

LEADWEST MEMBERS / COUNCIL HIGHLIGHT REPORT JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2011



Avalon Airport Opportunities

LeadWest's CEO met with senior members of Linfox/Avalon Airport to explore market opportunities to attract defence and aerospace companies to their precinct. Given the Victorian Government's longer term interest to possibly re-develop the Fishermans Bend precinct, an opportunity exists for Avalon to become the centre for Victoria's aerospace industry and be the manufacturing centre for companies such as Boeing and Lockheed.

Directors' Strategy Workshop

LeadWest Directors will be gathering at Nufarm in early May to develop and chart the strategic direction of LeadWest for 2011/2012. Michael Henry of the Strategy Shop will facilitate this key business planning workshop.

Better Health Plan for the West

LeadWest, in partnership with key western region health sector stakeholders, has funded a major piece of strategic research to develop a health plan for the western suburbs. The Nous Group has been appointed to undertake the study, which is due for completion by June 2011. As part of the stakeholder community consultation process, a partnership workshop is to be held on the 25th March 2011. The study is very timely, as the new Victorian Government is seeking strategic input from the regions on key health imperatives.

National Urban Policy – "Our Cities"

LeadWest has submitted a detailed submission to the Australian Government on the creation of a National Urban Policy. With input from its broad membership base, LeadWest was able to address all 28 questions in the "Our Cities" Discussion Paper, providing comprehensive information and evidence based research data. Further details on the LeadWest submission are available on the LeadWest website: www.leadwest.com.au

Vision For Werribee Plains Supports More Projects Across Melbourne's West

LeadWest's CEO joined other grants panel members in funding a range of new projects that will deliver significant environmental benefits. For the 9th round of the grants program 12 projects were considered from across the region with a total fund request of almost \$2 million.

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Regional Rail Link Advocacy

On behalf of its council members, LeadWest is coordinating the development and rollout of an advocacy strategy to secure the Regional Rail Link project. A key issues paper has been prepared for councils and other LeadWest members and a media engagement program has been developed. In addition, the support of regional councils has been secured to add weight to the message from the western suburbs. Further details on the LeadWest Key Issues Paper are available on the LeadWest website: www.leadwest.com.au

LeadWest Chairman Addresses Key Forum

LeadWest's Chairman was a keynote speaker at a forum convened by Victoria University looking at the implications for the western region of the present resource boom. Other speakers at this significant business forum included: Mr Glenn Stevens Governor of the Reserve Bank, the Hon. Lindsay Tanner, Mr George Pappas, Chairman of the Committee for Melbourne, and Prof Peter Dawkins, Vice Chancellor of Victoria University.

Leadwest CEO on the Adult Community and Further Education Board

LeadWest's CEO has been asked to join the Adult Community and Further Education (ACFE) Board and provide input into the shaping of policy for ACFE in respect of Melbourne's western suburbs. ACFE provides financial support to an array of community organisations to underpin the rollout of education and training programmes for those in our community that have difficulty accessing mainstream education services. A key focus in 2011/12 for ACFE will be the Melton/Brimbank and Wyndham growth areas.

Westlink Community Reference Group

LeadWest's CEO joined other regional representatives on the Westlink Community Reference Group meeting in Flemington. Key issues addressed included:

- Project status with new government and ongoing advocacy / communications
- Business impact assessment of route options
- Contaminated land – risk strategy development

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- Hydrology and surface water issues.

Western Region Councils CEOs Forum

LeadWest's CEO joined western suburb council CEOs at their monthly regional forum hosted by Melton Shire. Key issues addressed included:

- Preparation of regional park & open space priorities strategy for Melbourne's west
- Brooklyn Industrial Precinct – revitalisation
- Regional waste management issues – landfill
- Regional Rail Link – advocacy strategy

Briefing of Western Suburbs MPs

LeadWest's CEO and the Chairman of Western Melbourne RDA briefed the western suburbs MPs on the key developments and projects planned by both LeadWest and the RDA. The opposition Labor MP's have indicated their continued support for our respective organisations key project imperatives.

VIP Luncheon in West

LeadWest has partnered with the Committee for Melbourne and the Royal Yacht Club of Victoria at Williamstown in hosting a "Chairmans' Luncheon" for leaders of some of Victoria's major organisations. The attendees will be briefed on key western suburb developments and the opportunities that the west represents to investors wishing to be part of Victoria's fastest growing region.

Forum with Minister for Manufacturing & Export

LeadWest joined other Committee for Melbourne members at a forum looking at the future of manufacturing in Victoria. The keynote speaker at the forum was the Hon. Richard Dalla-Riva, the Victorian Minister for Manufacturing & Export. LeadWest is pleased to advise that Minister Dalla-Riva will be holding a western suburbs manufacturing forum at the WBFC - Whitten Oval on the 17th March 2011. LeadWest has been assisting the recently opened Victorian Government business support office with arrangements.

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Western Region Health Centre Strategic Plan

LeadWest will join other key health sector stakeholders in helping to shape the Western Region Health Centre strategic planning forum. The purpose of the forum is to ensure the strategic plan reflects the views and aspirations of the regions stakeholders. The forum is to be held in Yarraville on the 31st March 2011.

National Freight Network Strategy

LeadWest, in partnership with the Western Transport Alliance, has lodged a submission with Infrastructure Australia on the National Freight Network Strategy. Key issues tabled included:

- Freight use and priorities
- Role of Intermodal Terminals
- Operating and infrastructure requirements
- Governance, ownership and control
- Planning regimes
- Financing models and cost recovery

Further details on the submission are available on the LeadWest website: www.leadwest.com.au

New LeadWest Director from Maribyrnong – Cr Sarah Carter

Leadwest is pleased to announce that Maribyrnong Council Mayor, Cr Sarah Carter has been appointed to the LeadWest Board as the Maribyrnong representative. At a time of significant development taking place in the inner west Cr Carters input will serve the LeadWest board well.

ACCD & Health West Diabetes Study

The tackling of diabetes in the west is seen as a critical imperative for regional health sector stakeholders. LeadWest briefed consultants that have been recruited to undertake this important study and provided extensive regional demographic data to support the study.

Cities & Employment Forum in Wyndham

LeadWest joined other key Wyndham community stakeholders at a forum hosted by the Committee for Wyndham addressing development and employment initiatives and projects in the rapidly growing Wyndham municipality.

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Meeting Western Metro Region MLCs

LeadWest Directors and members joined LeadWest's CEO at a meeting with both Mr Bernie Finn MLC and Mr Andrew Elsbury MLC our region's Liberal upper house representatives. LeadWest had the opportunity to brief our government representatives on key regional imperatives and seek their support in championing them.

Parks & Open Space Imperatives

In support of its member councils, LeadWest has provided a detailed submission to Parks Victoria on the western suburbs key imperatives with regards to Parks and Public Open Space. Much of the focus was on those facilities that are spread across multiple councils such as the Maribyrnong River and Werribee River. Further details on the submission are available on the LeadWest website: www.leadwest.com.au

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