

# UDIA VICTORIA: DELIVERING FOR OUR MEMBERS in 2023-24



*UDIA Victoria has a bold advocacy agenda with our focus 100 per cent on the urban development industry.*

*We are committed to the people and businesses creating homes and thriving communities across Victoria.*

*Our advocacy is underpinned by an evidence and research-based approach to policy. In the last 12 months, we have secured major commitments to combat the growing housing crisis through the Affordability Partnership and we are laser-focused on ensuring the development industry can build more new homes than ever before.*

*We work constructively, but we aren't afraid to hold policymakers to account – whether that's behind closed doors or in front of a microphone.*

*Our success draws from the deep industry knowledge and technical expertise of UDIA Victoria's Board, Professional Staff and Policy Committees.*

*UDIA Victoria is the industry voice with integrity and reason; with credible expertise; with fierce determination; with members at its heart.*

*We thank you for your support and invite you to partner with us in 2024-2025*

*We are your voice and we've got your back.*

**Linda Allison**

CEO



## UDIA VICTORIA – STRENGTH IN NUMBERS



215 Committee Members

7,500 Member Contacts

45+ Submissions this Financial Year

330 Member Companies

15+ Government Working Groups

9 Expert Committees

# ADVOCACY RESULTS IN 2023-24



Our recommendations are proportionate, responsive and consistent, ensuring we are a trusted voice to Government and in your corner when it matters most, over the last twelve months alone we have:

- We reduced the impact of the Windfall Gains Tax on industry, securing transitional exemptions and a fairer approach to the scope of uplift in land value and a delay in the commencement of the tax by 12 months and publicly called for a cap to protect regional development.
- Secured commitments from Melbourne Water to collaborate directly with industry to remove roadblocks to industry.
- Secured significant wins for the sector with the final version of The State Taxation Acts and Other Acts Amendment Act 2023 by reducing the punitive impacts of the Vacant Residential Land Tax.
- Engaged in extensive consultation on reforms to Commercial and Industrial Property Tax, ensuring industry had a voice on proposed transition from stamp duty to a broad-based regime.
- Developed over 40 submissions on topics such as Fishermans Bend Urban Renewal Area Development Contributions Plan and Modernising Car and Bicycle Requirements to Vacant Residential Land Tax's expansion.
- Secured a delay to the implementation of wide-ranging changes to the National Construction Code in Victoria until 1 May.
- Championed the industry in multiple Water Price Reviews for New Customer Contributions through the ESC to protect project viability for our new communities.
- Pioneered the inclusion of parental leave into our Constitution creating a benchmark for other organisations to follow.



“ *The Dennis Family Corporation have a long and proud history of involvement with UDIA Victoria.*

*In 1997, our founder Bert Dennis was one of the first recipients of UDIA Victoria life membership. He and eldest son Grant are former State (Vic & Qld respectively) and National Presidents of the UDIA.*

*UDIA Victoria continues to be a highly professional and informed organisation, responsibly representing the views of the development industry.*

*The value of our UDIA membership increases over time as we form new relationships within the industry. Our alliance strengthens our professional network, our understanding of the market and how the sector works together for mutual benefit.*

**Peter Levinge**  
CEO, Dennis Family Corporation



# LEADING INDUSTRY ON THE ISSUES THAT MATTER



UDIA Victoria is laser-focused on achieving the right policy, regulatory and taxation settings to enable the residential development industry to build more high-quality, diverse, and affordable homes than ever before. To achieve this, we are:

- Ensuring greenfield supply remains part of Victoria's housing affordability solution – prosecuting the need for more supply in Melbourne's growth areas and in regional Victoria to ensure that Victorians can live in the locations and types of homes they choose.
- Working closely with local government to unwind red-tape, and permit delays. We have developed comprehensive business cases advocating for third-party certification of engineering and planning approvals.
- Calling for property tax reform to ensure both local and global investors have confidence to invest in Victoria.
- Providing an authoritative industry voice to Government on difficulties within Cultural Heritage Management Plans to bring together key stakeholders and create better outcomes for the sector.
- Leading the way on Biodiversity with in-depth consultation with all levels of Government following the discovery of the Grassland Earless Dragon and its impact on the development of Melbourne's western growth corridor.
- Advocating for streamlining planning to providing greater certainty to the sector by working with key stakeholders on the codification, third-party approvals and the removal of barriers to approvals.
- Thought leadership through research highlighting the significant reduction in buyer borrowing capacity, land shortages, the impacts of material and labour shortages and forecasting apartment creation in central Melbourne.
- Advocated to the highest levels of Government and on the impact of the current taxation policy on the sector including the damage Windfall Gains Tax is reaving on our regions.

“UDIA Victoria works tirelessly to represent the interests of its members. For my business, UDIA membership offers unparalleled access to the best network in the industry, data and intel to inform my commercial decisions, and the reassurance that our industry concerns are being heard at the highest levels of government.



*As Director and Treasurer, I see first hand the commitment from the team, its ability to punch above its weight, and the collegiate approach from the Board to the committee members and our partners. Our influence also relies on a strong and diverse membership base, so I encourage members to amplify UDIA's strong voice, by continuing membership into 2025 and beyond.*

**Kathy Johnson**  
Managing Director, Yarraport



# A HISTORY OF SUCCESS



UDIA Victoria has a seat at the table to advocate at the highest levels of Government. More than that, we proactively bring issues and opportunities to policymakers on behalf of our members. Our work from 2021-2024 included:

- Commitment from the State Government to implement the Planning and Building Approvals Process Review report's recommendations.
  - Cleared the backlog of housing permit applications that have been stuck for more than six months.
  - Expanded the Development Facilitation Program.
  - Ensured that buildings no longer require a permit to build a granny flat on a Streamlined the Deemed to Comply process.
  - Unlocked surplus crown land within well-serviced areas for future development.
  - Ensured our regional centres continue to play an important role in housing Victorians through engagement with Geelong, Bendigo and Ballarat Councils.
- 2023**
- Successfully led the charge to scrap the \$800 million p.a Housing Tax.
  - Kept the lights on for the State economy during the COVID-19 pandemic, with industry active across all but a single two-week shutdown period.
  - Intimately involved in the VPA review of the Small Lot Housing Code, addressing issues with permit approval, implementation stages, and pathway to improve the process.
- 2022**
- Secured amendments to the *Planning ICPs for Greenfield and Environment Act* regarding development settings, which will see all developers within a specific PSP area make equitable contributions through the ICP.
  - Worked closely with the Commissioner for Better Regulation to secure unprecedented funding for planning system reform. funding specifically targeted towards implementing recommendations of the Planning and Building Approvals Process Review Discussion Paper, where 70% of recommendations were guided by UDIA Victoria.
- 2021**



“ For almost fifty years, UDIA Victoria has supported industry through the peaks and troughs of the Victorian development cycle. As we wrestle with some of the most challenging conditions ever faced, now is the time to get behind your peak body for urban development.

I urge all members to add to UDIA Victoria's strong voice by renewing your membership for FY25. On behalf of the Board, we thank you for your loyal support, and we are committed to advocating for reform and opportunities to enable our industry to deliver more homes and communities for the Victorian industry.

Tom Trevaskis  
CEO, Moremac



# We look forward to working together in 2024-25



## **Urban Development Institute of Australia (Victoria)**

Level 4, 54 Wellington Street, Collingwood VIC 3066

[info@udiavic.com.au](mailto:info@udiavic.com.au)

+61 3 9832 9600

[udiavic.com.au](http://udiavic.com.au)

[au.linkedin.com/company/udiavic](https://au.linkedin.com/company/udiavic)