

# Media Release

## Wade Noonan MP, Member for Williamstown

---

16<sup>th</sup> June 2011

### **Welcome back-flip from Planning Minister regarding Brooklyn review**

The Minister for Planning, Matthew Guy has performed a spectacular (but welcome) back-flip in relation to a call to conduct a major planning review of the Brooklyn industrial area, says Member for Williamstown, Wade Noonan MP.

As was reported in the *Hobsons Bay Weekly* newspaper on 18 May 2011 the Planning Minister Matthew Guy had no plans for a major planning review, but in a letter to the Member for Williamstown, dated 3 June 2011 the Minister has stated that in "recognition of the importance of this area, my Department has commenced a precinct planning process for Brooklyn-Tottenham."

"I raised the need for this review in the Victorian Parliament back in early May and the Minister said it wasn't needed. Now just weeks later the Minister has agreed to conduct a review," Mr Noonan said.

"Notwithstanding the Minister's welcome back-flip and game playing on this issue, this decision is another substantial win for our community who have been questioning whether the current mix of industries in the Brooklyn area is sustainable from an environmental point of view," Mr Noonan said.

"As I've said previously, the area has an over supply of odour and dust polluting businesses and there's a strong case for change and better planning to help facilitate that change," said Mr Noonan.

The Minister has confirmed that the precinct planning process will be conducted by the Department of Planning and Community Development and will be a partnership with the four local Councils, the Department of Transport, the Department of Business and Innovation and other agencies including the EPA.

"My understanding is that this comprehensive study into the Brooklyn-Tottenham area is almost unprecedented and that the planning department will be investing about \$200,000 to conduct the study," Mr Noonan said.

"This is yet another great win for local residents and I want to pay tribute once again to the work of the Brooklyn Residents Action Group and the On the Nose Group from Yarraville for advocating so strongly for this type of review to be conducted," Mr Noonan said.

"No one would say that we've won the battle against dust and odour in the Brooklyn area just yet, but outcomes like these suggest that we're well and truly on the right path," Mr Noonan said.

"I'm now hopeful that the Department of Planning will explain the review process and provide an opportunity for community submissions through the Brooklyn Community Reference Group."

**Media contact: Chris Ransom 9399 9022 or 0413 482502**