

From: Stack, Cameron
Sent: Friday, 9 July 2010 1:54 PM
To: Committees
Cc:
Subject: Submission to Live Music Enquiry - Live Music Community Events

Hello,

I thank the committee for their efforts in undertaking the current enquiry into Live Music Community Events.

Submission:

I would like to encourage the committee to see the current enquiry as an opportunity to recommend leading progressive policies to support Canberra's live local music scene. I would recommend that the committee start from the premise of providing and supporting a best practice outcome and not be satisfied with merely an acceptable outcome for the live local music events/culture. Canberra needs progressive policies in this space, this enquiry is an opportunity to show some leadership to the wider nation and counter the 'Canberra is dull' prejudice held by some.

Canberra is a unique city and needs innovative solutions tailored to our local opportunities and constraints.

In this regard, the committee might consider a 'live music precinct' approach and support and develop recommendations allowing for complementary venues in dedicated spots. This approach has proven successful elsewhere e.g The Cuba Precinct in Wellington New Zealand.

In terms of realistic options available the committee might consider using the subterranean space of the previous Akuna club as a live music venue given its natural noise suppressing comparative advantage. This might also complement the seeming strategic direction of the near by Transit Bar. Alternatively, can the old Electric Shadows facility be allocated in full or part to a live music venue given it is existing infrastructure, benefits from underground noise suppression and has a good ambience and size offering i.e. less than the arguable sterile Convention Centre Venue but sufficient to attract and hold live acts beyond the reach of the Transit Bar or the like venue of such size - think the The Forum Theatre in Melbourne as a template. Supporting a precinct approach in this area may hopefully bring some life to this part of the city following the departure of the Electric Shadows cinemas (and its general lack of activity over the years).

Alternatively/Similarly, Braddon is in need of a live music venue capable of acting as a cafe/venue in the evening. Braddon's developing eclectic offering would be well suited to a dedicated small live venue i.e. a building not unlike the old Pizza Hut site or similar would be suitable.

I request that the committee should also give consideration to a graded live music zoning system. That is, identifying which spaces will support louder

electric music and which spaces will support acoustic or quiet electrified music. This information should be marketed and available to the public (i.e. common knowledge) rather than confined to planning zoning docs alone.

If within the terms of reference I would also encourage the government to apply and leverage, where appropriate, its best practice policies and intentions and a live music precinct development approach to suburban centres such as Lyneham and Hackett Shops

I am looking forward to the committees analysis and recommendations. Please add me to the mailing list for any further updates or correspondence

Thank you

Cameron Stack