



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES

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Submission No 25 -

Ms Penny Costello

Inquiry into Giralang Shops

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The site of the Giralang Shops needs to be either resumed (purchased back from the developer by the ACT Government), or the developer get on and develop the block.

Personally, I think the land could be put to better use by the ACT Government. For example, a purpose-built respite care facility. There is a shortage of this type of facility in the ACT. The cost of respite can be exorbitant if a person is placed in a facility that is privately run.

Giralang does not need a multistorey unit block on the land. The developer did try to propose this idea to a community meeting several years ago, however nought has come of this. The reason, supposedly is that the developer could not find a tenant who wanted to lease a supermarket within the complex.

Really, do we need shops anymore. It has been so long since we had shops, the residents of Giralang shop elsewhere.

I believe the real reason the developer has not gone ahead with the development of the site, is that when he first went to market with the proposal of units, there was a lack of uptake of buyers off the plan.

The developer I understand has paid back the deposits to all who had put down deposits. I tracked the units on allhomes.com and they were not moving fast.

It is time for the ACT Government to put an ultimatum to the developer. The developer, either develop the block as it was put to the Giralang community several years ago. Or you the ACT Government buy the land back and build something that will benefit the community as a whole.