

Media Release

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Peak Body Says Council Move Will Turbocharge Construction

Property Peak Body Strata Community Association Qld (“SCAQ”) has today commended the move by Brisbane City Council to slash infrastructure fees for apartment buildings and urged other South-East Councils to do the same. Speaking today SCAQ General Manager Laura Bos said the announcement by Lord Mayor Schrinner will have an immediate positive impact on the City.

“This is a practical solution to supporting development and Brisbane City Council should be congratulated on taking this step. We know construction costs are one of the biggest impediments to creating the housing we need and so reducing any cost where possible is helpful,” said Ms Bos.

“By particularly encouraging the construction of affordable, smaller dwellings Council are easing pressure on some of our most vulnerable households, particularly women.”

“SCAQ has been advocating for more strata development as a mechanism to create affordable home ownership opportunities. It’s important our children have options in terms of housing and we have not lost hope for the great Australian dream of home ownership.”

Ms Bos said population pressures were being felt acutely in South-East Queensland and anything that can be done to help ensure more dwellings are built was critical.

“Rents are currently going up at the fastest rate we have seen in 35 years, dwelling values exploded across the COVID pandemic, and we face huge population growth which will only exacerbate these pains if we do not build more housing,” said Ms Bos.

“Brisbane City Council is expected to be home to more than 500,000 extra people by 2046, these people will need housing and overwhelmingly these people will by necessity be housed in an apartment.”

Ms Bos encouraged Council’s across the booming South-East Queensland Region to roll out similar initiatives to help alleviate the region’s significant housing shortages.

“We know South-East Queensland is set to add 2.2 million people over the next 20 years and that we need 900,000 new homes,” said Ms Bos.

“Overwhelmingly the Draft Regional plan favours infill development and I urge all Councils across our part of the world to work with the private sector to ensure that these dwelling targets are met.”

“The only feasible way to house our growing population will be in strata, and Councils should work with the public and industry to deliver. “

Ends.

Media inquiries:

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About Strata Community Association (Qld)

SCA (Qld) is the peak association supporting the state's strata sector, with more than 1,200 individual and corporate members who help oversee, advise, and manage hundreds of thousands of lots across Queensland. The association brings together people who manage strata schemes, own units or live in strata communities, and those who provide products and services for schemes. We also provide education, advice, and advocacy to enable better understanding of the regulations, obligations and owner's rights.