

The review of Melbourne's Urban Growth Boundary has taken into consideration:

- The principles and directions of Melbourne 2030;
- Land development opportunities and constraints;
- Public consultation feedback received in the early part of 2009;
- Future land requirements; and
- The need to set aside land for public purposes such as environmental protection and transport.

The proposed changes to the UGB will bring around 41,000 hectares of land into the metropolitan area, of which around 26,000 hectares is identified as being suitable for development, giving Melbourne at least 20 years supply of land.

Mr Madden reiterated the Brumby Labor Government's position on the Growth Areas Infrastructure Contribution (GAIC), saying the Government would only proceed with changes to the UGB if the GAIC is passed by the Victorian Parliament.

"It would be completely irresponsible for any government to open up new land for development in a revised UGB, without securing the revenue to pay for new schools, roads, community facilities and services, public transport and healthcare," Mr Madden said.

"Our Government is not prepared to alter the UGB without implementing the GAIC - to do so would leave growing communities without infrastructure and only increase profits for developers."

Mr Madden said detailed reports on the proposals are available and encouraged the community to make submissions about the proposed changes to the UGB.

"With the technical work required to identify the best location for the boundary now complete, we are seeking the community's views on the changes we're proposing," he said.

"The Brumby Labor Government will carefully consider all submissions made through this process before it makes any final decision on changes to the Urban Growth Boundary or any of the other projects in the Delivering Melbourne's Newest Sustainable Communities program."

The new boundary will be in place by the end of the year.

Submissions close 17 July 2009. Further information about all of the Delivering Melbourne's Newest Sustainable Communities projects, including maps, reports, and details of public information open days and the submissions process is available from [www.vic.gov.au/planningmelbourne](http://www.vic.gov.au/planningmelbourne) or by calling 1800 090 789.