Urban Taskforce
AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

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Speakman is taking up the fight to Minns on Housing

CEO of the Urban Taskforce, Tom Forrest today congratulated the NSW Opposition leader Mark Speakman for his commitment to delivering 10,000 new homes and 15,400 jobs in the Camellia / Rosehill precinct.

While the proposal remains under-cooked in terms of the potential housing yield and says little about the massive cost of remediation of the contaminated land along the Parramatta River, it is a welcome step forward.

The Opposition plan is largely a re-heating of the Camellia Place Strategy, which was launched in late 2022 after years of procrastination from the Greater Sydney Commission, but they are right to call out the Minns Government today for not progressing this massive opportunity for housing supply.

The call for 15,400 new jobs in an area so close to the Parramatta CBD is a misplaced overreach, but no-one can quibble with an extra 10,00 new homes.

While the remediation of contaminated land is a significant cost for this precinct, the potential benefits are massive.

- The proximity to Parramatta, the heart of the Riverland City
- The investment in a new light rail link which stops at Camellia connecting residents to Parramatta and the Metro to the Sydney CBD
- The waterfront vistas on the banks of the Parramatta River
- The proximity to the University of Western Sydney, a short stroll across the bridge over the river away
- The fact that there are no existing residents in the precinct, so no-one's going to complain or object to the proposed uplift
- The proximity to the Rosehill Racecourse with all its potential for events and entertainment.

Government leadership has seen the Parramatta River transformed from being heavy industry's rubbish dump into the very heart of the thriving potential of the broader Parramatta region. This started with Olympic Park, Rhodes, Newington, Homebush Bay, Breakfast Point, and much more.

With the will of government, and a determination to prioritise housing supply, the Opposition must be congratulated for seizing this opportunity.

What NSW needs is a head-to-head fight between our political leaders as to which party can deliver more housing to improve affordability and choice.

With commitments over the past few months to Camellia, Woollahra, Long Bay, along with height and density in Newtown, St Peters, Erskineville and

Macdonaldtown, the Opposition is laying its pro YIMBY cards clearly on the table and is now challenging for the pro-housing leadership title.

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*The comments and analysis above can be attributed to **Tom Forrest**, CEO, Urban Taskforce.*

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