

## Victorian Liberals and Greens Lead Support for SCA Strata Election Priorities; Labor Places Distant Third

Tuesday 9 November 2022: Victoria's Liberal Opposition and Greens Party have provided unparalleled in-principle support and commitment to property peak body Strata Community Association (Vic)'s election priorities, throwing down the gauntlet to the incumbent Labor Government to better support the state's \$343 billion strata property sector.

Drawing on formal responses received in writing, and other policy commitments made during the campaign, the SCA (Vic) 2022 Victorian Election Policy Scorecard ranks the stance of each party on key policy recommendations.

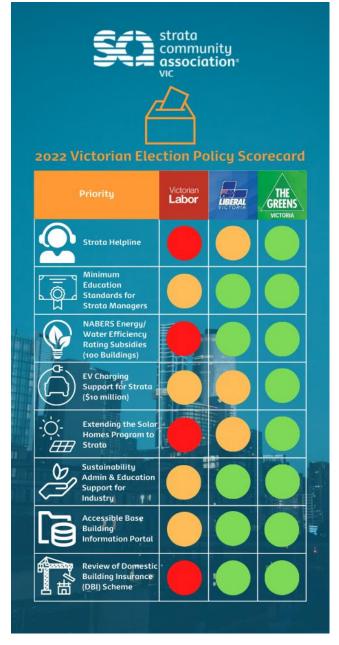
1.6 million Victorians – approximately 25 per cent of the population, currently live in strata-titled properties such as apartment buildings and townhouse estates governed by owners corporations (formerly known as bodies corporate).

The strongest support and overall commitment to implementing recommendations across all of the priorities has come from the <u>Victorian Greens</u>, followed by the <u>Victorian Liberal Party</u> providing strong in-principle support and some commitments, while <u>Victorian Labor</u> has provided no specific commitments or support for SCA (Vic) recommendations at this time.

The Greens have offered support and commitments to most, if not all of the policy recommendations proposed in SCA (Vic)'s election priorities. The Greens themselves are also allocating significant campaign resources to target Labor-held inner-city seats with higher strata density, including Richmond and Albert Park.

The Liberal Opposition's response specifically commits to implementing or investigating proposed minimum standards of education for Victorian strata managers, a sustainability education and support partnership between government and the strata industry, and creation of a base building information portal to respond to building defects in strata.

The response of the Labor Government only emphasises the potential implementation of some components in the context of planned legislative and regulatory review, or internal processes expansion of Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV)'s advice capabilities on owners corporations, minimum standards of education, and a base building information portal are all referred to in such terms.



"The key to implementing positive policy such as consumer protection and sustainability, is better recognising the scale and importance of strata living as it grows in popularity among Victorian constituents," said SCA (Vic) President Gregor Evans.



"We strongly encourage the current government to reassess its commitment to investigating and implementing our recommendations, so that we can work together with a united purpose.

"It is encouraging to receive formal responses from all of the major parties to our priorities for better integrating strata in future policies to improve the lives of Victorians.

"We welcome all support from across the political aisle, either in-principle, or as commitments in the next term of government, and we look forward to working constructively with the next government and other stakeholders to make this happen," Mr Evans said.

View the SCA (Vic) 2022 Election Policy Scorecard and read the official responses from major political parties in full – Formal Responses from Victorian Political Parties to SCA (Vic) / 2022 SCA (Vic) Election Policy Scorecard.

## **ENDS**

## **About Strata Community Association (Vic)**

<u>Strata Community Association (Vic)</u> is the peak body for the Owners Corporations sector, which comprises commercial, industrial, and recreational properties ranging from two units in a suburban street to many hundreds of units in inner city apartment buildings.

Owners Corporations represent property valued at over \$300 billion dollars and encompass commercial, retail, lifestyle resorts, retirement villages, car parks, storage facilities, industrial and, increasingly, mixed developments.

More than \$1 billion per year is collected and spent. It is estimated that around 1.6 million Victorians — a quarter of the state's population — either live in, or own property in, an owners corporation.

## Media enquiries:

Liam Straughan, SCA (Vic) Public Relations & Media Officer, 0478 493 773, or Shaun Brockman, SCA National Advocacy & Policy Manager, 0468 334 277, <a href="mailto:media@strata.community">media@strata.community</a>.