

Minutes of Public Meeting

7 pm Wednesday 4 September 2019
Canberra Southern Cross Club
Estimated attendance: 100

1. **Welcome: President, Fiona Carrick**, welcomed and thanked attendees.
 - MLAs in attendance:
 - Minister Berry, Deputy Chief Minister
 - Ms Caroline Le Couteur MLA
2. Acknowledgement of Country
3. **Minutes** – 1 May, 5 June, 3 July and 7 August minutes approved.
4. **Chairs Report**
 - High population growth in Woden, an additional 18,000 people by 2040
 - over 20 residential towers earmarked to date
 - advocacy for:
 - tender for community centre – no childcare located in the park
 - bus interchange being developed
 - opportunity to design where facilities could be located
 - economics of agglomeration - densifying towns centres to:
 - stop urban sprawl to reduce the impact on the environment
 - reduce the cost of infrastructure on the fringes of the city
 - reduce disadvantage from reduced access to jobs and services
 - people like to be close to amenity and have a sense of belonging
 - Tuggeranong people should hub and spoke into both Tuggeranong and Woden
 - Woden is a central centre for the south
 - provides equitable access to jobs and services
 - agglomeration allows for sharing facilities and knowledge
 - gap analysis presented showing location of:
 - higher education – looking at site to relocate Reid CIT, including in Woden
 - artsACT facilities – none in Woden or Weston
 - 50m pools – Woden pool privatised
 - indoor sports facilities – none in Woden and Weston
 - ACT Government Indoor Sports Report recommends:
 - basketball – more facilities in Belconnen
 - gymnastics – a facility at UC
 - futsal - \$20 million for a facility in Throsby
 - ACT Treasury January 2019 population forecasts
 - 18,000 people by 2040
 - 1,200 primary school kids

- Curtin, Garran and Mawson - category A – full
- Closures on the west side of Woden – North Curtin, Lyons (now P to 2), Chifley and Pearce – lost four of six schools
- Chifley has great access to the Town Centre with path access under Melrose and Hindmarsh
- Retain Woden High School for a 5.5 hectare allied health hub across the road from the hospital – it will be difficult to replace
- Land use plan for Woden presented.
 - Ice skating rink and pool – future in doubt with the tender for a new ice rink to be released – needs a solution
 - already lost CIT, basketball stadium, pitch n putt, tennis courts, bowling greens
 - Lovett Tower – mothballed

5. Minister Berry

- Investment in Phillip Oval and Cricket Centre, Melrose synthetic soccer and Stromlo Pool
- Understands concerns around ice rink – Expression of Interest to be released tomorrow
 - preference to have it in the south side
- Schools – funding to do growth projections
- Met with roller derby – line marking at Henley Bear

Questions and Answers

- Why are people in this area of Canberra are denied a multi-purpose sports hall, you want to take cars of the road but at 4pm every afternoon people travel playing basketball, netball, futsal, roller derby travel north?
 - The ACT Government doesn't fund or operate multi-purpose sports facilities in Canberra. It has been the case since self-government.
 - The ACT Government supports and funds individual sports to develop centres and that has been the case since self-government
- You publicly regulate pools, why not indoor sports facilities?
 - Historically the ACT Governments puts its funds into individual sports that are growing, eg football, therefore the home of football in Throsby with Capital Football
 - Basketball in the north of Canberra
 - Gymnastics in the north of Canberra
 - Woden is not excluded in the future
 - The sports study was for specific sports that have high participation rates
 - Boutique sports eg roller derby and ice sports are not excluded
- Netball is not a fringe sport – highest women's participation sport in Australia
 - have to go north for all indoor games
 - meeting with Louise about its growth
- show of hands showed people wanted a multi-purpose sports hall
- Federal Golf course discussed at a closed meeting – how will moving the proposal from one end of the golf course to the other going to overcome the issues and how does keeping the plans secret acting to protect transparency?
 - Not up to date on where the project is up to
 - Can get more information to you
- Roller derby – Hedley Bear issue is the time access is available – finish at 10.30pm
 - line marking at Hedley Bear, opening up school sports halls

