



**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: 037

Submitter: Deb Marburg

Date authorised for publication: 28 August 2025

**From:** LACommitteeEnvironment@parliament.act.gov.au

**To:** LA Committee – Environment

**Date:** Wednesday, 20 August 2025 7:11:35 AM

**Subject:** Inquiry submission - Role and Future of the Woden Town Centre – Deb Marburg

Full Name and/or Organisation:	Deb Marburg
Email address:	[REDACTED]
Physical address:	
Phone number:	
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? :	Woden has slowly lost so many facilities for social connectivity over the last two decades - basketball stadium that was next to the old Southern Cross Club gym, AMF ten pin bowl, putt putt golf, the pool and ice skating rink are on their last legs and haven't been kept in good repair. A public pool equal in size to what all other town centres have is urgently needed in Woden.
Social Connectivity - What types of events or activities would you like to see more of in Woden? :	Full size swimming complex. Woden is the only town centre without this facility which forces families to travel long distances to use a pool.
Housing - Do you think there is enough social and public housing in Woden to meet community needs? Why or why not?:	
Housing - What improvements or changes would you suggest for housing in the Woden Town Centre?:	No more cheaply built, tiny apartments. Roads and infrastructure can't cope with any more. Remove the barriers and government charges for residents with large blocks to build a second dwelling or convert their properties into two. Incentivise home owners to do so.
Employment and Economic Activity - What	Woden is the only town centre without an ALDI, Officeworks, hardware store (the loss of Magnet Mart

types of businesses or services would you like to see more of in the Woden Town Centre?:	was a blow for the area), we don't even have a takeaway pizza chain like Crust. Also the loss of Harvey Norman reduced the appeal of shopping at Woden.
Employment and Economic Activity - How could the dining and entertainment options in Woden be improved?:	Woden is the only town centre without a lake or water based outdoor area. With so many high rise apartments the options for pleasant outdoor dining are non existent.
Health, Education and Community Services - Are health, education, and community services in Woden accessible and sufficient for your needs?:	
Health, Education and Community Services - What additional services would you find valuable in the area?:	
Public Spaces - How could Woden's public spaces be improved to ensure they are inviting and safe for everyone?:	
Community Facilities - What recreational or cultural facilities do you think are missing in the Woden Town Centre? :	Full size indoor swimming pool like all the other centres have. Some sort of unique activity/business that will bring people from other areas of Canberra to Woden. Currently Woden doesn't have anything of interest. Cricket pitches and nets in places like Clarries Hermes field desperately need updating. Also the cricket facilities in fields near the Mint, need improvement.
Transport and Accessibility - What would you do to improve access to and around the Woden Town Centre? :	Stop plans for the tram. It makes no economic or practical sense for the Woden area. Fast buses to the city down Adelaide Ave work well. A slow tram which won't reach the majority of residents in suburbs of Deakin, Yarralumla, Hughes, Chifley, Mawson, O'Malley, Lyons, Garran etc is a massive waste of public funds.
Other Comments - Do you have any other ideas or comments about the future of Woden Town Centre?:	Don't allow more apartments to be built on the land near Stellar and Phillip College. Use that land as it used to be for, community use, and put a public indoor swimming pool there.
Would you be interested in speaking to the Committee about your experience at a public hearing?:	No

