



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: 071

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To: LA Committee - Environment <LACommitteeEnvironment@act.gov.au>

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

Full Name and/or Organisation:	Ann-Marie McNess
Email address:	
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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? :	Neither the Woden Town Centre square nor Edison Park have been developed adequately. Both would benefit from specialised landscaping to create attractive places to sit, share food along with access quality toilet facilities. Cafes and restaurants facing the square would invite patrons, and provide a link between the Westfield plaza and the library and health centre.
Social Connectivity - What types of events or activities would you like to see more of in Woden? :	The library could be used to auspice a range of cultural, community and recreational activities - for example: social interest groups, social support groups, lifelong learning courses, author events. The current offerings are minimal. Thirroul Community Centre is a good example of what can work.
Housing - Do you think there is enough social and public housing in Woden to meet community needs? Why or why not?:	
Housing - What improvements or changes would you suggest	The look of the Woden Town Centre has been permanently spoiled. Few multistory towers are visually appealing and there are far too many to encourage an adequate sense of

for housing in the Woden Town Centre?:	natural amenity. This is a travesty. At a minimum, no further high-rise development should proceed without prior remedy of the dirt of tree canopy and soft landscaping throughout the town centre.
Employment and Economic Activity - What types of businesses or services would you like to see more of in the Woden Town Centre?:	Seeding creative and technology incubators would diversify and strengthen the Woden economy. Given the population growth in the town centre, a greater breadth of business and work opportunities would support a more cosmopolitan, skilled and engaging city hub. Currently, creative, digital and technology initiatives focus in the inner north.
Employment and Economic Activity - How could the dining and entertainment options in Woden be improved?:	Introduce dining in Woden Town Centre square and cafes at Edison Park. An arts centre would introduce another neglected aspect of community life in Woden. Currently, Woden relies on essential goods and services businesses and lacks cultural and arts-focused activity.
Health, Education and Community Services - Are health, education, and community services in Woden accessible and sufficient for your needs?:	Community services are insufficient and would be addressed by development of a Community Centre to facilitate recreational, social and support activities.
Health, Education and Community Services - What additional services would you find valuable in the area?:	A Community Centre that welcomes all members of the community and acts as a referral point to other services and institutions. The Neighbourhood House model operating in every other jurisdiction is a good first point of call.
Public Spaces - How could Woden's public spaces be improved to ensure they are inviting and safe for everyone?:	Town Square needs further development for shade, comfortable seating, dining/cafe options and toilet access. Edison Park needs to be further landscaped in key areas to encourage more use by people of all mobilities and introduction of food and refreshment services.
Community Facilities - What recreational or cultural facilities do you think are missing in the Woden Town Centre? :	A dedicated Community Centre/activity program. Arts Centre Keep our fabulous 50 m pool.
Transport and Accessibility - What would you do to improve access to and around the Woden Town Centre? :	
Other Comments - Do you have any other ideas or comments	

about the future of Woden Town Centre?:	
Would you be interested in speaking to the Committee about your experience at a public hearing?:	No