



Media Release

David Morris MP

Member for Mornington
Parliamentary Secretary for Local Government
Chair – Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

2 July 2012

New Zones Deliver Planning Protection

Mornington MP David Morris has welcomed the introduction of Australia's strongest residential planning zones.

The new zone reform package offers three new planning zones which will govern the style of development that will be allowed in towns and villages across the Peninsula through the new Neighbourhood Residential Zone, the General Residential Zone and the Residential Growth Zone.

The zone reform initiative follows a clear election commitment from the Victorian Government to protect our neighborhoods from inappropriate development while simultaneously identifying areas in which growth and built form change can occur.

"For too long our town planning rules have been vague and imprecise. It has been possible to seek a permit for almost any scale of development, regardless of how inappropriate it may be. Residents defending their neighborhood have had to take a ticket in the VCAT lottery and hope for a win" Mr Morris said.

"Victorians want clear planning rules. They want to know exactly what can be built, and where. The introduction of the reformed residential zones provides Peninsula communities with that level of knowledge and protection once and for all,"

"The Neighborhood Residential Zone offers Australia's strongest planning zone protection against inappropriate development. Mandatory controls will govern height and subdivision rules that cannot be challenged in VCAT."

"Areas that are identified as places that can accommodate growth and built form change will also receive planning certainty through the new Residential Growth Zone. This zone will provide incentives for growth within it and remove the pressure threatening our neighborhood streets".

The Victorian Government's planning zone reform package commences after one and a half years of consultation and discussion with communities, industry and Councils.

Councils will be offered a twelve month period from 1 July 2013 to change over from the current planning zone structure to the reformed zones.

Details of Victoria's reformed planning zones can be found at www.dpced.vic.gov.au/planning

Contact: David Morris on 5975 4799

www.davidmorris.org.au