

# Inner South Canberra Community Council

## Welcome to our Inner South Canberra Community Council column.

Due to the unpredictable Covid 19 situation, our next public meeting will be held via Zoom at 7pm, Tuesday 14 September. Details here: <https://www.isccc.org.au/events/category/meetings>

The main topic will be discussion of a draft Inner South Canberra District Strategy prepared by the ISCCC Committee for input into the ACT Government's current planning review. You can find the draft strategy on our website: [www.isccc.org.au](http://www.isccc.org.au)

We will also discuss Light Rail Stage 2B and hear from our local members of parliament and residents' groups.

One of the issues we are watching closely is the impact on traffic when major work begins on light rail Stage 2A.

According to the ACT Government this 'will be very disruptive for our road network, with lane closures and diversions in place for several years on major approach routes into the city from the south and west. This is expected to lead to longer commutes on key routes like Commonwealth Avenue, Kings Avenue and Parkes Way.'

We urge you to participate in consultations on these works. Further information here: <https://www.act.gov.au/lightrail/woden/traffic-disruptions/traffic-impacts>

Best wishes,

**Gary Kent**  
Chair



## Kingston & Barton Residents Group

The tireless Robby McGarvey has secured an ACT Government grant and organised a Kingston Shops Floriade Community Celebration on Kennedy Street and Green Square for Floriade's opening weekend of 11/12 September (COVID willing) - welcome to country, music, treasure hunt, book readings.

Geocon is now proposing a 4-storey commercial building for 22 Giles Street, Kingston, compared to the 8-storey mainly residential proposal last year. We have objected on the grounds of lack of compliance with the Territory Plan and unacceptable impacts on neighbours. We are pleased that the proponents and senior ACTPLA officers have met with residents of the adjacent 'Holford' apartments.

## Forrest Residents Group

The FRG continues to work towards maintaining the character and amenity of our suburb. The face of Forrest continues to change, with more apartment and unit dwellings occurring at the expense of houses. A recent example is the sale of 2 house blocks together on State Circuit, at the corner of Hobert Avenue, where planning approval has been given to replace them with 42 units.

Residents remain concerned about the continued uncertainty of the future of the old Italo-Australian Club site.

## Griffith Narrabundah Community Association

Clean unpolluted air is critical for a healthy living environment. Canberrans have been and are being affected by a range of adverse factors affecting air quality, including the 2019-20 bushfires, smoke from wood heaters, and in spring high pollen counts will likely cause an increase of asthma attacks.

If air quality becomes unsafe, those affected should be advised. Accordingly, the GNCA has sought an increase in the number of permanent air quality

monitoring stations from 3 to 6 and that they all count pollen. There is now only 1 permanent pollen monitoring station in the ACT.

## Old Narrabundah Community Council

Many residents of old Narrabundah are out and about - wearing masks - getting their hour of exercise. One of the popular walks is down at the Narrabundah wetlands, particularly now that spring is in the air.

Are you reading more in lockdown? Take advantage of one of Narrabundah's little libraries. Two of these are located outside the Marlee Early Education and Care Centre (in Nimbin St) and the Community Services Building (opposite Narrabundah shops).

Keep your eyes peeled for other little libraries in the front yards of some of our civic-minded Narrabundah residents.

## Yarralumla Residents Association

A developer is proposing to construct 276 apartments on the heritage-listed CSIRO site on Banks St, also a 130 bed aged care facility and conversion of Forestry House into a hotel. Sixty-two per cent of respondents to a survey of all Yarralumla residents opposed any redevelopment. Major concerns are loss of heritage, impact on traffic and parking and scale and density of the proposal.

DOMA has lodged a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) with the ACT planning authorities for the new

Brickworks development. A copy can be found on the YRA website plus a copy of our comments: Brickworks Environmental Impact Statement - Read YRA Submission - Yarralumla Residents Association.

Given the success of last year's Floriade: Reimagined, the ACT Government has again provided 1,600 tulip bulbs and 1,600 seedlings to YRA for the Yarralumla shops and the pocket park on the corner of Novar and Hooker streets. Planted in June, these are now beginning to pop up.

## Red Hill Residents Group

The Red Hill community anxiously awaits the Government's response to a proposal to utilise a large green space area (a park) between Roebuck and Beagle Streets to accommodate tradies vehicles for an expanding workforce of around 200 in 2022. Sadly, there has been no consultation or discussion with the community about this matter, and parking alternatives, remediation, traffic flow, and safety all need to be addressed.

## Heritage

Heritage Minister Rebecca Vassarotti recently took a brief, focused walk with Eric Martin, representing the National Trust (ACT), and three long term members of the local community, around some of our key heritage precincts.

Discussions with the Minister focussed on progress towards the Heritage Listing of Canberra and associated protection of local heritage precincts.



The Inner South Canberra Community Council receives support and funding from the ACT Government  
Inner South Canberra Community Council (ABN 49 382 179 224)  
Authorised by Gary Kent, Public Officer, PO Box 3310, Manuka ACT 2603

[www.isccc.org.au](http://www.isccc.org.au)