



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES
Jo Clay MLA (Chair), Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy), Mark Parton MLA

Submission No 10 - Mr Shane Turnbull

Inquiry into Giralang Shops

Received – 23/03/21

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From: [Turnbull, Shane](#)
To: [LA Committee - PTCS](#)
Cc: [Shane Turnbull](#)
Subject: Giralang Shops Inquiry
Date: Tuesday, 23 March 2021 8:04:13 AM

UNOFFICIAL

To whom it may concern

RE: Giralang Shops Inquiry

As a resident of the Giralang community, I would like to voice my ongoing concerns and frustrations about the long standing debacle surrounding the Giralang Shops development.

My wife and I purchased our home in Giralang in 2014, and have established our life and family of four in this wonderful suburb. At present, our first child has just started at Giralang Primary School, and our youngest will commence preschool at Giralang Preschool in 2022, which unfortunately is situated right next to the abandoned site.

Ever since we moved to Giralang, the 'shops' have been in a dilapidated state, and an absolute eyesore for the Giralang community. Whenever there has been any hope of traction regarding possibility of development, the hope has soon faded, as the ideas have progressed into nothing. I recall when the court battles regarding the site were finalised, and the Giralang community became hopeful as we started to see new development occurring at the site, with the hope of new shops for the community; however, the development/construction at the site, soon ceased, and the site remained in a neglected and derelict state for several more years. When we first heard from the developer about the new development RE: Apartments, shops etc, we became hopeful yet again, especially once we saw the pop up annex advertising the apartments etc; however, yet again, the notion of a development occurring at this site, ceased, with no form of communication by the developer, whom has let down the Giralang community all over again.

My immediate concerns surrounding the abandoned construction site relates to the safety of the children of the Giralang community. Having such an unsafe, abandoned construction site at the heart of our little suburb is a disgrace, and I fear that one day, a child will be severely injured through entering the unsafe, unsecure site. My family and I regularly walk/ride past the site, and have seen groups of young children climbing through the fence, climbing over the fence, and playing inside the abandoned site. This site is dangerous, and is a risk to our children. Moreover, this abandoned derelict site, is situated right next to the school, which again is extremely dangerous and needs to be rectified. My secondary concerns relate to the fact that this site remains a major eyesore for the Giralang community, and has likely had an impact on property value.

I think I speak for the whole Giralang community is saying that this abandoned site, with no progress occurring over the past 20+ years, needs to change. Although a set of local

shops, café/pub, take away, local business etc would be nice for the Giralang community, if this is not manageable, fill in the site, and create a something that is manageable i.e. a large scale playground / outdoor activities space for the children in the community (like all the new suburbs are getting), or expand the school car park so pick ups/drop offs are not so difficult for parents. Due to the level of frustration we as a community hold about this site, anything would be better that what stands there at this time; a dangerous, unsafe site, that is nothing but an eyesore for all that pass the site. We are incredibly frustrated and angry that this issue continues to drag on year after year with no resolution. Surely something can be done to rectify the ongoing concerns of the community?

Yours Sincerely

Shane Turnbull

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]