



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES


Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Chair), Mr Steve Dospot MLA (Deputy Chair)

Ms Tara Cheyne MLA, Mr Mark Parton MLA

Inquiry into the Management of ACT Cemeteries

Submission to the inquiry

6 - John Kain

	A.C.T. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE OFFICE
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Snedden, Andrew

From: John Kain [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 30 August 2017 11:23 AM
To: Committees
Subject: Submission to ACT Assembly cemetery enquiry
Categories: ETC

This is a personal submission to the Enquiry; I am agreeable to it being made available for public viewing.

[REDACTED]

I wish to register my strong opposition to the proposal to extend the existing Woden Cemetery into Eddison Park.

There has been a long planned intention to establish a new cemetery site in the Tuggeranong area to meet the needs of the growth of Canberra.

It would appear that the continued deferral of the development of the new southern site reflects short term budgetary decisions. It is not surprising that these deferrals decisions has put considerable pressure on the existing capacity of the Woden site.

The idea of spilling Woden cemetery's capacity into the adjoining Eddison Park is unacceptable. Central Woden has very limited open green space as it is and relative to the other three "new town" districts.

Much of the available green space has been made restricted access (eg Phillip Oval) or alienated for non-recreational purposes, such as the "temporary" spillover car parking off Yamba Drive, for Canberra Hospital staff.

On a per capita basis, central Woden's open green space is well below that of the other town centres. With the growth in population resulting from government densification policies, the recreational value of Woden's limited green spaces will continue to grow.

In regard to funding of new cemetery infrastructure, the Assembly Committee might be wise to investigate leading cemeteries in other states such as self-funded Centennial Park at Pasadena, in Adelaide's inner south.

I would not support private involvement in cemetery provision as this would invariably drive up costs to the consumer. It would also put pressure on government to do back-handed and non-transparent "deals" with profit motivated corporations and with little or no regard to community interests.

Thanking you for your consideration of my concerns.

Yours sincerely

John Kain