

As a newcomer to Canberra I strongly oppose to any change to the current legislation around billboards in Canberra and the ACT.


As a newcomer to Canberra and the ACT I often had a good look around and tried to fathom what made Canberra so unique, so pleasing on the eye and so soothing for the soul. As I cross the border to neighbouring NSW/Queanbeyan I get more distracted and there is a general sense of more 'ugliness'. After some thought I discovered the reason for the softness of Canberra versus the hardness of so many other cities. It is the 'deafening noise', the background clutter of the 'bright lights', the 'in your face' colours and typography of billboards, golden arches and other advertising that serve no other purpose than raising revenue for both the billboard owner and the advertiser while they trample my private space, my mind, my feeling of wellbeing.

When Walter and Marion Mahony Burley Griffin envisioned their master plan Canberra was planned as a garden city with a close link between city, nature and people. I am quite sure they never envisioned a Times Square of Kings Cross and it is certainly not what I envision for the future of Canberra and the ACT.

I therefore strongly oppose any change to the current legislation and strongly support the current regulations.

Kind Regards,

Mick de Groot
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