

Media Release

The Hon Richard Wynne MP
Minister for Planning



Saturday, 18 February, 2017

A SUSTAINABLE AND DIVERSE COMMUNITY IN FLEMINGTON

A new development that caters for population growth, protects the appeal of the iconic Flemington Racecourse and delivers more affordable housing is now one step closer.

Minister for Planning Richard Wynne has approved planning scheme amendments to allow the development of two new residential precincts at the edges of the Flemington Racecourse.

The community told us it wants to limit the height of new development and increase open space and affordable housing – and that’s exactly what the revised proposal delivers.

The new development will also provide more housing choices for growing families in Melbourne’s north west, close to public transport, parks and other services.

The Labor Government has listened to the local community and the advice of an independent Advisory Committee, who told us the original proposals submitted by the Victorian Racing Club were too high.

In fact, we’ve gone further. The Advisory Committee recommended a maximum of 14 storeys for the *Flemington Green* precinct, but we’ve reduced that to ten storeys, matching the height of the historic grandstand.

The decision on the nearby Epsom Road precinct allows a tower of up to 15 storeys – much lower than the originally-proposed 31-storey tower.

The approved amendments reflect the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, as well as the view of the community and the local councils. They achieve a balance between catering for population growth and protecting the local area’s great appeal.

The next stage of planning will require the Victoria Racing Club to consider and submit new Comprehensive Development Plans, which must include an Integrated Transport and Access Plan to address traffic, car parking, public transport and access requirements.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Planning Richard Wynne

“This achieves a balance that recognises the need to keep pace with a growing population, but not at the expense of Flemington’s appeal and amenity.”

“This is an example of proper planning at play. We’ve listened to the advice of a community and in independent group of experts to find the best way forward.”

Quotes attributable to Member for Essendon Danny Pearson

“This outcome is a win for the community. We’ve listened to local residents, and we’ve struck a balance between catering for population growth and protecting the appeal of the local area.”

“This development will promote affordable housing in Melbourne’s north-west, and give growing families more housing options.”