INNER SOUTH CANBERRA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

2011 - 2015 STRATEGIC PLAN

incorporating the 2014 Action Plan

Vision

The Inner South Canberra Community is healthy, happy, sustainable, responsible and inclusive.

Mission

To protect and enhance the amenity and environmental well-being of Inner South Canberra residents and the broader community.

Introduction

This draft Inner South Canberra Community Council (ISCCC) Strategic Plan outlines how we hope to achieve our vision and mission for the Inner South. It will create a focus for consultation with Inner South Canberra residents and other stakeholders, and will form the basis for interaction with the ACT and Commonwealth Governments on issues affecting the amenity of the Inner South.

In implementing this strategic plan, the ISCCC will focus its energies on matters of common interest to Inner South Canberra as a whole. In doing so it will complement the work of, and work closely with, Inner South suburban residents' associations that will continue to have primary carriage of local issues.

In referring to concepts such as the amenity of the Inner South, the ISCCC recognises that this will include impacts by, and on, others who work, travel through and enjoy leisure activities in the Inner South. The intention is to seek the best outcome for the Inner South and the broader community.

Background

The strategic plan is a first step in responding to the following resolution of the inaugural ISCCC meeting on 7 July 2010:

- *That, given the strong support of the wider ACT community for the 'Bush Capital' concept which includes the idea of including generous 'open space' in our inner and outer suburbs, this first meeting of the ISCCC calls upon the ACT Government, to develop, in partnership with Inner South residents, a new Strategic Plan for the area known as Inner South Canberra (including Symonston), which would cover any issue which has the potential to impact on the Inner South (such as population, traffic, public transport, urban consolidation, heritage, ACT and Commonwealth Government planning and development, lease change, public and recreational space, education,health, retail and general facilities for the very young through to the elderly).*

Stakeholders

Key stakeholders include:

- Inner South Canberra residents
- Inner South Canberra businesses
- Inner South Canberra community organisations
- Those who work and enjoy leisure activities in the Inner South
- The ACT Government
- The Commonwealth Government
- The wider community

Historical context

This strategic plan recognises the important history and heritage values of Inner South Canberra. The Ngunnawal are the Indigenous people of Canberra and its first inhabitants. Early European pastoral settlement is also part of the Inner South heritage. In 1913, the announcement of Canberra as Australia's national capital was made at what is now known as Capital Hill. The Inner South continues to play a vital role at the heart of the nation's capital

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Desired outcome: Inner South Canberra residents are happy with the amenity and community well-being of the Inner South

Strategy 1.1. Promote Inner South issues to government in collaboration with residents' groups.

Actions	Responsibility and timeframe	Performance Measures	Update / Achievements at October 2014
1. Work with the community and the ACT Government on a strategic framework for the development of Inner South Canberra. 1.1. Draft outline of strategic framework for consideration by the ISCCC Committee. 1.2. Subsequent presentation to the IS community. 1.3. Subsequent presentation of strategic framework to PDF.	1.1 Strategic plan sub committee by September 2014. 1.2 By ISCCC Committee member at 2014 AGM.	1 Presentation to the ISCCC Committee, IS community and PDF by due dates.	1.1 In hand. Headings prepared and a significant amount of high level (policies etc) content drafted. To be continued progressively. 1.2 Anticipate Committee consideration early 2015. 1.3 Dependent on 1.2
2. Respond to Government calls for comment on key strategic documents. 3. Liaise with other Community Councils and residents' groups on matters of common interest, and collaborate where appropriate. 4. Advocate to Government Ministers, Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) and Members of Federal Parliament (MPs) on Inner South issues	Actions 2,3 and 4 – Committee, ongoing.	2. Timely ISCCC responses and advocacy. 3. Continuing participation in CCC through advocacy of ISC interests. 4. Continuing support for ISCCC amongst members, Legislative Assembly and Government.	2. Ongoing. Main issues listed in Attachment 1. 3. Liaison with Community Councils through Combined Community Councils continuing. ISCCC participated in all four CCC meetings in 2014 and has contributed to key topics including Transport, Precinct Codes, Open Space ratio, planning advocacy resources, concessional leases, importance of major planning principles and asbestos remediation policy and processes. 4. Advocacy to MLAs includes submissions identified in Attachment 1. S. Rattenbury invited to speak at the 2014 AGM as Member for Molonglo and Minister.

