

Dear Ministers Corbell and Barr, Committee members,

I have been following the TP variation of the Brumbies HQ in Griffith with professional and personal interest.

I live in Farrer Street Braddon- directly across the road from the Braddon bowling club and pub, just a laneway away from Haig Park- It's a wonderful spot- and also just happens to be a short walk from the Lonsdale Street precinct, and we can walk to the City easily within 10 minutes. I can be on Mount Ainslie on my mountain bike within the same time. What a great place to live!!

If I had the same mindset as the Griffith Residents' group does- I would have spent the last 15 years objecting strongly to the quite significant change Braddon has undergone and will continue to undergo in years ahead. If I did that I would be limiting the access that literally thousands of new residents in Braddon will have to the facilities and shops that I enjoy ease of access to, and selfishly would be hanging onto my 1927 streetscape for me and the few neighbours I have.

Many of my nearby neighbours are long term residents of Braddon who were objectionable to the rezoning that now sees a few hundred new apartments within just 200 meters of where we live. Such concerns seem to have evaporated or been replaced with an enjoyment of the lively atmosphere that Braddon now has- with a thriving business and service trades district, and plenty of good cafes and restaurants just a short stroll away. My daughter walks just 150 metres to attend Ainslie Primary School - which is full- and that's a far better outcome than an empty school due to falling population- as many of the older suburbs in Canberra are now dealing with.

If the Brumbies variation proceeds as it should – then that's a chunk less Greenfield 20 kilometres away we need to develop- and it will provide an increase in population that will benefit the sustainability of local schools, shops and facilities in and around Griffith, just as such redevelopment has in Braddon. Such redevelopment is sensible, sustainable and ultimately in the best interest of the community it occurs within, even if just now they object to it because it is a change, and it is different. Maybe the objectors would have a different view if they went and lived in Bonner, and had to actually experience what urban sprawl creates. There are no NIMBY's in Bonner because by definition "not in my backyard" means you actually have one...

I strongly support The Brumbies rezoning- because it is a sensible use of a languishing site, and its redevelopment ties in very strongly with the ACT Governments well published goals of Urban Intensification, and the on flowing communal benefits of sustainable development and less energy intensive lifestyle choices. The fact the variation will also allow the Brumbies to fund their way into far more suitable facilities just adds icing to the cake.

It's a win win.

Regards,

David Shearer