



Australian Government
National Capital Authority

Consultation Report

Works Approval No 100390

Block 1 Section 63 and Block 1 Section 39 (Union Court ANU) ACTON

Bulk excavations for the redevelopment of Union Court and the future connection alignment of North Loop Road, tree removal and utility relocations at the ANU Acton campus

August 2017

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Introduction

Under the *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988*, the National Capital Authority (NCA) prepares and administers the National Capital Plan (the Plan) to ensure Canberra and the Territory are planned and developed in accordance with their national significance.

The Plan sets out the broad planning framework for the Australian Capital Territory (ACT). Areas designated as having special characteristics of the National Capital are subject to detailed planning policies and guidelines.

Any buildings or structures, demolition, landscaping or excavation works in Designated Areas require the approval of the NCA. The NCA considers such proposals in the context of the relevant provisions of the Plan.

On 5 June 2017 the NCA received a Works Approval application from Knight Frank on behalf of the Australian National University for bulk excavation for the redevelopment of Union Court and the future connection alignment of North Loop Road, tree removal and utility relocations at the ANU Acton campus.

Public Consultation requirements

1.1 National Capital Plan

Under the Plan, requirements for public consultation apply to:

- Major developments proposed for Section 9 Barton;
- A landmark building to RL617 adjacent to Commonwealth Avenue (within the Constitution Avenue and Anzac Parade Precinct);
- Detailed plans for development at Academy Close, Campbell;
- High-impact telecommunications facilities;
- All residential proposals within the Deakin/Forrest Residential Area Precinct; and
- All residential and commercial development proposed for Section 5 Campbell.

None of the above requirements are applicable to the subject Works Approval application. Public and stakeholder consultation was undertaken due to the scale of the proposed works. The requirement for public consultation is consistent with clause 2.7 Works Applications in the NCA's 'Commitment to Community Engagement'.

1.2 Commitment to Community Engagement

The NCA's 'Commitment to Community Engagement' details how the NCA conducts consultation. The purpose is to achieve a greater level of consistency and transparency in the NCA's decision making process.

The 'Commitment to Community Engagement' describes the minimum requirements for consultation, and the process by which WA applications that are released for public consultation will be assessed.

Part 2.7 *Works Applications* and Attachment C *Protocol for Development Applications for Works Which Require Consultation* of the NCA's 'Commitment to Community Engagement' describes the consultation process for WA applications. The NCA will make an assessment of whether a proposal is consistent with the National Capital Plan and if it requires public consultation. An assessment is made in relation to adverse impacts on:

- public space and community amenity;
- environment, heritage or landscape values;
- amenity of the locality in terms of materials, finishes, scale, massing, design and quality; and
- consistency with an existing Heritage Management Plan.

When an application for works is lodged and consultation is required, consultation with the community and stakeholders will be undertaken by the applicant, the NCA or both. Where consultation is undertaken by the applicant, the NCA may choose to stipulate specific requirements that the applicant is required to implement.

The NCA may set aside the requirement to undertake full public consultation where:

- previous consultation has been undertaken on the proposal;
- minor amendments to previously approved works are required;
- the NCA determines no stakeholders will be affected; and
- proposals are given exemption, as outlined in Part 2.3 of the 'Commitment to Community Engagement'.

Public consultation was undertaken on the application as the proposal may have adverse impacts on public space, community amenity, environment, heritage and landscape values.

Summary of Public Consultation

2.1 The public consultation process

Public consultation was undertaken by the NCA between 24 June and 14 July 2017 in the following manner:

- On Saturday 24 June 2017 a public notice was published in *The Canberra Times* detailing the proposed works and inviting public submissions to be made to the NCA in relation to the proposal ([Attachment A](#));
- Between 26 June and 14 July 2017 the supporting plans and reports for the proposed development were published on the NCA's website;
- Between 26 June and 14 July three A1 size site notice signs were installed at various locations on the subject site ([Attachment A](#)); and
- On 26 June a Facebook post and Twitter tweet were made detailing the proposed works and inviting submissions to be made to the NCA in relation to the proposal ([Attachment A](#)).

2.2 Submissions Received, Comments and Response

The NCA received no submissions on the proposal.


Conclusion

The NCA's consultation process was carried out in accordance with the Plan and the NCA's 'Commitment to Community Engagement'. The NCA has taken into consideration the issues raised by the various public submissions, and where relevant to planning these matters will be considered as part of the assessment process.

The proposed bulk excavations to a maximum of 50,000m³ will occur within the development area and along the future connection alignment of North Loop Road, tree removal and utility relocations largely within Union Court at the ANU Acton campus are consistent with the provisions of the National Capital Plan having regard to the future redevelopment of Union Court which is subject to further Works Approval application. The NCA delegate granted approval on 12 September 2017.

Attachment A

Canberra Times Public Notice, Site Notices and Facebook Post



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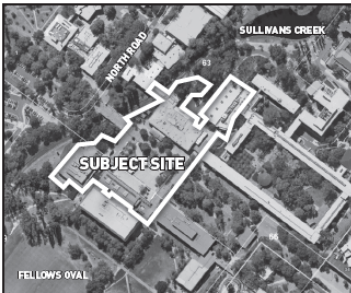
WORKS APPROVAL

Open for Public Consultation



Block 1 Section 39, Block 1 Section 63 and Block 1 Section 66 Acton (Union Court - ANU)

A Works Approval application has been submitted to the National Capital Authority (NCA) to undertake bulk excavation, tree removal and civil works associated to the redevelopment of the Union Court precinct of the Australian National University Acton Campus.

The plans and supporting documentation for this application can be viewed at the NCA's website under Public Consultation.



The NCA welcomes community feedback on this application by close of business **Friday 14 July 2017**. Submissions can be made via email to worksapproval@natcap.gov.au or sent to GPO Box 373, Canberra ACT 2601. Please contact the NCA for further information on (02) 6271 2888.

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National Capital Authority

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