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Strategy 1.2. **Build community and other stakeholder participation in planning and other relevant issues through communication and engagement, and improvements in participation processes, including access to justice through ACAT.**

Actions	Responsibility and timeframe	Performance Measures	Update / Achievements at October 2014
1.Prepare action plan and manage implementation of principles outlined in the ISCCC Communications Plan.	1. Chair. Forum dates 27 March, 12 June, 28 August, 20 November (AGM).	1. Communications and engagement plan, and public relations strategy implemented on an ongoing basis.	1. Twitter and Facebook established. Chair's Chronicle articles published each month. Website updated regularly.
2. An online engagement option for Inner South residents to gauge and/or pledge support	2. Chair, by September 2014	2. Good attendance at Council/member group forums and/or active e-mail communication.	2. Available as email feedback through the ISCCC website.
3. Through member organisations, promote communication and cooperation between residents (e.g. newsletter, website, billboards, site tours), and facilitate establishment of groups in unrepresented IS areas.	3. Committee, working with suburban groups, ongoing.	3. Responses and tweets to several issues a week.	3. Residents groups funded to issue newsletters regularly
4. With other Community Councils seek Legislative Assembly / ACT Government support for a fully resourced planning advocacy agency under the auspices of the Combined Community Councils.	4. ISCCC Committee, in line with ACT election timetable and annual budget cycle and in collaboration with other Community Councils.	4. Submission to ACT Government and advocacy as part of the annual budget cycle.	4. ISCCC wrote to CM in February 2013. No action by CCC in 2014.

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Strategy 2. Promote Quality Planning and Development.

Note: the context of this strategy is to have appropriate regard to existing policies etc such as the National Capital Plan, the Territory Plan, the Garden City Principles, the Griffin legacy, Neighbourhood Plans and precinct codes.

Actions	Responsibility and timeframe	Performance Measures	Update / Achievements at October 2014
1. Advocate legislation that promotes quality development and protects the unique characteristics of the Inner South, including by:			1. No new Draft Variations to the Territory Plan of major interest to the ISCCC in 2013-2014. In July 2014 the ACTG opened discussions about the Omnibus DVTP. The ISCC has made a submission in response to the pre-formal consultation material and further submissions can be expected on this before the end of 2014.
1.1. Distilling important recommendations from residents' groups and other community councils relating to Draft Variations to the Territory Plan so as to identify priority actions for the ISCCC.		1.1 Priority actions taken relating to Draft Variations.	1.1 Critical themes yet to be fully developed include consultation (not 'telling'), management of place (recognition of ambient character, not piecemeal and ad hoc), proven compliance with ACTG Strategies (environment, sustainability, spatial, transport etc), quality design (needs some criteria to be developed).
1.2. Working with community groups and the ACT Government to review existing Precinct Codes and introduce amendments to the Territory Plan which reflect the desired character for suburbs as set out in Neighbourhood Plans and Garden City Values and Principles.	1.2 Stage 1 Deakin / Yarralumla to hold initial discussions with the ACT Government on suggested improvements by 30 September 2014. Stage 2: Strategy for extension to further Inner South Canberra suburbs identified by 31 December 2014.	1.2 Precinct Codes developed in consultation with community for Inner South that can only be changed with a Draft Variation to the Territory Plan.	1.2 Further work on Precinct Codes has been delayed by other urgent issues. It is likely that this will not be in reasonable form for comment until later in 2014 / early 2015. Target date June 2015

***Strategy 2. Promote Quality Planning and Development* (continued)**

Actions	Responsibility and timeframe	Performance Measures	Update / Achievements at October 2014
1.3. Advocate to the ACT Government a requirement for the full Development Approval process to apply to demolition of existing dwellings and erection of new dwellings, and also additions and alterations to an existing dwelling, in RZ1 and RZ2 zones in inner south Canberra until: 1.3.1. a full public review of the role and operation of building certifiers has been completed, and 1.4. improvements to suburb Precinct Codes (envisaged in Action 1.2) have been implemented.			1.3 This arose from the Yarralumla duplex issue where there is no requirement for a DA for 'knock down and re-build'. The ACT Auditor General reported on 'undue influence of building certifiers' but did not address this matter.
2. Advocate to Government Ministers, MLAs and MPs on Inner South planning and development issues with priorities in 2014 including improvement to definition of plot ratios (to avoid loophole of filling entire site with pools, verandahs etc).	2. GNCA. Commenced discussions with ESDD). Ongoing.		2 GNCA and the ISCCC have written to M Gentleman and discussed this with S Rattenbury

***Strategy 2. Promote Quality Planning and Development* (continued)**

Actions	Responsibility and timeframe	Performance Measures	Update / Achievements at October 2014
3. Advocate to ensure that variations to the Territory Plan by the ACT Government are correctly treated, especially with respect to technical amendments.	3. ISCCC Committee members. As required.	3a.Submissions lodged are well founded, and reflect community input. 3b. Priority issues are communicated to relevant politicians. 3c. Appropriate improvements made to the planning process.	3 CCC is developing a paper on this, with input from ISCCC.