- Woden Valley Gymnastics - growth of 10% and everything is full - the old tennis courts could be a new facility but told difficulties
 - No decision for the site
- Varstiy Roller Derby – Canberra based team training in Queanbeyan, money goes to a different area and members have to travel when there is no public transport – contacted every school and could not get access to halls that are suitable?
 - We are working together to find a better solution
- Could the smaller sports grow if halls were available?
 - Yes
- Small community sports are inclusive for different cultural backgrounds and different levels of abilities, how will you make sure that those community sports get consulted about where the money goes?
 - Not just talking to the big ones, consulting with roller derby and ice sports
- Could utilise an empty building or the Southern Cross Club option to build a facility.
 - Haven't spoken to club
- Ian Mackay, CEO Southern Cross Club has spoken to Minister Steel.
- Erindale College a model is an option too
 - There are benefits of using school facilities
- Why don't you use the schools in Belconnen, instead of building new facilities, if it a great idea?
 - The schools in Belconnen are building used
- Given the social and economic benefits and wellbeing, why can't we have a stand-alone facility, it is obvious that there is a gap in Woden.
 - The sports study was for the three sports in growth areas in the north. It doesn't exclude Woden from conversations for a site here.
- Why are you bringing 20,000 people to live in the Woden Town Centre if you are not giving them amenity?
 - Education looking at growth and facilities for students
 - We have the chance now to do all that planning work to make sure there are facilities
 - You have investment in the Woden Hospital and maybe a CIT, sports investment and light rail, community centre
- Floor ball – schools are great for training but for bigger events (competition) we need a bigger multi-purpose sports facility, multiple courts, seating and catering. National championships was split across two venues
 - Work is happening education to make that available
- Schools used for after school care limiting their availability, we need dedicated facilities, we have seen our private facilities going backwards, lost MPowerdome.
 - Yes, the government has supported those individual sports

6. Canberra Town Planning

- Public realm strategy for Woden.
- How to get great spaces in the connecting spaces between buildings
- Links the Master Plan components and how they could happen
- Collaboration between government, developers and community
- Will come back and consult with the community

7. Business Showcase - Light House Business Innovation Centre

- Spotlight on businesses that operate in Woden
- Event seeded by ACT Government

- Three parts:
 - Friday 4th October – free business workshops at the Southern Cross Club with Phillip Business Community and many others, Woden Experiment, Woden Arts Officer
 - 9am to 10.30am - Festival of ambitious ideas (run by Lighthouse), 12 speakers with 5 minutes – wellbeing, health precinct
 - Innovation in business – CBR speaking about how businesses can improve what they do
 - Herr Canberra based in Phillip – resilience, taking time out for yourself
 - Canberra Business Chamber – 3 experts speaking about challenges facing businesses
 - Saturday 5th October – Floriade in the Suburbs and a community picnic in the Town Square, 12 to 3pm
 - entertainment, food stalls and a number of small businesses and community groups
 - art workshops and music
- Woden Business News –
 - A media outlet – share community and things happening in the community

8. Other Business

- There was a discussion about the tram alignment submitted in the EPBC Act.
- There was further discussion about planning in Woden.
- Naturalisation of parts of Yarralumla Creek was discussed extensively.
- There is no coherent strategy to turn Woden into a thriving urban hub.
- There is no single governance arrangement oversighting the development of Woden.

9. 5 Minute MLAs update

- There is no structure for district level planning.
- The Master Plan has been implemented by the updated Territory Plan for Woden (precinct code).
- When Woden was developed no one would have thought we would be having these conservations.
- Murrumbidgee the most diverse electorate with parts in Woden, Weston Creek, Molonglo, Tuggeranong and the Inner South.

Questions and Answers

- It's getting hotter and hotter and we need good shade cover and fountains
 - Agreed
- How many times have the Murrumbidgee representatives sat down together
 - Zero
- There is a Master Plan for the Woden Town Centre however our representations fell on deaf ears. We got 28 stories around the perimeter of the town square despite our views.

Meeting closed

Next meeting: 2 October 2019