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Re: National Urban Policy

To whom it concerns,

I write on behalf of the Premier's Climate Change Council (PCCC) regarding the public consultation on a National Urban Policy for Australia.

The PCCC was established under the Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007. The primary role of the PCCC is to provide independent advice to the South Australian Minister for Climate, Environment and Water on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to climate change.

[South Australia – Responding to Climate Change](#) outlines the priority actions that the South Australian Government will be focussing on in the near term to build a strong, net zero emissions future and adapt to climate change.

These priority actions build upon a strong foundation of existing government action to address climate change mitigation and adaptation. To find out more see [South Australian Climate Change Actions](#).

The PCCC has reviewed the Australian Government's proposed National Urban Policy. We are supportive of the Policy and its intent.

The PCCC recommends strengthening the role of our cities and major regional centres in mitigating and adapting to the impacts of climate change.

The National Urban Policy (page 6)

We note the 'areas of focus' and support the intent of 'Our urban areas are sustainable'.

We recommend that the Australian Government's net zero pathways and targets are integrated in this Area of Focus to ensure that our cities and regional centres are clear on their outcomes, to reduce carbon-based transport and to improve choices in movement and mobility.

We draw attention to the following relevant actions regarding movement and mobility in the South Australian Climate Change Actions, which would be bolstered by National Urban Policy objectives:

Climate Change Actions, section 4, 'increase the use of public transport and active travel'.

These objectives are focused on supporting the uptake of low and zero emissions vehicles, aligning our cities and regional places transport planning for low and zero emissions transport outcomes and increasing public transport and active travel use:

- *Action 4.4: Plan for development and urban renewal that creates walkable, connected neighbourhoods and reduces the need for car journeys*
- *Action 4.5: Align transport planning with net zero emissions outcomes*
- *Action 4.6: Drive increased patronage of public transport through delivery of services that are more efficient, integrated and customer-focused*
- *Action 4.7: Develop and deliver an active travel and mobility program for Greater Adelaide*

Australian Government Goals (page 14)

We note the five key goals for urban places and support the intent on the goals.

We draw attention to the following relevant actions regarding built and urban environments in the South Australian Climate Change Actions, which would be bolstered by National Urban Policy objectives:

Climate Change Actions, section 5, 'built and natural environments'

These objectives are focused on providing development and design of our cities and regional places are low emissions and climate resilient, accelerate urban greening and reduce climate change risks to infrastructure:

- *Action 5.1: Strengthen climate smart planning, building and design policies and their implementation in the planning system*
- *Action 5.9: Develop improved policies, tools and guidance for the new planning system to achieve greener and cooler neighbourhoods*
- *Action 5.10: Increase implementation of green infrastructure through capacity building and incentives*
- *Action 5.12: Assess and address climate change risk in government infrastructure decisions, risk assessment and audit processes.*

Climate Change Actions, section 6, 'Communities'

These objectives are based on supporting our cities and regional centres to build resilience and adapt to climate change, enhance adaptation in emergency management and health, and provide high quality and accessible climate change science and information:

- *Action 6.3 Engage with the community about the increasing frequency and severity of emergencies and disasters*
- *Action 6.9 Integrate future climate change risk into hazard mapping and information*

The PCCC supports the intent of the National Urban Policy and welcomes the opportunity to shape more climate resilient and prepared cities and regional places.

The South Australian Government is delivering a range of foundational actions to tackle climate change. These government actions will help to build a strong, climate ready economy, further reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and support adaptation to a changing climate.

We welcome the opportunity to expand on any of our recommended actions.

Yours sincerely,



Martin Haese MBA
Chair, Premier's Climate Change Council

CC: Credit: Daniel Bennett, Member, Premier's Climate Change Council

CC: Matthew Henderson, Senior Policy Officer, Department for Trade and Investment (DTI) South Australia