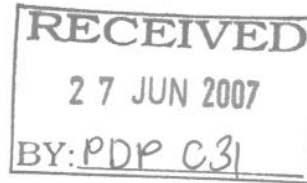




Minister for Planning

8 Nicholson Street
PO Box 500
East Melbourne Victoria 3002
Telephone: (03) 9637 8087
Facsimile: (03) 9637 8921
ABN 90 719 052 204
DX 210098

Ref: MBR008424
File:



20 JUN 2007

Ms Jane Monk
Chair
Priority Development Panel
PO Box 500
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Dear Ms Monk

REQUEST FOR ADVICE FROM THE PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT PANEL: MELBOURNE WHOLESALE MARKET RELOCATION PROJECT

In accordance with the general Terms of Reference of the Priority Development Panel (PDP), I am requesting the PDP to provide me with advice about the appropriate planning controls and process to facilitate the relocation of the Melbourne Wholesale Market (MWM) and development of the MWM Precinct. The previous Minister for Planning was requested by the Minister for Agriculture on 10 October 2006 to prepare and approve a planning scheme amendment, without exhibition, and to become the responsible authority for issuing future planning approvals for the development.

I have declared the MWM Relocation Project and development of the MWM Precinct a project of State significance under Section 201F of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, in recognition of the MWM being a vital piece of infrastructure in Victoria.

I have determined that an Environment Effects Statement is not required for the project, as the potential off site impacts can be adequately addressed through the planning approvals process.

The PDP's advice is sought on the following matters in particular:

- The appropriateness of the form and content of the draft planning controls provided by the proponents;
- The appropriateness of preparing and approving a planning scheme amendment, without formal exhibition;
- Whether or not I should assume responsibility for issuing required planning approvals for the development of the MWM Precinct;
- The proposal's consistency with State and Local Planning Policy Frameworks, including Whittlesea City Council's Municipal Strategic Statement.
- Any other matter, issue or action which should be taken.

In conducting its inquiry the PDP should consult with the Department of Primary Industries, Major Projects Victoria, the Growth Areas Authority, Whittlesea City Council and any other party or persons the PDP believes is appropriate in order to assess the planning scheme amendment.

Enclosed are copies of the letter from the Minister for Agriculture requesting the amendment, a letter from the City of Whittlesea in support of the amendment, and other documentation provided in relation to the amendment.

In making this referral, I ask that the PDP provide its report to me within ten weeks.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Justin Madden', written over the words 'Yours sincerely'.

JUSTIN MADDEN MLC
Minister for Planning

Encl.