



Legislative Assembly for the
Australian Capital Territory

Standing Committee on Environment,
and Planning

Submission Cover Sheet

Inquiry into the Role and Future of the Woden Town Centre in the context of a compact city

Submission number: 050

Submitter: Stephen Cooke

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From: LACommitteeEnvironment@parliament.act.gov.au

To: LA Committee – Environment

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Subject: Inquiry submission - Role and Future of the Woden Town Centre – Stephen Cooke

Full Name and/or Organisation:	Stephen Cooke
Email address:	[REDACTED]
Physical address:	[REDACTED]
Phone number:	[REDACTED]
I understand that I cannot share my submission until the Committee publishes it.:	Yes
Consent for Publication - please select one:	I accept that the Committee may publish my submission, including my name, on the Assembly website.
If you want your name removed, or your submission to remain confidential, please tell us why:	
Social Connectivity - What would make Woden Town Centre a more welcoming place to meet and socialise with friends and family? :	Woden has been left in the wilderness as far as community facilities go. It's become a high rise jungle, but with no community facilities that are so important to the social health of an area. Ive noted that Woden is worse off than Tuggeranong re community facilities. Perhaps we can start with a proper master plan, one that looks to provide the same facilities as the North side. An Arts Centre!
Social Connectivity - What types of events or activities would you like to see more of in Woden? :	An Arts centre is a great start. If located sensibly, it will have the natural affect of reinvigorating current desolate spaces in Woden. It provides a focus for the community, and opportunities for young people (and for all).
Housing - Do you think there is enough social and public housing in Woden to meet community needs? Why or why not?:	I don't care. You'll work it out.
Housing - What improvements or changes would you suggest for housing in the Woden Town Centre?:	Let's pull back on high rises. It's starting to resemble Hong Kong.
Employment and Economic Activity - What types of	Arts Centre, Community Hall, dedicated space for Sunday markets (local artisan producers), more

businesses or services would you like to see more of in the Woden Town Centre?:	community gardens (so many people in high rises now), a focus on community through relevant festivals and events, public swimming pool (NOT GEOCON). There's plenty of space around.
Employment and Economic Activity - How could the dining and entertainment options in Woden be improved?:	This is a tough one, as I'm a fan of small family run restaurants and cafes. This is why suburban shopping centres are going through a revitalisation - great family run cafes. The bigger centres tend to attract the commercial food outlets. How about a Set up similar to Queen Victoria Markets in Melbourne?
Health, Education and Community Services - Are health, education, and community services in Woden accessible and sufficient for your needs?:	Yep, the hospital is in Woden.
Health, Education and Community Services - What additional services would you find valuable in the area?:	The addition of the CIT has ticked a big box. Still bemused as to how it ended up here. I'm sure there's a political story behind it.
Public Spaces - How could Woden's public spaces be improved to ensure they are inviting and safe for everyone?:	Gardens, parks, pool, ArtsCentre, community markets, community hall - all the things that are normally a part of a local community.
Community Facilities - What recreational or cultural facilities do you think are missing in the Woden Town Centre? :	What culture? You've got to be kidding. There's nothing. Not sure what ACT Arts do, but cultural facilities and events are sadly lacking. I'm sure North side is kicking goals.
Transport and Accessibility - What would you do to improve access to and around the Woden Town Centre? :	To be honest, it's very clunky. So many poky roads, carparks, roundabouts and pedestrian crossings where you are literally running the gauntlet to get across.
Other Comments - Do you have any other ideas or comments about the future of Woden Town Centre?:	Ive given you my views.
Would you be interested in speaking to the Committee about your experience at a public hearing?:	Yes