

Tuesday 16 August 2011

## Work to start on rezoning of Stanley village

Indigo Shire Council will begin work on a proposal to change the zoning of the Stanley township area currently zoned Farming in the Indigo Planning Scheme.

The zoning of the central village as Farming creates severe restrictions for both landowners and Council when considering proposals for further development.

The need for this change has been highlighted by the Rural Land Use Strategy, which was formally received by Council at its meeting last week in Wahgunyah.

One of the first projects planning staff will work on is to prepare a Planning Scheme Amendment proposal to rezone Stanley to submit to the State Government for approval.

Indigo Mayor Cr Ali Pockley said there had been concern in the Stanley community for some time about the farm zoning of the village area.

"This may have been okay many years ago but in this day and age it restricts appropriate development in Stanley," Cr Pockley said.

"Stanley residents have raised this issue with Council in talks about the Rural Land Use Strategy, and we can now begin the work to rezone the centre of the village. The Stanley community will have time and opportunity to discuss the implications of this process and feed in their suggestions and concerns. This is an important time for the residents of that town and we will be consulting with them further during the coming months."

Also, as part of work flowing from the Rural Land Use Strategy, planning staff will also prepare a Planning Scheme Amendment proposal to provide for extra Rural Living Zone land next to Rutherglen.

The Rural Land Use Strategy implementation plan also:

- Proposes an amendment to the planning scheme to make clear that subdivision of land less than 40ha will not be allowed except in accordance with Farming Zone provisions.
- Changes Council's settlement policies to discourage large scale development of the existing small lots in rural areas.
- Proposes to add landscape controls in accordance with identified National Trust classified landscapes.

In relation to the subdivision of land Cr Pockley said it was important that Council protected its agricultural land.

"Our shire is the food bowl for this region and with the stress on costs and climate change with buying in food from far away, we need to protect our agricultural land for the future," Cr Pockley said.

END

**More information:**  
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