



Legislative Assembly for the
Australian Capital Territory

Standing Committee on Environment,
and Planning

Submission Cover Sheet

Inquiry into the Role and Future of the Woden Town Centre in the context of a compact city

Submission number: 044

Submitter: Andrew Wodo

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From: LACommitteeEnvironment@parliament.act.gov.au

To: LA Committee – Environment

Date: Thursday, 21 August 2025 1:36:57 PM

Subject: Inquiry submission - Role and Future of the Woden Town Centre – Andrew Wodo

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| Full Name and/or Organisation: | Andrew Wodo |
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| Phone number: | [REDACTED] |
| I understand that I cannot share my submission until the Committee publishes it.: | Yes |
| Consent for Publication - please select one: | I accept that the Committee may publish my submission, including my name, on the Assembly website. |
| If you want your name removed, or your submission to remain confidential, please tell us why: | |
| Social Connectivity - What would make Woden Town Centre a more welcoming place to meet and socialise with friends and family? : | More alfresco dining, perhaps in the West Plaza or Town Square. A community spaces hub opening onto the West Plaza or Town Square - a combo of arts, music, theatre. A cafe-cross-bar with live music that is open all day until late (or all night). A bit hard to 'add more sun' but retaining as much as possible. A group that organises events for the public in the public spaces might help. |
| Social Connectivity - What types of events or activities would you like to see more of in Woden? : | Live music at a cafe/bar Markets Community workshops BBQs! Monthly public events that bring people together in the public spaces. |
| Housing - Do you think there is enough social and public housing in Woden to meet community needs? Why or why not?: | I don't specifically know the number of social and public houses in Woden, however, I know there is a shortage across Canberra and Woden would be a good place to add some more given it is a Town Centre. |
| Housing - What improvements or changes would you suggest for housing in the Woden Town Centre?: | It is a shame there are high-rise buildings on the Northern side of the Town Square and West Plaza. I was in the West Plaza at 9am and Grand Central Towers cast shadows over almost everything. Very cold, very poor planning outcome. More high-rises close to public spaces would be criminal. Think of the people! Sun is good for us. Human scale, set-backs, nice articulation, lower building heights |

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| <p>Employment and Economic Activity - What types of businesses or services would you like to see more of in the Woden Town Centre?:</p> | <p>Alfresco dining. Cafe/bar with Live music as much as possible with extended opening hours. Arts, music, theatre hub. Indoor sports stadium. Monthly public events that bring people together in the public spaces - could coordinate with the aforementioned facilities</p> |
| <p>Employment and Economic Activity - How could the dining and entertainment options in Woden be improved?:</p> | <p>Woden needs more entertainment options. A cafe/bar with live music would be great. A theatre would be cool. More alfresco dining would be nice, could create a more inviting and safer environment.</p> |
| <p>Health, Education and Community Services - Are health, education, and community services in Woden accessible and sufficient for your needs?:</p> | <p>I currently don't need to access community services, but I know Woden Community Services are scattered across numerous spaces. I'm sure this makes accessing those services a pain in the neck for those who need them. The new CIT is quite impressive. I don't access healthcare in Woden Town Centre, can't comment on the state of it. The Phillip medical centre is handy.</p> |
| <p>Health, Education and Community Services - What additional services would you find valuable in the area?:</p> | <p>*shrug*</p> |
| <p>Public Spaces - How could Woden's public spaces be improved to ensure they are inviting and safe for everyone?:</p> | <p>Fill the spaces with markets, activities and active fronts. Create a nice vibe where people want to be. Would be great if solar access was preserved as much as possible. Canberra and concrete get very cold and uninviting.</p> |
| <p>Community Facilities - What recreational or cultural facilities do you think are missing in the Woden Town Centre? :</p> | <p>Arts & culture. A community arts hub would be pretty awesome. Could include workshops, exhibitions, theatre performances, live music, etc. An indoor sports stadium and an indoor 50m pool would be good, brings a lot of people together and creates a nice vibe. A playground/basketball hoop in the Town Square or West Plaza seems like a no-brainer.</p> |
| <p>Transport and Accessibility - What would you do to improve access to and around the Woden Town Centre? :</p> | <p>A lot of the shops, particularly groceries, are hundreds of metres away from the bus interchange. A little bus that looped around the Town Centre might help all sorts of people to get to and from the shops. Might encourage people to not drive. It gets quite congested on Corinna St. Bike loops in the West Plaza would be helpful.</p> |
| <p>Other Comments - Do you have any other ideas or comments about the future of Woden Town Centre?:</p> | <p>There have been so many houses put up around the place in recent years. The desire and need for things to do must be massive. The Alby is a great addition. More like this would be superb (with more live music)</p> |

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| | More community arts and sport right there in the Town Centre would be ideal. Perhaps the Woden Valley Community Council could organise more public events in the Town Centre. |
| Would you be interested in speaking to the Committee about your experience at a public hearing?: | No |