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HIGHLANDS AWARDED BEST NATIONAL MASTER PLANNED DEVELOPMENT BY THE UDIA

Stockland's fastest selling residential community, Highlands, has been named Best National Master Planned Development at the Urban Development Institute of Australia's (UDIA) National Awards for Excellence.

This announcement comes following Highlands' recognition as Victoria's Best Master Planned Development in December 2012 where the community was also presented with the Best Landscape Award.

Located in Craigieburn, Highlands is the largest master planned community in Melbourne's north and is considered one of Stockland's most successful residential projects.

Stockland Regional Manager, Ben Cantwell said Stockland is thrilled to once again be commended by the UDIA on a national scale for its impressive residential community.

"We are pleased to have garnered national recognition as Best Master Planned Development by the UDIA.

"This achievement cements Stockland as a leader in developing projects at an industry standard and we hope to see Highlands become a blueprint for all future master planned communities.

"This prestigious industry award is a significant milestone for not only our team but for our residents and key partners who have strongly supported this project since its inception in 2004," said Mr Cantwell.

Stockland was praised by the UDIA for excellence in delivering a residential community that addresses effective planning and urban design, working and building relationships with key stakeholders to deliver quality homes that people can afford in Melbourne's North.

The early delivery of essential community features have been central to the successful development of Highlands along with comprehensive community engagement programs that helped to inspire and shape the project.

Executive Director of UDIA (VIC), Tony De Domenico, said: "Stockland last year won the Best Master Planned Development Award for Highlands and the 2012 Landscape Award for excellence with its Golden Sun Moth Park, a major feature of the development."

Mr De Domenico added that Stockland exemplifies commitment to quality with a focus on creating outstanding sustainable lifestyle environments for people to live in and raise families.

"The Highlands project sets a positive benchmark of ideas, environmental excellence and community development for the industry by a highly professional and skilled team," said Mr De Domenico.

The UDIA also recognised Stockland for delivering all the necessary ingredients of a mixeduse, socially engaging community: schools, playgrounds, pathways, natural waterways, sporting facilities, landscaped environments, shopping facilities and a community library. Stockland was also commended for bringing forth significant and high level amenity through relationships including Hume City Council, Tennis Australia, AFL Victoria and NBN Co.

Important community facilities such as the Highlands Hotel, Hume Global Learning Centre, Highgate Recreation Reserve with the MCG-sized football oval, Stockland Highlands Shopping Centre, Highlands Retirement Village and Hume Regional Tennis and Community Centre have been built or proposed by Stockland in partnership with its external stakeholders to ensure early delivery.

The \$1.4 billion development celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2012 and has been acclaimed as Australia's fastest selling residential community for the fourth consecutive year.

"Highlands has made a positive contribution to not only our residents but also the wider Hume region with the early delivery of much needed community services which has been a key priority to the success of this project," added Mr Cantwell.

Upon completion, the development will be home to 25,000 residents with 10,000 people already living within the community and includes approximately 7,500 dwellings, over 150 hectares of open space.

For more information visit <u>www.stockland.com.au/highlands</u> or call 13 LAND.

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