

2021

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

TABLING STATEMENT

VARIATION 379 TO THE TERRITORY PLAN

Nature Reserve – Kenny Environmental Offsets Site

**Mick Gentleman MLA
Minister for Planning and Land Management
August 2021**

Madam Speaker, I would like to table Territory Plan Variation 379 – Nature Reserve – Kenny Environmental Offsets Site. This Variation implements the outcomes of the Gungahlin Strategic Assessment 2013 for Matters of National Environmental Significance protected under the Commonwealth's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

The land is to be incorporated into the Canberra Nature Park as a nature reserve by the name of Nadjung Mada. It is the 39th reserve in Canberra Nature Park.

It is always a pleasure and a privilege as Minister for Planning and Land Management to be able to continue adding to Canberra Nature Park.

To create this new nature reserve, Variation 379 rezones Gungahlin rural block 820 and part of the Old Well Station Road Track from a range of existing urban zonings under the future urban area overlay to the Non Urban NUZ3 Hills, Ridges and Buffers zone.

It also replaces the Future Urban Area Overlay with a Nature Reserve Public Land Overlay on the Territory Plan Map.

Madam Speaker, the draft Variation 379 was released for public comment between December 2020 and February 2021. It attracted four public submissions.

These submissions were generally supportive of the variation and raised matters related to the future access and management of the Nadjung Mada nature reserve.

A Report on Consultation was prepared by the ACT planning and land authority, and responded to the issues raised in the submissions. Given the support for the proposal, no changes were made to the draft variation as a result of the public consultation processes.

Under section 73 of the *Planning and Development Act 2007*, I referred the draft Variation to the Standing Committee on Planning Transport and City Services.

Madam Speaker, the Standing Committee advised me on 15 July 2021 that it had decided not to conduct an inquiry into DV379.

I approved Variation 379 because it implements the recommendations of the Gungahlin Strategic Assessment and secures a significant area of land for the Nadjung Mada nature reserve.

Madam Speaker, I now table the approved Variation to the Territory Plan 379.