

Re: DV261

My submission is in regards to the community consultation period allowed for comment. *I do not accept that the time allowed for Community Consultation is adequate.*

In situations where a major zoning change is proposed I strongly contend that a period of no less than six months be allowed for community comment and consultation at the ACTPLA stage and at least three months at the committee stage.

As a concerned citizen and one that does devote much of my time and personal resources find the time allowed inhibiting. Many people in the community are interested in what happens to their local areas. Given enough time to make comment many more people would. We are all constrained by time and the demands on the majority of people's time are great.

In a paper presented this year to the Australian Institute of Administrative Law by the Hon. Justice Brian J Preston, Chief Judge of the Land and Environment Court of NSW on 26 June 2008 he clearly demonstrates and emphasises that "*consultation must be undertaken properly*"

*He classifies four stages of consultation:*

- 1) That it must be undertaken at the Formative Stage*
- 2) Provision of sufficient reasons and material*
- 3) Adequate time to respond and*
- 4) Conscientious taking into account the product of consultation.*

Not everyone has the time to delve into the world of local government or do they have the desire to do so; however most people that I have informally approached and mentioned the issue to, are definitely interested and given more time many more people would have lodged submissions.

The perception that people don't care is not true. It has been my experience that most people care a lot but feel powerless to do anything; as their experience has been that their opinions are not regarded as worthwhile and are discounted by government and government agencies. Not everyone is university educated or especially literate but their opinions are valuable and should be considered with care and interest. Economic considerations are not the end of the story, there are more valuable issues at stake and given the time I would argue that the money is there to be generated to support community.

It has been demanding work informing people of the DV and the committee's existence – I work full time and have a family and a family business as well – you are paid to represent my community and I expect that this is done to the best of your ability. Canberra has very little real community heritage and Canberry Fair / Australian Heritage Village does represent the spirit of Canberra to me and many others.

Good memories I have of time spent celebrating birthdays and time with family at Australian Heritage Village are valuable to me and I will be sorely disappointed if we lose this marvellous place.

I would personally invest time and some money into the development of this place as a community facility and for commercial operations.

Yours in good faith,

Mrs Carrie Wright