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MEDIA RELEASE

House Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Cities

Inquiry into the Australian Government's role in the development of cities

Issue date: Friday, 17 November 2017

Boosting business in Geelong

Melbourne is not the only city grappling with urban sprawl. With stronger population growth than all other regional Victorian municipalities combined, Geelong is rapidly expanding into new greenfield, master-planned communities in Armstrong Creek, Batesford South and Lovely Banks.

The [House Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Cities](#) will visit Victoria's second city tomorrow to discuss strategies to ensure these new communities have access to critical community infrastructure and employment opportunities in a timely manner.

The Committee is conducting a public hearing at City Hall as part of its inquiry into the Australian Government's role in the development of cities.

It will discuss ways Australia's regional cities can learn from capital cities' experiences in accommodating much larger populations. It would like to see regional centres cultivate employment opportunities in new master-planned neighbourhoods, to minimise car dependency and avoid the congestion issues plaguing capital cities.

In its submission to the inquiry, the City of Greater Geelong said, "planning for population growth in the [region] has included planning for employment nodes and access to jobs".

"It is critical to the Geelong region that as we grow in population that this is supported by growth in jobs."

"Federal government support in investment attraction and funding for significant infrastructure can provide critical leverages to enable private investment in regional centres and assist in promoting the competitive advantage of regional locations for business."

Public hearing details: 9.00 am – 3.30 pm, Monday, 20 November 2017

- 9.00 am: [G21 – Geelong Region Alliance](#)
[Committee for Geelong](#)
[City of Greater Geelong](#)
Geelong Chamber of Commerce
- 10.40 am: [Wyndham City Council](#)
[Horsham Rural City Council](#)
[LeadWest](#)
- 12.50 pm: Regional Development Australia – Barwon South West Committee
Barwon Regional Partnership
Urban Development Institute of Australia - Geelong Region Committee
- 2.10 pm: Professor Louise Johnson, Deakin University



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Mr Todd Denham, UN Global Compact Cities Programme

3.00 pm: *Close*

The hearing will be broadcast live at aph.gov.au/live

Further information on the inquiry, including the full [terms of reference](#), is available on the [Committee website](#).

For background:

House Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Cities

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www.aph.gov.au/itc

Interested members of the public may wish to track the inquiry via the Committee's [website](#).

Click on the blue 'Track Committee' button in the bottom right hand corner and use the forms to login to My Parliament or to register for a My Parliament account.