

Redeveloping the

Melrose

community site



Chifley

COMMUNITY FORUM OUTCOMES

JULY 2008

The ACT Government has decided to create a new community site in Melrose. GHD has been independently engaged to consult with the community on its future use. The community are invited to make submissions at community stalls, community forums or by phone, post or email until 31 July 2008.

Summary of community forum held 9 July 2008 - Melrose community site

It should be noted that the following findings are not conclusive and should be read in conjunction with future reports. Within the appropriate and inappropriate uses, there may be contradictions as not all **forum participants** shared the same views.

In general terms, the forum **participants valued**:

- The site's links to the oval and shops and the diversity of people it attracted to the area.
- Its quiet, friendly and community feel.
- Its potential as a safe meeting place and maintained community hub.

It was generally considered that the Purdon recommendations for this site are not a desirable land use outcome. Activities that were considered by the forum participants to be **appropriate** for this site included:

- Keeping the open space for parkland and preserving the 'green belt'. This included preserving the trees, replacing the dying trees and sustainable plantings.
- Recreational areas including such things as BBQ's and seating areas, designated dog areas, kids bike paths, cricket nets, tennis wall, golf nets, maze, basketball courts, playground, open play space and memorial train. These should be accompanied by safe lighting, more bins and improved safe car access.
- The participants were supportive of some forms of low single storey residential development on part of the site. This included single storey affordable housing, retirement village, supportive aged care and acute care. A hall for community use was also supported and generous parking that did not intrude on the open space.

The forum participants were keen to make the following points:

- The site should be integrated, accessible and family friendly.
- Any development on the site should use the principles of sustainable development with water and energy efficient design.
- Development on the site should not prevent the site being potentially reopened as a school if required in the future.

Activities that were considered **not appropriate** included:

- Housing of any sort.
- Housing that was out of context for the area.
- High rise and high density residential development, public housing, skate park, un-maintained open space, extra/new buildings, changes to the territory plan, loss of green space and trees, car park, aged care, abattoir, changes to the tennis courts, complete infill of the area, extra traffic, spotlighting, official graffiti space, noisy hall for hire, BBQ's, fences/barriers, loss of access and links, private development and commercial development.
- Any land use requiring change to the Territory Plan.

Your feedback is valuable and will help the ACT Government decide on the future of the Melrose site. If you were unable to make the forum, or think that your views have not been accurately represented, you can still have your say.

Web www.bangthetable.com/communitiesites

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