

WODEN VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL INC

Public Meeting, 1930, 5 May 2005

Orpheus Room, Hellenic Club

1. Chair David Menzel welcomed all in attendance including Ms Deb Foskey MLA; apologies, Bill O'Brien WVCC Secretary. All other committee members present.

2. The Chair invited Ms Barb Barrett, guest speaker from ACTION to address and discuss with the meeting on recent and forthcoming developments in the enhancement of ACTION's services. Key points addressed included:-

- . The recent introduction of flexibus services to many areas of Canberra resulting in a considerable improvement in evening services; it is an on demand, flexible route service that has proved popular because it offers flexibility in travel times and routes, providing scope for passengers to join or alight closer to their homes

- . Real time timetable displays to be introduced to interchanges and major bus stops and possibly a some retail sites an accessible through personal computer systems

- . Low flow, air conditioned buses now used exclusively on intertown routes

- . New advertising campaign is promoting the advantages of bus travel over private motoring.; new TV advertisement was demonstrated.

3. Mr Menzel introduced Russell Parkinson, Chief Executive, Canberra Urban Parks and Places and invited him to address and discuss with the meeting the scope and direction and major issues confronting CUPP:-

- . Phone and e-mail links to key CUPP functional areas identified

- . Main challenges facing CUPP included working effectively with community, achieving maximum water efficiency, balancing presentation with fire and public safety responsibilities, managing an ageing urban forest, restoration post-drought, value for money an minimal bureaucracy

- . CUPP undertook extensive community surveys of its performance and monitored trends n community feedback

- . Responsibilities very wide ranging and include urban catchment management functions (eg trees, parks, pools, sports grounds, cleaning public places, pest / pet management, free plant issue)

- . Approvals, inspection and regulatory functions

- . Administers Community Partnership Program to develop links with the community eg Seniors' Sports Carnival and promotes event management to promote use of urban open space eg Teddy Bear's Picnics.

- . \$39 million annual budget including \$23 million for urban open space and cleaning and \$7.3 million for sports grounds maintenance, tree management, pool and capital works. Noted that new design public toilets now being introduced requiring less maintenance (eg Mawson).

. Points in response to questions:- Review of Edison Pond restoration and modifications to make it more water efficient still underway some indication to community of timing of work would be appreciated; community is encouraged to use CUPP hotlines for complaints or queries rather than Minister; CUPP considering possibility of extending Adopt A Road to include monitoring of roadside vegetation areas; major funding will be required to offset adverse effects of drought on the urban forest and sports grounds / parks.

. Other issues raised in discussion apparent lack of effective monitoring of contractor service delivery standards, damage to public CUPP assets by builders, billboards on public lands, timeliness of dead tree removal, concerns over delay in restoration of Stromlo Forest area. There is a major rolling program under way to remove dead, dangerous and dying trees.

4. Mr Menzel outlined implications of ACT Budget for Woden noting that WVCC / Woden Community Service had lodged a joint submission advocating the provision of a community meeting facility in Woden and supporting the restoration of Phillip Oval to AFL standard. Government had supported the latter with \$1.7 million allocated, but provision for a community meeting facility not included in Budget.

5. Chair noted that there is now limited time for community feedback on proposed development of Phillip Motor Registry site as a car yard; concerns expressed by Ms Holmes / Mr Reddy re traffic hazards associated with proposed roadside parking adjoining the site on Melrose Drive - these concerns to be forwarded to ACT Government in a WVCC submission.

Administration: Mr Reddy reported on progress with Art Show 2005; Chair advised that the WVCC internet site was now operational.