



Australian Government
National Capital Authority

**National Capital Authority
Authority Meeting A2015/7
Public Record**

19 October 2015

Members Present

Mr Terry Weber (Chair), Mr Malcolm Snow (Chief Executive), Ms Chris Faulks (Member) and Mr Glenn Keys (Member).

This was the seventh meeting for 2015.

The following is a public record of the matters discussed at the Authority meeting held on 19 October 2015. As some matters are privileged or confidential, this record follows, but does not completely represent the formal minutes of the meeting.

Capital Metro

The proposed light rail project for Canberra is being delivered by the Capital Metro Agency (CMA). CMA is a stand-alone ACT Government agency with responsibility for developing and implementing the project.

CMA presented a status update on the proposed light rail project. In particular, they sought feedback from the Authority on concerns or areas of specific interest to the Authority to enable engagement to occur in a targeted manner.

The Decision

The Authority noted the Capital Metro project status update from the Chairman of the CMA Project Board.

Kings and Commonwealth Avenues Place Renewal Plan

The Place Renewal Plan for Kings and Commonwealth Avenues is intended to provide a planning and design framework that will guide future infrastructure works and restore the Avenues to an urban design quality that is memorable and functional. The work is being undertaken by *Oxigen* consultants.

A preliminary Place Renewal Plan Draft Report was completed by *Oxigen* in July 2015 and has been reviewed internally by the NCA and shared with key ACT Government stakeholders for feedback. These comments were incorporated into the final Place Renewal Plan Draft Report, which was presented for discussion and endorsement by Authority.

The Decision

The Authority endorsed the draft Kings and Commonwealth Avenue Place Renewal Plan noting that further work would be undertaken to examine the implementation of the Plan.

Canberra Central Parklands Masterplan

The Canberra Central Parklands Masterplan is a revised and updated document which will guide the future planning and management of the Canberra Central Parklands and its adjacent areas over the next decade and beyond.

Oxigen Consultants were engaged by the NCA in March 2015 to produce a revised and updated Canberra Central Parklands Masterplan Report to guide future parkland planning and management. Their initial findings and design responses were presented and endorsed

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by the Authority on 4 May 2015. Since this presentation, *Oxigen's* investigation has focused on strategies for the development, implementation and staging of these works, packaged in their draft Canberra Central Parklands Masterplan Report.

The Decision

The Authority endorsed the draft Canberra Central Parklands Masterplan Report and Concept Masterplan.

Consultation Report – New Acton Retail Outlet

On 21 May 2015, the NCA received a Works Approval (WA) application from Acton Developments for the installation of a retail outlet within the John Avery Gardens at New Acton located on Block 8 Section 24 City. Additional supporting information was included in the application to enable a new assessment of the proposal, following a previous application which was inconsistent with the National Capital Plan.

Between 3 and 21 August 2015, consultation was undertaken on the Works Approval application. The NCA received a total of 31 submissions on the proposal.

The Decision

- The Authority noted the Consultation Report for Works Approval (WA) No.19943 – Installation of a Pop- Up style outlet at New Acton and agreed to publicly release the Consultation Report for WA No.19943 noting a temporary works approval period of three years with clear conditions in relation to use and operation of the facility.

NCA/ACT Government Land Transfer – City to the Lake

The ACT Government's Land Development Agency (LDA) has lodged a Works Approval application with the National Capital Authority (NCA) for the works associated with the City to the Lake, West Basin Foreshore - Stage 1A. This work includes the reclamation of part of Lake Burley Griffin. Lake Burley Griffin has been gazetted National Land for the special purposes of the National Capital and is managed by the NCA.

A transfer from the NCA to the ACT Government of the lake bed to enable its reclamation is required to align land ownership and land management responsibilities. This presents an opportunity to consider the broader land supply needs of the Commonwealth as part of the negotiations for any transfer of land to the ACT Government. For the NCA this would include obtaining additional land in order to increase the supply of land available for diplomatic purposes.

The Decision

The Authority noted that the initial discussions between the NCA and the ACT Government regarding a proposed transfer of land to allow the reclamation of the lake bed have commenced. They also noted that the NCA will seek to have a site in Woden declared National Land for the special purposes of the National Capital with the purpose of the NCA developing the land for diplomatic use. Should the gazettal occur, the Authority have noted that they will be asked to agree to the release of a Draft Amendment to the National Capital Plan to establish a site in Woden as a diplomatic precinct.

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New ACT Law Courts

The proposed redevelopment of the ACT Law Courts will involve the construction of new courts, judicial chambers, detention facilities and administrative areas necessary for the operation of the courts. This is a highly complex project requiring the integration of two existing judicial building with a new building, including the refurbishment of the heritage listed Supreme Court.

The works will be undertaken on the adjacent sites of Block 15 and 16, Section 63, City. As these sites are within the Designated Area of the National Capital Plan (the Plan), they require Works Approval by the NCA.

The Decision

The Authority noted the design proposal for the ACT Law Courts precinct redevelopment by Juris Partnership, noting that the design proposal diverges from setback provisions of the National Capital Plan (the Plan). They agreed to development officers setting aside the setback provisions of the Plan as they apply to Vernon Circle for the assessment of the ACT Law Courts precinct Development proposal. The consultation report will be considered out-of-session if necessary.

High Speed Rail

The Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development (Infrastructure) is currently investigating a High Speed Rail (HSR) passenger network connecting Melbourne to Brisbane through Sydney, Canberra and other regional centres along the east coast of Australia. The 'High Speed Rail Study Phase 2 Report', released in April 2013, identified early preservation and protection of a preferred HSR corridor as a critical task. The Australian Government is currently consulting with State and Territory jurisdictions on the best approach to protecting a corridor.

The Decision

The Authority noted the presentation on the HSR Study Phase 2 report. They agreed to the concept of incorporating reservations for high speed rail into the National Capital Plan but requested further investigations into possible routes, indicative stops and stations before those reservations can be determined and agreed.

Closed

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 10 December 2015.

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