

30 September 2010

The Chairperson
Standing Committee on Planning, Public Works
And Territory and Municipal Services
Legislative Assembly for the ACT
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Miss Porter

Draft Variation to the territory Plan no. 298 – Structure Plan – Concept Plan and Zone Changes – Holt Section 99 part Block 11 Belconnen Golf Course

On behalf of the Master Builders Association of the ACT, as a peak body representing the interests of the construction industry in the ACT, I am writing to support the proposal to permit the former 19th to 27th holes of the Belconnen Golf Course to be used for housing. The industry and the community are acutely aware of the need for more affordable housing and especially the need for housing to suit the needs of retirees and those wishing to down-size into more accessible accommodation, as they age in place.

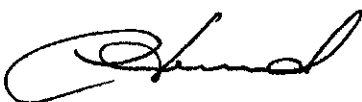
The ACT government has clearly expressed the need for more affordable housing, especially for those wishing to enter the market as first home owners; this does not specifically apply to any specific age groups as affordable housing has to be provided for all those wishing to own a home of their own.

The MBA has been involved in discussions with the ACT government representatives in the past regarding the above proposal and has always provided its support for this development. This proposed development will provide a range of single storey houses to suit the various needs of those wishing to down-size or indeed, wishing to purchase a residence for the first time.

The proposal will enhance the viability of the existing public golf course and the proposed development for the new clubhouse will also provide excellent amenities for the current residents of the course and the future residents, including those of the new adjoining suburb of McGregor.

The proposed development will also help to alleviate the current land shortage and will also provide employment opportunities for our members during the construction phase.

Yours sincerely



Jerry Howard
Deputy Executive Director

