



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 11 -

Ms Briana Lloyd

Inquiry into Giralang

Shops Received -

23/03/21

Authorised - 01/04/21

From: [REDACTED]
To: [LA Committee - PTCS](#)
Subject: Fwd: Inquiry into Giralang Shops
Date: Wednesday, 24 March 2021 10:38:41 AM

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Apologies, my email sent before I had finished - please disregard previous email as this one is completed.

Kind regards
Briana Lloyd

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Briana lloyd [REDACTED]
Date: 24 March 2021 at 10:28:16 am AEDT
To: LAcommitteePTCS@parliament.act.gov.au
Subject: **Inquiry into Giralang Shops**

To whom it may concern

My husband and I moved to Giralang almost 8 years ago, just before our first son was born. We loved the suburb for its natural spaces, great ovals and we had heard good things about the local primary school. We also loved that we could walk from home to the school (and why we hoped would eventuate to local shops) without having to cross a road. At the time a few friends were leaving the suburb and I know that the lack of local shops had contributed to their decision. We also are about to have our neighbours leave the suburb. They have been in Giralang 45 years, and a key reason for them leaving is to be in an environment where they can walk to local facilities - to go get a coffee with friends, pick up some groceries or grab a meal. They know how Giralang was before the shops were taken away and know that is needed for all in the community.

I must admit that we didn't really know what we were missing until we moved to Canada for a year. We lived within a few streets of local shops/cafe/restaurants and having those facilities nearby and being able to walk or ride with our family to grab a meal or some necessities was so amazing and well supported by the community.

In the time we have lived in the suburb we have had a unsafe/dangerous worksite where we should have had shops. We are the forgotten suburb, tacked onto a gungahlin electorate to even out numbers but with no focus on improving amenities for us.

It's not surprising that the developer had trouble selling units as part of the development. People who are after that style of living want to be close to amenities/transport links etc. We have very infrequent bus services and it

takes a lot longer to catch a bus anywhere than it does to drive. People move to Giralang because they want bigger blocks and space, not to be in a unit.

I know I'm not alone when I say many residents have reservations about the multi level units/apartments that were proposed, particularly from a safety perspective as they would be overlooking the primary school. It would also increase traffic ten fold in an area where children are often crossing roads etc.

We would love to have local shops. I believe the developer is motivated by greed and has no interest in actually creating a great amenity for the Giralang community, only profit for their coffers. If there is no way to reclaim the land to get this disaster sorted then I would like to see the restriction on supermarket size lifted to try and give the shops some sort of chance to eventuate. If we were to have a local supermarket the community would support it and we know residents are hanging out for a cafe or restaurant to gather at. Maybe instead of a large chain supermarket something like a fresh food market or organic store would do well. A cafe, a restaurant, a gym. The community will support whatever businesses we get!

It's very frustrating seeing other local shops getting government funding for 'upgrades' whilst we are still staring at a dangerous mess after almost 2 decades! Aside from new suburbs/hubs such as Gungahlin where units have been built above shops I am not aware of any older style local shops that have required stories upon stories of units above the shops to make them viable. It would be our strong preference to not have multi-storey appartments above any development due to safety risks given the proximity to the school.

It's been long enough that Giralang has been without local shops and support from the ACT Government. Local shops will help build community in our great suburb and should be built as soon as possible.

Kind regards
Briana Lloyd



Sent from my iPhone