Strategy 3. Safeguard the heritage of the Inner South.

Actions	Responsibility and timeframe	Performance Measures	Update / Achievements at October 2014
1. With regard to the Inner South Canberra Heritage Register: 1.1 Lobby for Heritage Register requirements to be applied. 1.2. Advocate for timely consideration of Inner South heritage applications. 2. Define heritage values for inner south Canberra specifically 3. Identify elements related to heritage for inclusion in suburb precinct codes and as a basis for discussion with the ACT Government. 4. Promote community awareness of heritage values and issues in the Inner South.	ISCCC Committee, ongoing.	1. Timely and effective ISCCC submissions and advocacy. 2. Increased community awareness of heritage values and issues in the Inner	A position has been taken to promote the heritage listing of Canberra.

Strategy 4. Protect Urban Open Space

Actions	Responsibility and timeframe	Performance Measures	Update / Achievements at October 2014
1. Identify elements related to urban open space for inclusion in suburb precinct codes and as a basis for discussion with the ACT Government. 2. Complete audit of current open space, lost open space and threatened areas of open space. 3. Promote ISCCC position on urban open space issues, including protection of access, interface with urban development, urban forest, waterways, community gardens and biodiversity issues. Request CCC to take lead role. 4. Respond to National Capital Authority policy documents on the National Capital Open Space System (NCOSS), by identifying relevant recommendation that are relevant to ISCCC planning.	1. ISCCC Committee, ongoing. 2. D Denham and J Edquist to coordinate. All Committee Residents Groups members to contribute. By 31 July 2014. 3. ISCCC Committee as required. ISCCC Chair to promote to CCC. 4. S Ross by 30 June 2014	1. Audit of open space is completed. 2. ISCCC Committee has determined means to progress advocacy of preferred open space policies. 3. Relevant elements of the NCOSS Review Report are identified.	1, 2, 3 ISCCC Residents Groups and CCC are preparing a schedule of current and 'lost' open space for monitoring and possible development of a position on what constitutes an appropriate level or ratio of urban open space. Likely to continue into 2015. 4. NCOSS report recommendations primarily address actions to be taken by the NCA. The ISCCC intends to respond as these matters are developed and community input is sought. The NCA has advised that further information on action on these recommendations will be available in 2015.

Strategy 5. Support environmental, economic and social resilience and sustainability in Inner South Canberra.

Actions	Responsibility and timeframe	Performance Measures	Update / Achievements at October 2014
1. Identify key elements for incorporation in the Strategic Framework and Precinct Codes. 2. Monitor major new developments in Inner South, including East Lake, to ensure they meet relevant standards in energy, water use and transport efficiency. 3.In collaboration with other community councils and residents' associations invite experts and government officers to speak on relevant topics, often rotating meetings in collaboration with local residents' groups. 4.Monitor, and comment where necessary on, government policies and actions with respect to achieving this Strategy.	1. M Fatseas by 31 May 2014. 2. As required, ongoing. 3. ISCCC forums in March and September 2014. 4. ISCCC Committee, as required, ongoing.	1. Elements endorsed by ISCCC Committee 2. ISCCC has contributed to planning on sustainable urban development. 3. Discussions held with relevant experts including invitations to address ISCCC/ local public meetings etc.	1. Key elements being considered by the sub committee and will be submitted to full Committee for consideration later in 2014. 2. Major new developments monitored include the proposed infill in Yarralumla and Deakin, public housing sites redevelopment. No further action on East Lake has yet been signalled by the ACT Government. 3. Guest speakers have addressed meetings on the proposed infill in Yarralumla and Deakin (July) (Amanda Evans –President Institute of Landscape Architects, Viv Straw - President Planning Institute of Australia, Canberra), sustainable development (March) (Professor Barbara Norman Foundation Chair Urban and Regional Planning, UC, Chair of the ACTG Climate Change Council, Andrew MacKenzie Asst Professor Landscape Architecture, UC, Hamish Sinclair ACT Board Director, Planning Institute of Australia, Catherine Kiernan, ACTLA), solar farm (Solar Share) 4. Submissions made on Yarralumla and Deakin infill, Omnibus draft Variation to the Territory Plan, size of the ACT Legislative Assembly

Strategy 6. Promote the development of high quality transport networks.

