



# SHOP TALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

SHOPPING CENTRE  
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

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## FINAL 'PLAN MELBOURNE' RELEASED BY THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT

The Victorian Government has released the new Melbourne Metropolitan Strategy, [Plan Melbourne](#), which replaces *Melbourne 2030* ([Shop Talk 19/12/13](#)). The structure of the final strategy largely reflects the draft version and provides a framework to guide and manage growth over the next four decades. The strategy has a welcome focus on population growth, economic and employment growth, infrastructure provision and productivity and also includes an investment and employment focus in major activity centres. Plan Melbourne has a strong retail focus including a projected additional 8 million square metres of retail floor space to 2051 and a number of actions to help facilitate such growth. Coupled with recent Government announcements about the new development contributions framework, and the further removal of retail floorspace caps, this sends a strong signal for retail investment ([Shop Talk 29/5/14](#) & [8/5/14](#)). The Government also recently released updated [population projections](#), which indicate a potential state increase of 4.5 million people and identifies the top 5 local government growth areas across metropolitan and regional Victoria. We do, however, have serious concerns with the proposed 'value capture' infrastructure funding mechanism, which could see property value increases being further taxed – in addition to council rates and the Fire Services Property Levy.

## NSW GOV'T REVIEW OF PROPERTY STOCK AND BUSINESS AGENTS REGULATIONS

The NSW Government is [reviewing](#) the *Property Stock and Business Agents Regulations*, due to commence on 1 September 2014. The Government is seeking submissions on exemptions for 'related entities' (already recommended by three independent inquiries in NSW) and for 'large property owners', already implemented in Queensland ([Shop Talk 8/5/14](#)) and being implemented in Victoria ([Shop Talk 30/1/14](#)).

## ROBERT WELANETZ, CHAIRMAN ICSC, TO ADDRESS SYDNEY LUNCHEON IN AUGUST

The new [Chairman](#) of the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC), Robert (Bob) Welanetz, will address a shopping centre industry luncheon in Sydney on Friday 15 August. (Please note in your diaries – further details will be announced soon). This will be the first visit to Australia by an ICSC Chairman since 2002. The Managing Director of ICSC, Michael Kercheval, is also visiting. Both men have strong professional ties to Australia. Bob Welanetz, currently an adviser to Blackstone Real Estate Partners (a major investor in Australia), previously served as Head of Lend Lease Retail Americas and was also CEO of Jones Lang LaSalle (now JLL) Americas, Retail. (In his acceptance speech at ICSC's *RECon* last month, Bob paid tribute to Lend Lease's former Chairman and CEO, the late Stuart Hornery). Bob has had vast experience in the shopping centre industry in the USA and South East Asia. Mike Kercheval, prior to joining ICSC, was Principal and CEO of Lend Lease Realty Advisers in South America.

## SABINA RUST MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR MARKETING CAMPAIGN OF THE YEAR

The Shopping Centre Council, with the agreement of Michael Lloyd and family, has named the major prize at the *Shopping Centre Council of Australia Marketing Awards* the 'Sabina Rust Memorial Prize for Campaign of the Year'. This is in recognition of the strong support Sabina gave to shopping centre marketing as Editor-in-Chief of [SCN \(Shopping Centre News\)](#). Nominations will open on 1 July (until 8 August) for this year's awards for campaigns established between 1 July 2013 and 30 June 2014. Details are available on the [Awards website](#) (which is still under construction). For further information on the nomination process please contact Kathryn Dale at [kdale@scca.org.au](mailto:kdale@scca.org.au). The awards dinner will be held on Wednesday 22 October 2014 at the Ivy Ballroom in Sydney.