



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 54 -

Ms Julie Brandon

Inquiry into Giralang

Shops

Received - 08/04/21

Authorised - 06/05/21

From: [REDACTED]
To: [LA Committee - PTCS](#)
Subject: Inquiry into Giralang shops
Date: Thursday, 8 April 2021 8:22:12 AM

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Dear Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the inquiry into the Giralang shops.

I have been a resident of Giralang since 2010, over which time the site of the former Giralang shops has remained the eyesore of the suburb. It is time that progress is made on the site, whether it be shops or something else that may benefit the community. The ACT Government needs to step in at this point and resolve the issue of the Giralang shops.

I have two children attending Giralang primary school, and the derelict building site looks awful in front of such a lovely primary school. Additionally, it is not appropriate for a dangerous building site to be so close to the primary school, particularly as it is not very well secured.

Given the proximity of the supermarkets in Kaleen and Crace it is unlikely that supermarket retailers will be interested in the site. As such, the developer should consider alternative options for the shops, including smaller retail outlets and cafes. There is plenty of foot traffic through the area with the playing fields and primary school, and it is likely that smaller retail outlets would be well frequented. If the developer does not quickly progress alternative options for the site, the site should be passed on to a different developer that is able to make progress on the site. It feels at this stage that progress has been halted because the developer will not make the maximum amount profit on the site, which I believe is wrong outlook on what is essentially a community site.

Alternatively, the site could be bought back by the ACT Government and turned into something that benefits the local community, such as a playground.

It is time that Giralang residents are rid of the eyesore in the middle of their suburb.

Kind regards,

Julie Brandon