

Media Release

Hon Jacinta Allan MP
Premier



Thursday, 14 May 2026

ONLY LABOR SAYS YES TO MORE HOMES IN THE CITY AND SUBURBS

Federal Labor and Victorian Labor are on a unity ticket: let's help young people get into a home of their own.

We strongly back the Albanese Government's Budget that unlocks opportunities for Victorians and all Australians.

The Albanese Government has laid down the gauntlet to states to build more homes.

As always, Victoria is leading the way – and Liberals are standing in the way.

More homes in Kew

Minister for Planning Sonya Kilkeny has fast-tracked 194 new homes at the former Leo's Supermarket in Kew.

These are homes Jess Wilson campaigned against.

The development will deliver four buildings ranging from three to 18 storeys and includes 10 per cent affordable housing.

The project will include shops, office space, a supermarket, upgraded public space and pedestrian links.

Future residents will live close to the 48 and 109 tram routes, as well as the 200 and 207 bus routes.

The project was approved through Labor's Development Facilitation Program which has fast-tracked more than 11,000 homes across Victoria, including more than 3,000 this year alone.

For too long, Melbourne's inner suburbs avoided new housing despite having some of the best access to public transport, jobs and services anywhere in Victoria.

In Kew, population growth among people under 65 has gone backwards and school enrolments have declined.

In the 30 years to 2024, while housing growth in outer suburban councils like Melton grew 433 per cent, it grew only 24 per cent in Boroondara.

We recognise Boroondara Council under new leadership has changed direction.

But the Liberals? They will never change.

More homes in the inner-city

The City of Melbourne and the City of Yarra have more transport choices than anywhere else in Victoria – but too much land outside the CBD remains locked away for new homes.

The Allan Labor Government is working to unlock that land and streamline planning to get more homes built.

In partnership with councils, we've identified the first tranche of priority sites for more inner-city homes:

- Macaulay in North Melbourne – close to Macaulay, Arden, Kensington, Flemington Bridge and Newmarket stations as well as tram routes 57 and 59

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- Fitzroy and Collingwood – including Brunswick Street, Gertrude Street, Smith Street and Victoria Parade as well as tram routes 86, 11 and 109
- Richmond – along Bridge Road and Victoria Street, close to West Richmond and North Richmond stations and tram routes 48, 75, and 109
- Alphington – along Heidelberg Road, a short walk from Dennis, Fairfield and Alphington stations as well as the route 546 bus.

New planning controls will set clear rules and fast-track developments that meet certain standards.

This first tranche of changes is expected to unlock around 30,000 homes.

They form part of our Train and Tram Zone activity centre program, which will unlock more than 300,000 homes by 2051 in areas close to public transport, jobs and services.

It's just the start. We'll keep working with councils to unlock more capacity across other inner-city areas.

The Liberals want to tear up our planning reforms and return to the old system – creating childless suburbs, where young Victorians, families and workers can't afford to live.

Only Labor is on the side of young Victorians who want more opportunity to own or rent close to the things they need and the people they love.

Victorians can have their say on inner-city draft maps here: engage.vic.gov.au/inner-Melbourne-train-and-tram-zone.

Quotes attributable to Premier Jacinta Allan

“Liberals like Jess Wilson have locked young Victorians out of Kew and dozens of other suburbs like it.”

“If it was up to the Liberals, young people can buy in a CBD high-rise or on the outskirts of Melbourne, and nowhere in between.”

“Under Labor, Victoria is leading the way – and Liberals are standing in the way.”

Quotes attributable to Minister for Planning Sonya Kilkenny

“Jess Wilson campaigns against homes in her own backyard while young Victorians struggle to afford one.”

“More homes near public transport means less pressure on the outer suburbs and more choice for Victorians.”