

# MEDIA RELEASE



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## HIA welcomes the Planning and Development Amendment Bill 2020

Planning reforms passed through the WA Parliament this week will help consumers building new homes in Western Australia, said HIA WA Executive Director Cath Hart.

“These changes are great news for anyone wanting to build a new home in Western Australia and will support jobs and businesses in the residential building sector,” Ms Hart said.

Ms Hart said the Planning and Development Amendment Bill also delivered much-needed structural reforms for planning in Western Australia which will mean more efficient planning timeframes and improve housing affordability.

“The Amendment Bill incorporates short- to medium-term post COVID-19 recovery measures that support shovel-ready projects across the entire construction industry”, Ms Hart said.

“The Bill cuts red tape and processing times for significant developments and has appropriate checks and balances by mandating environmental and local government consultation.

“Measures such as subdivision approval timeframe extensions will also assist the Mum-and-Dad and family investors while centralised assessments for larger development proposals will support job-creating recovery projects.

“The inclusion of a smaller, regional threshold will support our regional centres considering tourism projects or activity centres.

“The commitment shown by both houses of the Parliament and the bi-partisan support for the Amendment Bill should be applauded and reflects the important role the housing industry plays in economic recovery.

“As a stakeholder in the process, HIA has highlighted that the housing industry have needed simplified approvals processes for a long time in WA, we now look forward to seeing the second set of measures to further enhance shire approvals for straightforward residential dwellings.”

*For comment, please contact HIA WA Executive Director Cath Hart, on 0409680880.*