

ATTACHMENT

Community Petition **Protesting the proposed seven storey redevelopment** **on the Embassy Motel site in Deakin**

1. The attached document is an Attachment to the Submission by members of the Deakin Residents' Association to the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment consideration of DV237.
2. It is a copy of a community petition (29 pages) signed by 445 people, primarily residents of Deakin or surrounding suburbs, or users of Deakin, protesting the proposed high rise (seven storeys) residential development on the Embassy Motel site. Most of the signatures were collected during the election campaign for the ACT Legislative Assembly in the period September/October 2004.
3. The petition is a non-partisan. During the election campaign, signatories were encouraged to contact candidates of all major political parties standing in Molonglo to advise of their concerns. Advice of the petition was also sent to these candidates.
4. As the petition was very much a grassroots community action, its presentation is a bit "rough and ready". Initially we asked for e-mail contacts rather than signatures!!! (see pages 26, 28, 29). But the sentiment is clear, and reflects strong opposition by Deakin residents, those in surrounding suburbs and regular users of Deakin to a seven storey residential redevelopment in the suburb. Signatories enthusiastically lined up to sign this petition at a table with signs protesting the proposed seven storey redevelopment in Deakin and to take relevant material. Many expressed disgust and outrage at the lack of public information about the intended height of the building and at the poor public consultation process. They felt disenfranchised by the way the process had so rapidly got to the stage where a critical decision would be taken that affected them directly without them knowing anything about it. Many expressed the view that this was symptomatic of a wider problem of planning in Canberra which they saw as a development by stealth.
5. The team representing members of the Deakin Residents' Association will present the original of the petition to the Standing Committee when residents are invited to appear.