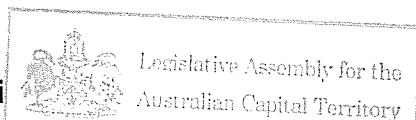


Lamont, LinziSubmission
Number

8

**From:** Lachlan Taylor [l.taylor@act.gov.au]**Sent:** Tuesday, 22 March 2005 7:15 PM 31/3/05**To:** Committees *tyaretl***Subject:** Draft Variation to the Territory Plan No.244 - Duffy part Block 2 Section 56 Stromlo Settlement (DV244)

Dear Mr Gentleman MLA

Thank you for your letter of 3 March 2005, with the surprise invitation to make a submission in relation to the general and detailed principles prescribed in DV244. I have used the word "surprise" as I believed the already longwinded process had already been completed.

I have been involved with the Stromlo Forestry Settlement rebuilding process from the beginning ie from 19 January 2003. This included

- discussing viable options for the rebuilding of the settlement and community,
- discussions with Sandy Hollaway on numerous occasions,
- input to the Sustainability Study: Stromlo Settlement,
- Community and other meetings at Royals Club Weston Creek,
- helped organise Stromlo Residents memorial days and barbeques,
- helping to keep the community together, even though we are spread far apart, and
- input into the type of housing styles and environmental needs for the area.

Attached a copy of the email I sent to NonUrbanStudy@act.gov.au on 23 September 2003

I have been looking forward to closure of this devastating saga in my family's life - we just want to go home. We have worked with whoever and whatever inquiry with a strong desire to return to our former address (Cottage 23, Stromlo Settlement, RMB 113 Cotter Road, Duffy).

I am expecting to return to this same block where I can again landscape the garden with roses, box hedging, cottage plantings and native garden rooms, with the hope of some of the native birds returning. ie back to the historical/normality of the area.

Although Stromlo Settlement is in close proximity to Duffy, I and my family feel safer and more secure living in a rural setting where children and adults know, rely upon and trust each other. Living in a rural type setting gives children more self reliance and greater diversity in lifestyle. The ambience of the settlement was quiet, relaxed, filled with bush song and neighbourly. Before the fire I am aware of only one reported break-in, however, immediately after, members of the community had to camp on their sites to protect their remaining belongings from looters

The houses and yards were basically maintained by the householders. In my case

- I painted the interior of the house shortly after moving in as Housing ACT did not have money available in their budget for this.
- I purchased a double garage as Housing ACT would not provide one on the existing cement slab.
- The entire yard was barren when I moved in and I planted roses along the front of the house; box hedging along the front and side wire fences and scattered small cottage garden beds.

- the yard and outside the fence (to about 1.5metres) was kept mowed regularly by us.

I reaffirm that I prefer the replacement houses be modest cottages, easily maintained, environmentally friendly and in the style of the large picture on page 73 of the Sustainability Study: Stromlo Village. I am also in agreement with most of the House Design Principles (Chapter 12, Page 69).

I am amazed at the amount of red tape we have had to face to even get to this stage. Other ACT Housing tenants who were burnt out in Duffy are already living in their new homes, with significantly less impact/red tape etc to face - why are we being discriminated against? The Stromlo Settlement was there long before Duffy.

I would hope there is no more hold-ups and building can be commenced quickly. We are looking forward to being in our new home at Stromlo Settlement by Christmas 2005.

Yours sincerely

Jennifer Taylor