



Media Release

25 September 2014

Outer Suburbs focus would help address drive in drive out phenomenon

National Growth Areas Alliance (NGAA) Chair Mayor Glenn Docherty says investment in an integrated transport system and creating jobs closer to home would help ameliorate the drive in drive out phenomenon in Australia's outer growth suburbs, referred to by the new Shadow Minister for Cities, the Hon Anthony Albanese, in his address to the National Press Club yesterday (24 September 2014).

"With over 4 million people living in outer suburban growth areas and with a growth rate double that of Australia's, initiatives such as those outlined by the Shadow Minister are extremely important." Mayor Docherty said.

"The NGAA welcomes the Federal Opposition's commitment to playing a greater role in cities. We particularly welcome the proposed involvement, both direct and through incentives, in growing jobs for outer suburban residents. This would help reduce congestion and lift productivity. Having multiple CBD's would assist in that process."

"Investment in hospitals and universities – not just in middle suburbs, but also in outer suburbs – will also be important. Such infrastructure plays a major role as a catalyst for change and an opportunity to add value through associated development."

"The opportunities in the outer growth suburbs are enormous. Advanced manufacturing and IT enabled remote working centres are just two of the exciting initiatives currently being pursued. Such approaches can open the doors to the suburbs and cities of the future. All levels of Government and the private sector need to work together to realise these opportunities. NGAA's *Growth That Works* Congress in Adelaide next month is all about creating the industries and jobs of the future in outer Urban Australia."

"We thank the Shadow Minister for acknowledging the plight of outer suburban residents and for his commitments. NGAA looks forward to participating in the proposed dialogue on National Urban Policy.

The link to our Congress website is <http://ngaa.org.au/congress2014.aspx>

ENDS.

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- NGAA covers 25 growth municipalities on the outskirts of capital cities nationally
- Number of residents in NGAA member areas 3.5million ¹
- Proportion of Australia's growth 2006-2011 27.5%
- Rate of growth compared to Australia Double ²
- Forecast population in NGAA member areas by 2021 4.4 million ³

¹ If all eligible outer metro growth areas are included, the projected population by 2021 is 5.5m.

² Hugo G & Harris K, University of Adelaide, *Population Dynamics in Outer Suburbs 2006-2011* (2013)

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