

PART 5 – EXPLANATORY NOTES

General

- The Metropolitan Planning Levy (MPL) is imposed for the privilege of making a leviable planning permit application.
- A leviable planning permit application is an application made to a responsible authority or planning authority under sections 47 and 96A of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (PEA) for a permit required for the development of land in metropolitan Melbourne, where the estimated cost of the development for which the permit is required exceeds the threshold amount (see MPL threshold amount).
- As a statutory requirement of making a leviable planning permit application, the applicant must give the responsible authority or planning authority a current MPL Certificate. The estimated cost of development stated in the MPL Certificate must be equal to or greater than the estimated cost of the development stated in the leviable planning permit application. If an applicant fails to comply with this requirement, the application for the leviable planning permit is void.
- The applicant for the leviable planning permit application is liable for the MPL.
- The Commissioner of State Revenue (Commissioner) has the general administration of the MPL.

MPL threshold amount

- The threshold amount is \$1 million for the 2015-2016 financial year.
- For the financial year beginning on 1 July 2016 and each subsequent financial year, the Consumer Price Indexed (CPI) adjusted threshold amount will be calculated in accordance with section 96R of the PEA.
- On or before 31 May each year, the Commissioner must publish the CPI adjusted threshold amount for the following financial year on the SRO website.

How MPL is calculated

- The amount of MPL is \$1.30 for every \$1000 of the estimated cost of the development for which the leviable planning permit is required.
- If the estimated cost of the development for which the leviable planning permit is required is not a multiple of \$1000, the estimated cost is to be rounded up or down to the nearest \$1000 (and, if the amount by which it is to be rounded is \$500, it is to be rounded up).

Notification and Payment of MPL to the Commissioner

- Before making a leviable planning permit application, the applicant must submit a completed Application for Metropolitan Planning Levy (MPL) Certificate and pay the whole MPL amount to the Commissioner. This Application must state the estimated cost of the development and any other information required by the Commissioner.
- If, after the Commissioner has issued a MPL Certificate which has not expired (see MPL Certificate), and the estimated cost of the development increases before the leviable planning permit application is made, the applicant must submit an Application for Metropolitan Planning Levy (MPL) Certificate (*Revised*) and pay the whole additional MPL amount to the Commissioner. This revised Application must state the increased estimated cost of the development and any other information required by the Commissioner.

MPL Certificate

- The Commissioner must issue a MPL Certificate if he is satisfied that the whole amount of the MPL has been paid in respect of the estimated cost of the development.
- Subject to section 96U(3) of the PEA, a MPL Certificate expires 180 days after the day on which it is issued.

Revised MPL Certificate

The Commissioner must issue a revised MPL Certificate if:

- the Commissioner has issued a MPL Certificate, which has not expired;
- the estimated cost of the development increases before the application for a leviable planning permit is made; and
- he is satisfied that the whole amount of the MPL has been paid in respect to the increased cost of the development.

The Commissioner may also issue a revised MPL Certificate to:

- correct any error in the information listed in the MPL Certificate (except the estimated cost of development as explained below), or
- the estimated cost of the development stated in the MPL Certificate is different from the estimated cost of the development stated in the Application for Metropolitan Planning Levy (MPL) Certificate lodged by the applicant.

A revised MPL Certificate expires on the later of 90 days after its issue date or the date on which the original MPL Certificate issued expires.

The Commissioner cannot issue a revised certificate applied for after the expiration of the 180-day validity period of the original MPL Certificate.

Refund of MPL

The Commissioner can only provide a refund of the levy if:

- the request is made no later than 30 days after the expiry of the levy certificate or revised certificate if there is one; and
- the leviable planning permit application in respect of which the levy was paid has not been made; and;

The Commissioner is satisfied of one or more of the following grounds:

- there has been a mathematical error in calculating the amount of the levy in relation to the estimated cost of the development stated in the notice given to the Commissioner when applying for the MPL Certificate.
- the applicant for the leviable planning permit application died before the application was made, and no other person is proceeding with the application.
- the relevant planning scheme was amended before the leviable planning permit application was made and because of the amendment, the authority must refuse to grant the permit.

Certificate number

- The Certificate number is on the top right corner on the front of this Certificate.
- Quoting this Certificate number will give you access to information about this Certificate and enable you to enquire about your application by phone.
- You should quote this number in any correspondence.

For more Metropolitan Planning Levy information please contact the State Revenue Office:

Mail State Revenue Office, GPO Box 4376, MELBOURNE VIC 3001 or DX260090 Melbourne	Internet www.sro.vic.gov.au Email mpl@sro.vic.gov.au Phone 13 21 61 (local call cost) Fax 03 9628 6856
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