



Inner South Canberra Community Council

# New Planning and Urban Forest Laws Public Forum

Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 7pm

Eastlake Football Club (Duffy Rm) 3 Oxley Street, Griffith and ZOOM

The ACT Government is seeking community comment on the new Planning Bill by 15 June 2022.

Join us to hear how the ACT Government's new Planning and Urban Forest laws will affect you and Canberra's future.

Hear community, business, government and environment perspectives:

- Richard Johnston, urban planner/architect (retired); President, Kingston and Barton Residents Group
- Tim Field, Red Hill Residents Group
- Gordon Lowe, Director of Planning, Molonglo Group
- Daniel Iglesias, Executive Branch Manager, City Presentation, Transport and City Services, ACT Government
- Helen Oakey, Executive Director, Conservation Council ACT Region

Register in advance as the Duffy Room has a capacity limit of 70:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/isccc-public-forum-new-planning-and-urban-forest-laws-tickets-324483858957>

Or else join via Zoom - register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84461212693>

Email any questions you would like to be put to the speakers to [info@isccc.org.au](mailto:info@isccc.org.au).

Best wishes,

Marea Fatseas, *Chair*

ISCCC analysis suggests the Planning Bill provides:

**A shift away from rules for new residential developments**, and towards an, as yet unclear, "outcomes" based approach.

**Greater centralisation of power** in the planning authority with inadequate accountability.

**No enshrined principles of good community consultation**, just a commitment that the Minister "may" make consultation "guidelines"

**No right for neighbours to have a say** about the "knockdown rebuild" of a house next door, just a right to be "notified."

These go to the three key themes that have come up consistently in the ACT Government's meetings with key stakeholder groups, namely the importance in a planning system of:

1. **Confidence, certainty and clarity**
2. **Trust and transparency**
3. **Consultation**

The ISCCC's public forum on 10 May will consider the extent to which the Planning Bill addresses these themes.

## New Urban Forest Law

The ACT Government is seeking community comment on the new draft Urban Forest Bill by 2 June 2022.

How will this new law differ from the current law protecting trees?

How will it work with the new planning laws to ensure the amenity provided to the community by trees and green open spaces is protected, especially in a warming climate?



These issues will be addressed at the 10 May forum, and are especially relevant as we celebrate Canberra Tree Week.