Actions	Responsibility and timeframe	Performance Measures	Update / Achievements at October 2014
1. Identify elements related to high quality transport networks for inclusion in suburb precinct codes and as a basis for discussion with the ACT Government.	1.ISCCC Committee, ongoing	1. Actions completed on time and to the satisfaction of the Committee.	1. Transport Strategy elements approved by ISCCC Committee and submitted to ACTG for discussion purposes.
2. Proactively develop ISCCC's priorities and strategy in conjunction with ACT and Commonwealth Governments: 2.1. Liaise with the ACT Government on implementation of the ISCCC Transport Strategy. 2.2. Undertake follow up survey 2.3. Make submissions to ACT and Commonwealth as necessary	2.1 P Wurfel, A Lynch, S Ross 2.2 Follow up survey by 30 September 2014 2.3 Post survey results. Ongoing	2. ACT and Commonwealth Government input sought.	2. Several meetings held with ACTG Transport representatives. Follow up survey now deferred pending further information from ACTG which may guide an ISCCC second survey.
3. Monitor parking especially in Kingston and Barton.	3. Lead group – KBRG as required	3. Advocacy made in a timely and professional manner.	3. Parking overflow related to Parliamentary Triangle parking practices and policies has been monitored and addressed through leadership of KBRG. Further monitoring for Kingston, Yarralumla etc nwill continue particularly in regard to practices following introduction of paid parking in the Parliamentary Triangle in October 2014.

Strategy 7. Promote provision of appropriate infrastructure and support services, including:

- ***Local suburban shopping centres***
- ***Education and sporting facilities***
- ***Community facilities and concessional leases***
- ***Community services.***

Actions	Responsibility and timeframe	Performance Measures	Update / Achievements at October 2014
1. Review existing infrastructure and ACT Government's Infrastructure Plans, to identify gaps and requirements. 2. Identify elements related to infrastructure and support services for inclusion in suburb precinct codes and as a basis for discussion with the ACT Government. 3. Advocate to ACT / Commonwealth Governments on identified needs, including protection of existing assets. 4.Respond to ACT / Commonwealth Governments policy and discussion papers as required. 5.Develop a policy, with other members of the Combined Community Councils, to improve the granting and managing of concessional leases. Raise these issues with government.	1. 2015 2. tbd 3. Responsibility to be identified, as required. 4. Responsibility to be identified, as required. 5. D Denham, J Edquist and P Wurfel. Ongoing	1. Research and gap analysis completed 2. Priorities and strategy developed and agreed by ISCCC. 3. ISCCC provides timely input and advocacy. 4. Timely input to policy and discussion papers by ISCCC and policies influenced.	1. Transport matters taken up through Strategy 6. Concessional leases addressed with Chief Minister etc and will continue, other matters taken up through specific issues such as Yarralumla and Deakin infill and by Residents Groups as appropriate. More comprehensive strategy at the Inner South level scheduled for 2015.

Strategy 8. Build evidence base for ISCCC policy and advocacy by analysing demographic data to understand trends and implications.

- ***Ageing population***
- ***Social Infrastructure***
- ***Indigenous matters***
- ***Appropriate mix of housing***

Actions	Responsibility and timeframe	Performance Measures	Update / Achievements at October 2014
1. Compile relevant data (Census, ACT Government etc) and identify implications. 2. Facilitate community access to the data, analysis and implications (e.g. website, Council Forums).	S Ross and other Committee members, ongoing	1. Relevant, timely and accurate information is readily available, and is used. 2. ISCCC advocacy is evidence based.	1. Statistics have been prepared for specific and general purposes from ABS and ACT sources. Some have been placed on the ISCCC website. More statistical material to be provided on an ongoing basis.

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2014 Action Plan Strategy 1.1 Item 2 –ISCCC submissions on key strategic documents

This is to be completed

Date	Strategy Action item	Topic	Submissions to
		Yarralumla and Deakin proposed infill	
		Lease Variation Charges / Concessional Leases	
28/4/14		Project Facilitation Bill	LA Standing Committee
13/6/14		Airport Master Plan (see General emails)	Canberra Airport
		Advocacy for resources for Planning Advocate	
		Advocacy for resources for development of precinct codes	
		Size of the Legislative Assembly	

Strategy 2 Themes for further development and discussion:
Marea: over the top building heights and density, loss of urban open space, lack of appropriate master planning and inadequate attention to essential issues such as suitability to the site topography. It could be worthwhile to have an ISCCC public forum that pulls together these common threads from across the various proposed developments in the Inner South, and indicates any inconsistencies with the ACT Planning Strategy and the

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Territory Plan (It seems to be up to residents at the moment to identify inconsistencies between the Government's development proposals and its own policies). I'm sure that communities in other parts of Canberra are facing very similar issues, so we could end up having an agenda of specific issues (evidenced through such specific case studies) that we could ask the Government to address, probably through the Combined Community Councils as well as each Community Council.
CCC meetings: 15/2/14, 3/5/14, 5/7/14, 6/9/14