



# Media Release

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## VicUrban Joins the Games

VicUrban, the Statutory Authority responsible for the development and management of the prestigious Melbourne Docklands, today announced its sponsorship of the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games.

The sponsorship will enhance Melbourne Docklands' recognition as the city's water playground, one which plays host to a number of key events in the lead up to, and during the Games.

Not only has the picturesque Melbourne Docklands location been chosen as the venue for the Games' Walks events, the marathon course will also pass along the stunning waterfront of Victoria Harbour and the exciting Rugby 7's series will be hosted by Telstra Dome, the state-of-the-art stadium centrally located in Docklands.

Visitors will also be able to experience the excitement and atmosphere at the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games when the Queen's Baton Relay makes its final stop in Melbourne Docklands prior to the Opening Ceremony.

In addition, as part of Festival Melbourne 2006 – the largest arts and cultural event ever staged in Australia, Docklands will be treated to the exciting program of music and artwork by young Australian artists at The Zone in Shed 14 on Central Pier.

According to VicUrban's Director Media and Communications, Mr Brian Wilson, the Walks events, Marathon and The Zone are expected to attract large crowds.

"Melbourne Docklands attracts thousands of visitors everyday and the chance to catch the action of Games events and activities free of charge, will further add to the carnival atmosphere of the waterfront," he said.

The sponsorship of the Games is an important statement for VicUrban and underscores the importance of Melbourne Docklands to the people of Melbourne.

Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games Corporation Chief Executive Officer, Mr John Harnden, welcomed VicUrban's involvement with the Games.

"We are thrilled with the addition of VicUrban to the Official Games Sponsor Family," Mr Harnden said.

"From the Games' Walks events to the Rugby 7's at Telstra Dome, the Melbourne Docklands location will play an integral role in the biggest sporting and cultural event Melbourne has ever hosted."

*The Games will be a once-in-a-lifetime chance to witness 4500 elite athletes from 71 nations taking part in the XVIII Commonwealth Games to be held from 15-26 March 2006.*

For further information on the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games, go to [www.melbourne2006.com.au](http://www.melbourne2006.com.au).

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