



SHOP TALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

SHOPPING CENTRE
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

Thursday 27 September 2012

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SCCA LODGES SUBMISSION ON PROPOSED VICTORIAN ZONING REFORMS

The Shopping Centre Council has lodged a [submission](#) on the [Reformed Zones for Victoria Discussion Paper](#) ([Shop Talk 20/9/12](#) & [12/7/12](#)). We have welcomed the focus on the retail sector and the broad objective to enable retail investment. Our submission highlights our member's \$4.5 billion development pipeline, along with the economic benefits such development will deliver to Victoria's economy. This includes the greater employment yields of shopping centres over other retail formats. We have welcomed some aspects of the proposed reforms, including the removal of retail floor space caps. We have reiterated, however, the need to remove all such caps, including those prescribed in Development Plan Overlays. We are concerned with some aspects of the reforms which we believe will undermine investor certainty for major shopping centre owners and developers. We don't want to see an unfair, two-tiered planning system, whereby some retail formats will have no development restrictions, while others will. We have argued that government requirements should be equalised and impediments to the delivery of retail space should be removed, such as controls in Overlays and (section 173) developer contributions. Incidentally, Minister Matthew Guy's office has contacted us following last week's article ([Shop Talk 20/9/12](#)) to stress that at no time has the Government given the impression that the proposed reforms were a *fait accompli*, and to further stress that submissions on the proposals will be fully considered and changes will be made if considered appropriate. We're sorry if we gave a contrary impression.

QIRC GRANTS SUNDAY TRADING FOR BILOELA FROM 28 OCTOBER

The Queensland Industrial Relations Commission has [granted](#) the application by the National Retail Association to permit Sunday and public holiday trading for Biloela, [beginning](#) on 28 October.

REIA DEMANDS WILL ADD \$55 MILLION A YEAR TO REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY COSTS

The Real Estate Institute of Australia is [demanding](#), as part of national real estate licensing, that training qualifications be increased to diploma level and compulsory professional development is maintained and imposed on those jurisdictions that currently don't require it. How much would that cost the industry? According to the [Regulation Impact Statement](#), removal of the diploma qualification would *save* the industry (in WA, SA, Tasmania and the NT) up to nearly \$4 million a year. Imposing that requirement around Australia will therefore *cost* the industry (in NSW, Queensland, Victoria and the ACT) up to around \$15.5 million a year (since the RIS reveals 78% of estate agents practice in those States). The RIS also shows that abolishing compulsory professional development will *save* the industry (in NSW, WA, Tasmania and the ACT) up to \$43.5 million a year. Imposing that requirement around Australia will *cost* the industry (in Queensland, Victoria, SA and the NT) up to around \$40 million a year. The real estate industry must be doing very well if its professional body can blithely decide to add a possible \$55.5 million a year to real estate agents' costs while turning its back on potential cost savings of up to \$47.5 million a year.

WESTFIELD HOSTS BREAKFAST RETAIL SERIES IN THREE CITIES IN OCTOBER

The Westfield Breakfast Seminars are again offered in [Melbourne](#), [Brisbane](#) and [Sydney](#) with three international retail experts. Click on your preferred location for tickets and further event details.

PROPERTY COUNCIL QUEENSLAND RETAIL PROPERTY AWARDS ON 12 OCTOBER

The PCA Queensland will host the *2012 Retail Property Awards* in Brisbane on 12 October. Click [here](#) for details and [here](#) for tickets. The Shopping Centre Council is a sponsor of these awards.