



SHOP TALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

SHOPPING CENTRE
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

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Archive

SCCA LODGES SUBMISSION ON SYDNEY METROPOLITAN STRATEGY REVIEW

The Shopping Centre Council has lodged a [submission](#) with the NSW Department of Planning on the [Sydney Metropolitan Strategy Review](#). We have welcomed the Government's commitment to strengthen the existing 'City of Cities' activity centres policy approach to urban growth, given the clear public interest and multiple benefits of this approach. However, we have highlighted our concerns that, despite such commitment, significant uncertainty remains with the soon-to-be released revised Activity Centres Policy (expected in the next month, or so), which may encourage and enable out-of-centre development for the special benefit of a few retail formats. We will continue to argue for a fair and level competitive playing field for all retail formats, including shopping centres. In this regard, providing special treatment to only a few retail formats merely undermines investor certainty, fairness and competitive neutrality (as well as long-established planning principles).

BILL TO AMEND TPA UNCONSCIONABLE CONDUCT AND MERGER PROVISIONS

The Federal Government has introduced a [Bill](#) to amend the merger and acquisition provisions and the unconscionable conduct provisions of the *Trade Practices Act* (which is soon to be renamed the *Competition and Consumer Law Act*.) The amendments to the unconscionable conduct provisions follow the recommendations of the Expert Panel ([Shop Talk 12/3/10](#)) and will introduce three "interpretive principles" into the Act. These are to make clear the Act is not limited to the common-law doctrine of unconscionable conduct; to clarify that courts can examine the terms, manner and extent to which the contract is carried out; and to clarify that unconscionable conduct applies to systemic conduct or patterns of behaviour occurring over time.

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT RESPONDS TO THE GROWTH MANAGEMENT SUMMIT

The Queensland Government last week responded to issues raised at the Growth Management Summit with a range of initiatives in [Shaping Tomorrow's Queensland](#). This includes the development of a Queensland Infrastructure Plan and the establishment of an Infrastructure Charges Taskforce to further reform development infrastructure charging arrangements.

PCA WA RETAIL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE IN PERTH

The Property Council, WA, is holding its 2010 Retail Property Conference on Wednesday 16 June at the Hyatt Regency in Perth. Further details are [here](#).

PCA NSW BREAKFAST NEXT WEEK ON SYDNEY'S INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

The Property Council, NSW, is holding a breakfast seminar *Putting Sydney on the Right Track* in Sydney on Tuesday 8 June. The main speaker is the Federal Government's Infrastructure Coordinator, Michael Deegan. Booking details are [here](#).

ICSC ANNOUNCES THE 2010 'BEST OF THE BEST' AWARDS FOR SHOPPING CENTRES

Last week, at its RECon 2010, the International Council of Shopping Centers announced its 'Best of the Best' awards in the areas of sustainability, design and construction, marketing and community service. Details of all winners are available [here](#).

ICSC HOSTS LEASING AND DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP IN VIETNAM IN JUNE

The International Council of Shopping Centers is holding a Leasing and Development Workshop in Vietnam on 29-30 June. Further details are [here](#).