

The state's government recently announced that Melbourne's urban growth boundary would be expanded, an increase roughly equivalent to four times the size of Phillip Island, that is expected to accommodate 134,000 new houses (that's about 3.1 dwellings per hectare, pretty low density considering 10 dwellings per hectare is about the average for the equivalent land area South-East of the CBD).

The decision has been supported by the Coalition and applauded by Housing and Property Industry groups, with the claim being that expansion of the UGB will make housing more affordable. But it also has sparked dismay and disbelief elsewhere in the built environment profession, among planning groups and the community at large. It looks like Melbourne's steady outward sprawl, long criticised for pushing people further and further from jobs and services, forcing car dependence and taking over much-needed agricultural land, is here to stay.

IS THIS REALLY THE ANSWER TO HOUSING AFFORDABILITY?

HOW DOES THIS MEASURE IMPACT ON SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL SUSTAINABILITY?

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR MELBOURNE?

Join us as we explore this topic with a number of leading experts:

- Paul Mees, lecturer at RMIT Global Studies, Science & Social Planning
- Stuart Worn, executive officer of Planning Institute of Australia
- Ian Wood, president of Save Our Suburbs
- Tony De Domenico, executive director of Urban Development Institute of Australia
- Carolyn Whitzman, associate professor in Urban Planning, University of Melbourne
- Kate Shaw, ARC research fellow, University of Melbourne
- Dianne Moy, project coordinator at Victorian Eco Innovation Lab
- Maree McPherson, ceo of Victorian Local Governance Association

Chaired by Ian Woodcock  
ARC Research Fellow  
Urban Design University of Melbourne

7PM THURSDAY  
9 SEPTEMBER '10  
@ RMIT BLD 50,  
ORR ST,  
CARLTON

Entry by gold coin donation  
refreshments provided.

words@  
**bld50**  
monthly talks in  
2010

  
architects  
for  
peace.org

# Melbourne's Urban Growth ...Boundary? a forum