

Monday 29 August 2011

### **Future Schofields land use plans on display**

Plans have been unveiled today to create a new residential community close to improved public transport for almost 10,000 people in Sydney's north-west.

Deputy Director General for the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, Ian Reynolds, said the 465-hectare Schofields Precinct – in the heart of the North West Growth Centre – currently includes a mix of urban areas, grazing land and the former aerodrome site.

“Once developed, the Schofields Precinct will be able to accommodate around 3,300 additional dwellings for a population of 9,560 people,” Mr Reynolds said.

“The precinct will be supported by the new railway station at Schofields as part of the Quakers Hill to Richmond Rail Duplication Project.

“The station will open in late 2011 at the eastern edge of the new Schofields precinct.

“Higher density residential development is planned close to the station, so that more people can have walking access to public transport and local shops.

“The station will also serve the future town centre in the neighbouring Alex Avenue Precinct, which was rezoned for development last year.”

Mr Reynolds said the plans on exhibition identify a primary school, three neighbourhood centres and 30 hectares of open space and recreation areas to cater for the needs of the new community.

“To provide a connection with the area's former use as a defence training site during World War II, the pattern of the aerodrome runways has been interpreted through urban design and the street layout,” Mr Reynolds said.

“The remaining physical elements within the Defence site are also proposed to be retained as part of an open space setting to help give a permanent reminder of the area's past history,” he said.

Mr Reynolds said the Precinct Plan, developed closely with Blacktown City Council, reflects the NSW Government's priorities to locate future residential areas near public transport and employment areas.

“Schofields is close to the 550-hectare Marsden Park Industrial Precinct, which was also rezoned for development last year and is capable of accommodating 10,000 new jobs.”

Mr Reynolds encouraged the local community to have their say on the future development of the Schofields Precinct. Proposed changes to allow urban development are on exhibition until 28 September 2011.

The Precinct Planning package can be viewed online at [www.growthcentres.nsw.gov.au](http://www.growthcentres.nsw.gov.au) and [www.planning.nsw.gov.au](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au) and at the following locations:

- Department of Planning and Infrastructure, Level 5, 10 Valentine Avenue, Parramatta
- Department of Planning and Infrastructure, 23-33 Bridge Street, Sydney
- Blacktown City Council, 62 Flushcombe Rd, Blacktown
- Max Webber Library, Cnr Flushcombe Rd and Alpha St, Blacktown

Drop-in sessions will also be held at Nirimba Education Precinct, at Quakers Hill on the following dates:

- Thursday 1 September 2011, 12pm-4pm;
- Friday 2 September 2011, 10am-1pm and 3pm-7pm;
- Saturday 3 September 2011, 10am-2pm.

For more information, please call the Community Information Line on 1300 730 550.

Submissions can be sent to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure at GPO Box 39, Sydney NSW 2001, emailed to [community@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:community@planning.nsw.gov.au), or faxed to (02) 9895 7670.

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