

MEETING MINUTES

Western Greenway community panel - Meeting #2



ACT
Government

Date:	17 August 2016, 4.30pm - 6.30pm	
Location	Pavilion – Greenway Oval, Soward Way Greenway	
Attendees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• David Shorthouse, Chairperson• Christine Lawrence, Australia Capital Territory Equestrian Association• Mike Brennan, Canberra Off Road Cyclists• Larry O’Loughlin, Conservation Council• Jenny Mobbs, Council on the Aging• Nicole Vonarx, ICON Water• Deb Matthews, Institute of Landscape Architects• Narelle King, Greenway residents• Kym Lovett, Tuggeranong Hawks• Matthew Frawley, Save the Murrumbidgee Corridor group• Kevin Watts, Tuggeranong Archery Club• Steve Caldicott, Tuggeranong Archery Club• Glenys Patulny, Tuggeranong Community Council• Jeremy Wilson, Tuggeranong Hyperdome• Hugh Howarth, Vikings• Suella Jarvis, YWCA• Dr Dianne Firth, ACT Heritage Council• Sheila Hughes, Institute of Architects• David Jeffrey, Active Canberra• Michael Mulvaney, Environment and Planning• Brett McNamara, Environment and Planning• Amelia Simson, ACT Government Community Engagement• Alexandra Magee, Environment and Planning• Helen Leayr, Panel Facilitator	
Apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr Owen Gould, ICON Water• Annette Ellis, Tuggeranong Hawks• Gary Hobson, Tuggeranong Archery Club• David Flannery, ACT Heritage Council• Jenny Mobbs, Council on the Aging• Nick Tsoulis, Tuggeranong Region Business Forum	

1. Welcome and introductions

- Members of the community panel were welcomed to the meeting by David Shorthouse, community panel chairperson. New members to the panel were introduced and offered the opportunity to talk about who they represented and their key issues.

2. Review of minutes and action items from meeting #1

- Minutes from meeting 1 were accepted and the panel agreed to the document being uploaded to the EPD website.
- Helen talked through Gary’s annotations on the 2015 feasibility study prepared by Purdon Planning.
- It was explained that this document had not been formally assessed by the ACT Government. Helen advised that Gary’s comments, were provided to the group in confidence. There was no dissent from this.
- LDA own the report, they paid for it. It was developed by Purdon Planning following a proposal. Members of the panel raised concerns about the report including missing items such as the Archery license.
- Larry O’Loughlin stated that Minister Gentleman and the LDA are still pushing for a suburb to be developed. Larry expressed concern with item 4 in the Terms of Reference in particular the use of the word ‘development’. Helen and David put it to the group to change the Terms of Reference. The outcome was to keep the terms of reference as they were, with Larry’s concerns to be minuted.
- Helen talked through the Key Themes document distributed to panel members prior to the meeting. This was created as a checklist to ensure all issues raised are discussed as the panel progresses through its work. There may be new key themes as a result of discussions, but the objective is to progress a response to each of the themes before the panel concludes its work.

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- The Tuggeranong Masterplan was discussed by the group and the need for this to be discussed in more detail at another meeting.

Active Canberra:

- David Jeffrey from Active Canberra presented on their assets and their role in the area. The following questions and comments were made:
- Questions about the Viking Group proposal to move Viking Park to Tuggeranong. Advised that Active Canberra is the land custodian and that while Active Canberra is not able to comment specifically on the Vikings proposals it would certainly work with them on any proposal once/if one was proposed.
- When was Active Canberra involved or first advised about the potential for a project in west Greenway. Advised that Active Canberra are normally involved once a project is happening, rather than in a very early stage.
- Active Canberra advised that there are no plans to move any of the community facilities, as there is no current project in place.
- It was suggested we should be looking at both the benefits and the issues or costs associated with any development. This would then inform a balanced discussion on positives and negatives. Call for LDA to be in the room to find out what the key driver of the proposal is and provide policy reasons why this area is being looked at.
- The meeting was reminded of Gary Rakes' comments on ABC radio that Sport and Recreation organisations would not move. It was suggested these be confirmed and minuted. EPD to check with Gary that he is comfortable with that being quoted to him.
- Panel raised the issue of the informal use of the areas including dog walking, running, bushwalking and the like. This was especially in regard to people living nearby in apartments. They would need a place for recreation.
- What sport and recreation planning would be required for increased population in areas. Active Canberra advised how they plan in future areas, such as Molonglo and Gungahlin and the move to more centralised larger venues, rather than the traditional ovals and venues in each suburb near schools. This planning was already done for this
- Active Canberra discussed the difference between an enclosed oval and urban open space.
- Panel asked about the available parking in the area. Is it suitable for the sports grounds?

