



# Media release

31/5/12

**The Hon Dr Denis Napthine MP**

Minister for Ports  
Minister for Regional Cities  
Minister for Racing  
Minister for Major Projects

Thursday 31 May 2012

## **No new high rises at Kew Cottage development**

Plans for high rise apartment blocks at the Kew Residential Services redevelopment have been scrapped, Minister for Major Projects Denis Napthine announced today.

Initiated under the previous Labor Government in 2006, the \$400 million Kew Residential Services project comprises the redevelopment of the former Kew Residential Services site into a new residential neighbourhood.

"Following extensive negotiations between the developer Walker Corporation and the Victorian Coalition Government, the developer has cancelled its proposal for apartment blocks of up to five storeys at the site," Dr Napthine said.

"The previous Labor Government made a complete mess of this development and failed to adequately consult with the local community. This resulted in many undesirable outcomes for the community, particularly the building of high rise apartment towers.

"Kew residents, who have long campaigned against high rise apartments at this site, will be overjoyed by this result gained by the Coalition Government which will dramatically scale back the density of this development.

"In all, the overall number of dwellings on the site has been reduced by 100 to approximately 280 by this decision.

"Within the confines of the contract signed by the previous Labor Government, this is a great outcome that will reduce local traffic congestion and improve the amenity of the area.

"The developer will be submitting planning and heritage permit applications shortly and marketing will commence for the 3,240sqm final stage of the project located in the south-west corner of the site overlooking Yarra Bend Park.

"Walker Corporation has agreed to removing the apartment blocks and replacing them with eight premium quality houses, which is a much more liveable result for the local area," Dr Napthine said.

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