

## **SUBMISSION/FEEDBACK ON DRAFT TERRITORY PLAN AND INNER SOUTH DISTRICT STRATEGY**

A number of members of the Forrest Residents Group (FRG) met to discuss the above documentation on 19 February 2023. Concerns were raised with respect to a number of issues that could impact Forrest arising from the Draft Territory Plan and District Strategy.

Such issues and concerns included:

- How the new planning system could impact Forrest, particularly with respect to potential changes to RZ2 and Heritage areas.
- Lack of clarity with respect to the Territory Plan and other related documentation as regards technical specifications and what planners will use, including design guides.
- Lack of clarity with respect to change areas potentially impacting Forrest.
- Changes in zoning, particularly with respect to RZ1.
- Demonstration Housing and the impact on RZ1 if examples being developed prove easier to achieve in future.
- Concerns relating to giving more power to planners with respect to ageing in place redevelopments.
- The current Forrest environment was the reason given by people for living in the suburb. They do not want this environment altered.
- Separation of powers and appeal and oversight should be within the legislation. Currently, no apparent oversight allowed for by the ACT Legislative Assembly.
- Living infrastructure already being watered down. In future, it appears that compliance will be difficult as well as very judgemental.
- No clear checking of independent certifiers if “outcomes” are met as there is little in the new system that is measurable. “Need an authority to go to if things are not right.”
- New plan is not “simple” and appears to suggest “discretion without accountability”.
- Heritage protections do not appear to be mentioned in the Plan. Built heritage needs to be clarified as it is different from natural heritage.
- The role of the Chief Planner should not also be the Head of the Planning Directorate.

In summary, a number of concerns were raised that did not appear to members to be adequately addressed by the current Draft Territory Plan and District Strategy. In fact, the overall comment was that there was a lot of discretion but little accountability.

Elizabeth Goodbody

Chair, Forrest Residents Group (FRG)