Parks and Conservation presentation:

- Land management in the area. Brett McNamara advised that he was happy to take any detailed or specific questions on notice.
- Cultural heritage and Indigenous heritage management in the area.
- Managing people and the affect that they have on the land and area.
- The west Greenway area is a disturbed landscape.
- 66km of the river flows through with the ACT.
- Brett emphasised the 'corridor' being slim.
- Brett spoke about some of the issues in the area such as feral pigs, illegal fishing and feral cat management.
- Weed issues. African Love Grass and others in this area of a particular concern and something that the service are continuing to work with the community on.
- Fire management – Brett spoke about the previous burns in the area, particularly in regard to weed management.
- Brett advised that it was difficult to say how many people use the river corridor but is potentially 2 million people a year.
- Questions:

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- Fire, Brett confirmed that a buffer zone and a fire access trail would need to be considered if there was development in the area.
- Murrumbidgee plan of management, what constitutes the boundary, for this management? Brett advised that the current plan of management is out of date and is on the forward program. Action: A document is to be uploaded onto the website that shows the overlay of the currently defined Murrumbidgee corridor. Brett was asked to provide advice on what criteria could be developed to assist defining a boundary to the river corridor that best addressed corridor management priorities.
- Bushfire Abatement Zone - Map to be include on the website

Conservation:

- Michael Mulvaney gave a presentation on data the government currently has about conservation areas of the site. This is not new information or analysis.
- Extensive tree planting area was undertaken 30+ years ago.
- Michael presented data for vegetation. Native tree plantation and exotic African Love Grass. There is a small area of box-gum woodland.
- In terms of vegetation value the study area has very little significant vegetation.
- Three key plants occur here, but are also found around the ACT in other areas. This area is not 'key' for the plants.
- Michael spoke about key plants in the broader area (outside the study area) but along the Murrumbidgee corridor. Tuggeranong Lignum (endangered species): only found in the near vicinity.
- There is threatened fauna in the area. Perunga Grasshopper, Pink Tailed Worm Lizard (PTWL) - no detailed mapping for PTWL and none recorded in the area
- Habitat for PTWL and Grasshopper is marginal and presence unlikely due to weeds and shade trees etc.
- Michael showed the connectivity for Canberra on an eastern Australian and local context. Michael explained the meaning and importance of connectivity and how animals use connectivity corridors to move around.
- Michael showed the ACTMAPi maps for woodlands.
- The west Greenway area has habitat but not the highest conservation value habitat. Michael presented bird maps within the area, including the Scarlet Robin.
- The main positive for the area is its connectivity to the river and other natural areas. Should new uses be introduced to the area there may be some connectivity impact, which could be compensated for.
- Key conservation value in the river which could be impacted include species such as the Murray Crayfish and the Murray Cod.
- Question to be considered further: What would be the solution to keeping the river clean with new or different uses?
- Question: Are there stormwater runoff impacts on the plants in the area? Could land management and random access to the river be a problem? Answer: Not likely to be in sensitive areas.
- Scarlet Robin: How is removing habitat for the Scarlet Robin in-line with the Action Plan for this species? Michael advised that there is a lot of habitat in the ACT.
- Michael spoke about the management of recreation, like footpaths and ponds to direct people to the facilities and away from any sensitive areas.
- It was noted the Scarlet Robin Action Plan has been recently been tabled and needs to be considered in relation to western Greenway.
- Development in this location to be consistent with the National Capital Plan, and in particular the National Capital Open Space System.

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3. Action Items:

- To put all meeting materials on the Your Say website
- To organise a walking tour on the forward agenda and involve Brett McNamara and Michael Mulvaney.
- Next agenda: Tuggeranong Master Plan, with representatives from EP and LDA requested.
- Gary Rake to confirm what he means about not moving sporting facilities
- Active Canberra will provide numbers of hours used by the oval throughout the year. Noting that it is a match pitch so it is not used for training and the like.
- Archery Club undertook to provide data they have on usage in the area they license.

Next meeting – Wednesday 31 August, 4:30pm - 6:45pm

Venue: Tuggeranong Archery Club, Soward Way Greenway

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