



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES

Jo Clay MLA (Chair), Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy), Mark Parton MLA

Submission No 38 -

Mr Sean Macintyre

Inquiry into Giralang

Shops

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Inquiry into Giralang Shops Submission

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to this inquiry into the Giralang shops

History

I have been a resident of Giralang for more than 16 years. This is long enough to remember when there was a Vietnamese takeaway. Unfortunately all the other shops were closed by then. Long time residents have told me about the tavern, the takeaway and the bakery and I yearn for a return to those days when the shops were the jewel in the crown of the suburb and a place to gather, rather than a rotten, dangerous eyesore.

Design and place

Giralang's design with the shops and school at its core exacerbates the problem. Instead of a place for the community to meet - literally all paths lead to this point - we instead have a place to avoid.

My children and nearly 350 others attend Giralang Primary School, next door. Each day these children and their caregivers pass by this dangerous and derelict site.

Action

This blight on our suburb has gone on long enough. The Giralang community demands action. I call on the developer to deliver what was promised. There have been enough concessions, now it is time for outcomes.

If the developer can not deliver, then it is time for the developer to relinquish its lease, either voluntarily or be made to by the government. The developer should remediate the site so that the land is safe and available for use by the community. If the site was remediated, it could at least be used for markets and a pop up coffee van!

The ACT government could then put the site out to tender, with the stipulation that works be completed within 2.5 years of the completion of the tender.

The community's preference is for shops in this location. Therefore possible developments could include supermarkets, speciality shops, restaurants, cafes, medical facilities, a government shopfront. However, there may be other community friendly uses for the site that a tender process could reveal.

Summary

The developer should build what it promised, if not, the government should call in the lease and try again. If no developments are viable, it would be preferable to have nothing at all on that site.

I would be happy to appear at a public hearing to discuss these views in person.

Regards
Sean Macintyre

