



Some of the main issues for 2021

A Review of the Territory Plan

The government must improve trust between three main planning stakeholders: the community, the developers, and the government. The government should comply with its own rules. The planning system must ensure that the Garden City landscape and architectural principles of Canberra are maintained in all developments, particularly with respect to sustainability, and climate change.

The Territory Plan should be amended to provide certainty to residents.

People need to know what can be built nearby and there needs to be trust between the community, the government, and developers. No more *ad hoc* spot re-zoning like Mr Fluffy.

All the documentation should be easy to understand.

Each block differs in size, shape and location, and peoples' requirements continually change. The challenge is to ensure ease of understanding and use of the planning rules. One-click on the block of interest and all the planning rules for that block become available.

All Criteria in the planning codes must be subservient to the Rules, which are mandatory.

The present situation, where subjective Criteria override quantitative Rules, lacks clarity and common sense. We need mandatory rules for crucial parameters such as Setbacks, Building Heights, Number of Storeys, Solar Access, and Planting Areas.

Legislation to achieve a 30% tree canopy cover and 30% permeable surfaces in urban areas by 2045 should be enacted ASAP.

These are the government's own goals. There needs to be legislation ensure this happens. Monitoring programs should be established to check on progress. We need threes for climate change mitigation.

Knock-down rebuild DA-exempt developments should be progressed through a standard Development Applications.

The situation regarding DA-exempt knock-down re-builds is totally unacceptable. Neighbours are having to go through FOI requests to obtain copies of some of the plans and there is no appeal mechanism if the rules are broken.

B The Future of Manuka (and Manuka to the lake)

There is a need for some holistic planning for Manuka, given pressures created by population growth and intensification and the *ad hoc* way major developments are being approved. We need to revitalise Manuka – and ensure that it is not suffocated by increased traffic.

The Kingston Arts Precinct

We need an Arts Precinct that befits the National Capital and is recognized nationally and internationally. It should be something special, not just dreary blocks of offices and apartments.

C trees and verges

Trees and verges are suffering because of illegally parked vehicles, poor pruning of street trees by Evoenergy and inadequate protection during building developments. We will continue to liaise with Access Canberra and Evoenergy.

D Transport

It would be nice to know how much *Light Rail Stages 2A and 2B* is going to cost, how it's going to cross The Lake and what the cost benefit analysis revealed. Our *Roads* have too many potholes and out *footpaths* are cracked and need repairing. We need more resources to maintain our basic amenities.

E Waste Disposal

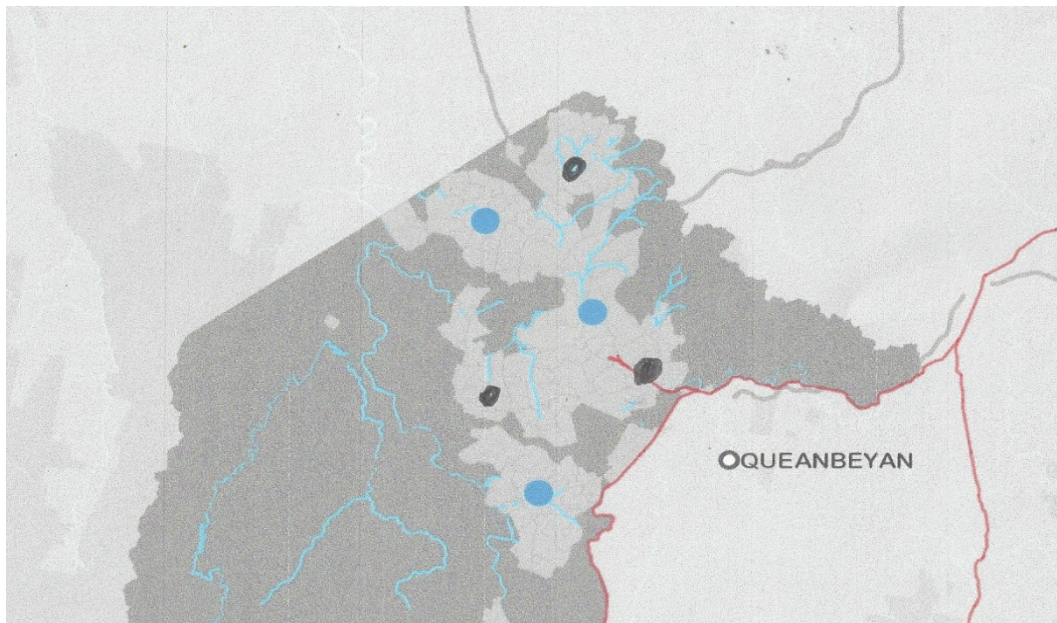
We support the government's decision to ban, large scale waste processing in Fyshwick. where the main activity is now retail trading and light industry. We are pleased that the Government will be undertaking a planning policy and waste policy review of the need for land for waste processing facilities in the ACT, and where these facilities will be located. This is especially important in the context of the resilience and sustainability of our city.

F Clean Air

We need to reduce the number of wood-burning heaters and install three new air-quality monitoring stations as well more pollen count stations.

Clean unpolluted air is critical for a healthy living environment. It is estimated that there were over 30 excess deaths, 82 cardiovascular hospital admissions and 89 asthma related attendances in the ACT from the smoke haze during the 2019-20 bush fires. Furthermore, in winter the smoke from wood-burning fires can affect residents with breathing difficulties.

It should be a government responsibility to provide clean air for those living within its jurisdiction. The new stations are needed in Weston, Gungahlin and Fyshwick (see below).



Current Air-quality monitoring stations, coloured blue. From north to south: Florey, Civic and Monash. Proposed three stations (dark grey circles) in Gungahlin, Fyshwick and Western Creek.

G Support our local parks and open spaces

GNCA provides support to The Friends of Blaxland Park, The Griffith Woodland Group (La Perouse Park), Griffith Park/ Wells Gardens, and Bass Gardens.

It is important for local communities to take an interest in the wellbeing of our unique urban open spaces. They provide the wonderful garden city environment that means so much and they could be threatened by development pressures.