



# SHOP TALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

SHOPPING CENTRE  
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

Thursday 17 March 2011

[Archive](#)

## QUEENSLAND INFRASTRUCTURE CHARGES TASKFORCE FINAL REPORT RELEASED

The Queensland Government this week released the [Final Report](#) of the [Infrastructure Charges Taskforce](#) ([Shop Talk 23/12/10](#)). Recommendations of major interest to shopping centre developers are a regulated cap on infrastructure charges for three years; a three-year moratorium on the collection of the (transport) local function charge; and transitional arrangements that should enable projects currently under consideration and those with unresolved infrastructure charges appeals to be considered under the proposed new regime. The proposed range of infrastructure charges for shopping centres is \$125 - \$200 per square metre of incremental gross floor area (GFA), plus a stormwater charge of \$10 per impervious square metre. The Government is now considering the report and intends that a new infrastructure charging regime will begin on 1 July 2011.

While the Taskforce's Report is welcome, it is vital that the Queensland Government, if it is to unlock stalled private investment in the State, adopts a regulated charge at the lower end of the recommended range. This would reflect the level of charges for the few major retail projects that have proceeded over the past few years. By contrast, unjustifiably high infrastructure charges – an increase of 1300% over the past five years - have been responsible for stalling most projects. The Shopping Centre Council recently provided the Queensland Government with a [report](#), prepared by Urbis, that shows unlocking 10 major shopping centre projects now crippled by unrealistic infrastructure charges would deliver significant economic benefits. These include the creation of 4,411 construction jobs (over three years) and 14,422 direct and indirect jobs on an ongoing basis; an additional \$351 million in gross state product; and additional government tax revenue.

## ICSC 2011 RECON TO BE HELD IN LAS VEGAS ON 23–25 MAY

The International Council of Shopping Centers will host the global *RECon 2011* in Las Vegas from 23-25 May. This year there are additional pre-meeting and networking opportunities on Sunday 22 May, particularly for first-time attendees. Click [here](#) for registration and [here](#) to view the program.

## PROPERTY COUNCIL ACADEMY SHOPPING CENTRE DIPLOMA COURSES FOR 2011

The new Property Council Academy has announced the following Shopping Centre Diploma Courses for 2011:

- Introduction to Shopping Centre Management and Marketing on [14-15 April](#) & [9-10 August](#) in Sydney and [25-26 August](#) in Brisbane
- Shopping Centre Management and Marketing – Advanced [10-12 May](#) & [29-31 August](#) in Sydney

This is a new model for property industry learning and development. For further information please email: [edu@propertyoz.com.au](mailto:edu@propertyoz.com.au).

## SHOPPING CENTRE NEWS 'BIG GUNS' 2011 ISSUE IS NOW AVAILABLE

The 'Big Guns 2011' issue of *SCN (Shopping Centre News)* has just been published with the rankings of Australia's largest shopping centres on a range of criteria. Click [here](#) or phone (02) 9555 7494 for a subscription.

## 2010-11 NEW ZEALAND SHOPPING CENTRE DIRECTORY NOW AVAILABLE

The Property Council New Zealand has released its [2010-11 Shopping Centre Directory](#) with comprehensive details of all NZ shopping centres.