



# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES

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

Submission No 47 -

Mr Christopher Dennis

Inquiry into Giralang

Shops

Received - 07/04/21

Authorised - 08/04/21

The Chairperson  
The Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services  
ACT Legislative Assembly  
GPO Box 1020  
Canberra ACT 2601

To whom it may concern,

**Re Enquiry into Giralang Shops (Petition No 4-21)**

My thanks to the Legislative Assembly for conducting this enquiry.

I have been a resident of Giralang for 10 years. I am a father to two children, one a student at Giralang Primary school, and the younger soon to be. When choosing a place to live 10 years ago I hoped, in hindsight naively, that we were moving into a suburb that would soon have a new, vibrant, shopping centre and community hub. Instead, I have lived 10 years in a suburb that has an ugly and dangerous hole in it.

The way this site and the situation surrounding it has been handled is utterly ridiculous. The community is fed up with the developer, and fed up with the government's inaction.

The site, in its current state, is quite literally a giant hole, filled with rusted metal, concrete and refuse. It is directly next to a primary school and preschool. It is dangerous and poses an absolutely unacceptable risk to the community. The assembly with whatever power it can muster must compel the developer to clean up the site and make it safe. Immediately.

Beyond fixing its current dangerous state, I would like to see the site actually developed in a way that the Giralang community has been calling for the last 17 years. A small shopping precinct that includes a supermarket and several other smaller commercial tenants and some residential development. Ideally the site would also include a community space. There must also be some basic road/traffic management put in place.

If this requires a modification to the terms of the lease, then that should be allowed for. If the current developer is unwilling or incapable of developing the site under these terms, then the government must make the necessary arrangements to have the site turned over to a someone who will develop the site.

I would be happy to discuss my views at the committee's hearings if necessary.

Sincerely,

Christopher Dennis

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