

# Media Release

Friday, September 13, 2013

## UDIA Welcomes New Government

The Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) has congratulated Prime Minister-Elect Tony Abbott on his recent election victory, and is looking forward to working with the new Coalition government to address the challenges and opportunities facing the development industry.

UDIA National President Julie Katz said that the change of government presented a fresh opportunity to make progress on much needed policy reform.

“UDIA has a good working relationship with all sides of politics, and we look forward to working with the new Government and Parliament to formulate and implement policies that will strengthen the housing industry, and improve housing affordability,” said Ms Katz.

New housing construction is currently suppressed by constrained greenfield land supply, poor planning, inadequate investment in infrastructure, and a number of unfair and inequitable taxes. These are contributing to poor housing affordability, as well as limiting jobs growth and activity in the housing sector.

The Coalition has committed to building more modern infrastructure, and has announced new funding for major road projects around the country, which will boost the productivity of our cities.

“Tony Abbott’s pledge to be an ‘infrastructure prime minister’ is very promising, but the new government will need to look at all types of infrastructure, not just road infrastructure, if we are to unlock the full productivity potential of Australia’s cities” said Ms Katz.

UDIA has also welcomed the Coalition’s commitment to conducting a major tax review, reducing unnecessary regulation, and improving the supply of urban land and new housing.

“Fulfilling these commitments will require a lot of hard work and difficult decisions, but we look forward to working with the new government to achieve them,” concluded Ms Katz.

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