

Past year 2017 /18

Attendance at meetings has been good.

The Committee met infrequently in person. Lot of coordination by email.

Here are some of the issues and activities

Growing membership

- letterbox drop effective
- now over 100 members
- >220 on mailing list

Traffic

Speed and volume

- seeking 40kph past shops – like Manuka and Griffith
- traffic assessments are currently based on Sydney comparisons

Pedestrian crossings

- more crossings at continuation of footpaths
- no reply from ACT Govt to either requests

Congestion on Grey St

- Impact of proposed Aged Care facility due to begin early in 2019 are profound
- Expansion of CGGS Early Learning Centre
- Overflows into Hopetoun Ct, turning out of Hopetoun difficult

Parking

- West Deakin overflows from commercial precincts
- Girls Grammar School - students and visitors
- Shops - short stay vs Gym, visitors to Aged Care facility
- Advent of Light Rail - park and ride will be a problem
- Soccer Club – promised shared spaces not available

Light rail

The DRA conducted an on-line survey between 15th May and 10 June 2018 to assess support for Light Rail. Results are on our web site. They reveal a wide breadth of visions for Canberra. Most respondents indicated were sensitive to aesthetic issues

- agreeing on the need for wire free passage through NCA areas, and
- opposing tree removal.

However, many of the supporters of light rail regard DRA's objective of maintaining the bush capital concept as an old idea. They argue for infill and development and that the garden city ideal is used to protect a privileged level of local amenity at the cost of keeping others out.

Most respondents were open to more cost effective alternatives. The exception was strong light rail supporters; they really like trams regardless of cost.

Other respondents were horrified at modifying the bridge over the Lake. They were very concerned about the impact of light rail on the Canberra landscape and the aesthetic of the National Capital. They also needed demonstration of the benefits and

cost effectiveness of light rail technology in a Canberra context and want further analysis of alternatives. This is DRA's position.

DRA supports a properly and respectfully designed public transport infrastructure, lane-separated where possible from other vehicle traffic, that is fully compatible with garden city values, in fact more so than the inevitable traffic jams and pollution of ever-increasing motor traffic.

DRA appeared before Joint Standing Committee on Nat Capital and Ext Territories and discussed the results of the survey.

New constructions

- Builders, architects and approving agencies are ignoring codes and rules.
- In particular developers are flaunting restrictions on plot ratios and shading of neighbours.
- Is this corrupt behaviour?

Irregular certification

- 1000 Unlicensed builders in ACT

Novar St interchange and traffic lights

Master Plan needed

- Integrate proposals and traffic

Collaboration with Inner South Canberra Community Council

- DRA represented at most ISCCC meetings

Higher level policy issues which DRA supports

- Enforcement of building codes and rules -
- Strategic planning
- greater rigour in deconcessionalisation of leases - who benefits?
- Impact of new bus routes

Issues outside Deakin

- Transport and traffic congestion
- Hindmarsh Drive and Adelaide Ave infill
- Brickworks development
- Fyshwick waste to energy incinerator

Amalgamation

- Forrest Residents Group - is folding
- amalgamation is possible but not without without proportional support

The Future

DRA would like to engage in more positive activities with the community so as to avoid appearing only to being a brake on what we see as inappropriate building and other development.

At the same time, I am not suggesting we lose sight of the priority of seeking better enforcement of current rules and codes nor the need for coordinated planning.

We will put the following opportunities on internet and seek volunteers initiate them.

Maintaining the garden city

Community Gardening at

- Shops
- Roundabouts
- Latrobe and Mary Dobson Parks

Restoring nature strips

- Parking restrictions
- Melbourne Ave

Grow the Street Library on Barron ST

- See : <https://streetlibrary.org.au/library/yellow-library-barron/>

Develop Community Garden

- Need location

Review bicycle routes

- Assist the Active Travel Office which is currently reviewing principal and main cycling routes through our suburb
 - routes to schools appear to be omitted

Suburb wide technology

- Batteries for the suburb
- NBN versus IInet / Transact
- Where are the nodes and super nodes?
 - Which is closer to your house

Community Party in Latrobe Park

- Australia Day
- Christmas

Improved communications

- Increase use of social media
- Establish a feedback portal
- Community noticeboard

Grow membership

- particularly younger members
- commercial members, not just
 - IGA just joined
 - Post Office



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Deakin - A garden Community for the Future