

UDIA VICTORIA 2018/19

ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS



UDIA Victoria works closely with state and local government decision-makers to give the urban development industry a voice on the issues that matter.

We focus on housing affordability, the effectiveness of Victoria's planning and development approval system, availability of development finance and issues important to Victorians such as the cost of infrastructure and the delivery of infrastructure and services to Victoria's fastest growing communities.

Our evidence-based advice, solutions and submissions to policy-makers and regulators are highly regarded and together with the support of our members, we dedicate our focus to bringing industry expertise and government policy together to advance the urban development sector and to deliver new homes and great communities in Victoria.

ADVOCACY

In the 2018-19 year we achieved several industry-wide advocacy wins on behalf of the urban development industry across key issues affecting your business or government organisation.

THIS YEAR UDIA VICTORIA...

HIGHLIGHTED critically important issues on housing supply and affordability.

Result Government relies on our evidence-based Residential Development Index research to quantify the gap between demand and supply of housing.

IS LISTENED TO and respected in key government decisions impacting the urban development industry.

Result Key briefings with the Treasurer of Victoria, the Planning Minister, members of the Opposition and independent members of Parliament in the lead up to the 2018 State Election Campaign.

STRATEGICALLY STEERED Government's Smart Planning program as a key member of the Smart Planning Advisory Group.

Result Achieved reform to the Victorian Planning Provisions that has positively impacted more than half of all permit applications.

BUILT the capacity of local and state government organisations through education programs.

Result Our education programs are delivered in partnership with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

ADVOCATED to increase the powers and influence of the Victorian Planning Authority (VPA).

Result The Minister for Planning expanded the VPA's remit, so its advice has greater authority within the planning system.

SUSTAINED ADVOCACY for reform to the planning approvals processes to remove red tape and streamline local and state government planning systems.

Result The Andrews Labor government commissioned a comprehensive review of Victoria's planning and building approvals system.

THIS YEAR UDIA VICTORIA...

CHAMPIONED the case against parliamentary revocations of Planning Scheme Amendments which sought to stop major projects like the West Gate Tunnel.

Result UDIA Victoria's media release and position was widely distributed and read aloud and referred to repeatedly in the Victorian Parliament.

FORMED policy regarding a new Build to Rent asset class.

Result UDIA Victoria has a seat on the government's Build to Rent Advisory Group.

SUBMITTED Industry's views to the 2018 Water Price Review.

Result Ensured government kept a lid on price increases for water and sewer connections and infrastructure schemes for another four years.

ADVOCATED for Garden Area Requirements in Victoria's residential zones to be simplified.

Result Garden Area Requirements are now more workable within Victoria's zoning system, enabling better development outcomes.

LED the industry's involvement in the Victorian Government's Streamlining for Growth program.

Result UDIA played an active role championing several key reforms including the Generally in Accordance with provision, Model Planning Permit Conditions, Benchmark Infrastructure Costs for ICPs, and ICP greenfield land valuation methodology.

TACKLED the complex issue of land reserved in the Greenfields under a Public Acquisition Overlay.

Result We brought government and industry members together to find a solution to the issue of delays in development due to PAO reserved land.

CHAMPIONED a more workable and technically sound planning and design system for Building Better Apartments in Victoria.

Result Achieved meaningful reform to the Better Apartment Design Standards that enable industry to remain innovative in delivering apartments in Victoria.

REPRESENTED industry throughout the development of Victoria's new online property exchange system, PEXA.

Result Successfully pushed for security improvements and system efficiencies as the PEXA system became mandatory.

BUILT the case for fast tracked VCAT dispute resolution process for post-PSP disputes.

Result UDIA Victoria's work is being actively considered by the Minister for Planning.

VOICED the industry's views in the development of policy by government on affordable housing.

Result Took a leadership role with the Affordable Housing Industry Advisory Group to achieve real change.

NEGOTIATED an agreement between government and industry stakeholders to make risk management processes workable where essential services cross the Victorian Desalination Plant infrastructure.

Result Essential infrastructure was delivered to some of Melbourne's fastest growing communities in the South East Growth Corridor.

ADVOCATED for major reform to deal with the key pressure points in large-scale electricity connection services.

Result Achieved the establishment of a review by the Essential Services Commission and a subsequent larger review by the Commissioner for Better Regulation.

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CREATING VALUE THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

Our solutions-focused, collaborative partnership approach ensures we have a seat at the table, representing the views of our members across numerous activities. We work in partnership with Victorian Government leaders and agencies including the Department of Treasury and Finance, the Department of Land, Water, Environment and Planning, the Victorian Planning Authority, State Revenue Office, Land Use Victoria and others. We work to advance policy and regulatory improvements, identify shared challenges and build capacity within the public and private sectors through our education programs.

UDIA Victoria is a business partner to its members and actively seeks out opportunities to facilitate collaborative partnerships across everything we do.

THANK YOU

UDIA has a remarkably strong and influential voice in Victoria, thanks to the ongoing support and engagement of our valued members and our industry and government partners.

The industry is served well by the 160+ industry leaders across 12 UDIA Committees who volunteer their time, skills and experience to drive key issues, shaping the positions UDIA Victoria puts forward to government.

We look forward to continuing this important work on behalf of the urban development industry throughout the 2019-20 financial year.

UDIA ADVOCACY CHAMPIONS

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