



# SHOP TALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

SHOPPING CENTRE  
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

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## SCCA LODGES SUBMISSION ON NSW PLANNING GREEN PAPER

The Shopping Centre Council has lodged a [submission](#) on the [Green Paper for A New Planning System](#) ([Shop Talk 19/7/12](#)). We welcomed the objective of placing strategic planning as the "cornerstone" of the new planning system, including a proposed Retail Development policy to inform metropolitan, sub-regional and local planning. Our principal recommendation is that the Government improves its approach to retail planning, which has lacked integrity for many years. Successive Governments have failed to complete a comprehensive retail policy; or finalise the Draft Activity Centres Policy; or conclude the proposed Competition SEPP. The White Paper also made the now familiar, but evidence free, refrain about "new retail formats" needing a special focus in the planning system. This term still remains undefined despite numerous requests for clarification. We have cautioned the Government against 'picking winners' and neglecting the planning issues facing all retail formats. SCCA members, for example, have a \$5.37 billion development pipeline in NSW, with potential to create around 39,000 direct construction jobs – a far greater investment than any so-called "new retail format". The next steps will be the release of a White Paper and Exposure Bill for further consultation.

## VIC GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES PLANNING REFORM CONSULTATION PROCESS

Victorian Planning Minister, Matthew Guy, has [announced](#) an expert panel to review submissions on the proposed Victorian land use zoning changes ([Shop Talk 12/7/12](#)), to report by 30 November. The announcement is encouraging since some recent noises from the Government have given the impression that the zoning changes are a *fait accompli* and that submissions on the proposals (which close tomorrow) will have little effect.

## QUEENSLAND COMPETITION AUTHORITY SHOULD REVIEW TRADING HOURS LAWS

The Shopping Centre Council has made a [submission](#) to the Queensland Competition Authority's [Issues Paper: Measuring and Reducing the Burden of Regulation](#), arguing a priority for reducing the regulatory burden on businesses in Queensland should be trading hours regulation. At present Queensland is divided into 36 different 'Areas' for trading hours regulation purposes. This is absurd and must be addressed by the QCA.

## AUSTRALIAN CENTRES WINNERS AT ICSC ASIA PACIFIC SHOPPING CENTER AWARDS

Australian shopping centre expertise was again recognised last week at the International Council of Shopping Centers' *2012 Asia Pacific Shopping Center Awards*, held in Shanghai. Congratulations to Colonial First State Global Asset Management, Jones Lang LaSalle and Ipoh Pty Ltd, which won Gold Awards for marketing and to AMP Capital Shopping Centres (two Silver Awards) and to QIC which also won a Silver Award for marketing. Congratulations also to QIC for winning a Gold Award for Design and Development (for Robina Town Centre) and GPT which won a Silver Award in the same category (for Charlestown Square) and a Special Gold Award for Sustainable Development (also for Charlestown Square). Click [here](#) to view all finalists (by categories) and the winners. The winners are now eligible for inclusion in the 2013 ICSC "Best-of-the-Best" VIVA Awards, to be announced at the [ICSC RECon](#) in Las Vegas in May 2013.

## GARY BLACK APPOINTED TO QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

Congratulations to Gary Black, Executive Director, National Retail Association, who has been appointed to the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission. Gary has been a tireless advocate for the NRA and will be a great loss to the retailing industry.