TUGGERANONG
COMMUNITY COUNCIL
VALLEY VOICE

Tuggeranong Community Council Newsletter Issue 13: March 2012

Transport and Tralee top Tuggeranong survey

Mass public transport has topped the Tuggeranong Community Council 2012 issues survey.

The Tuggeranong Community Council (TCC) has released the preliminary results of its 2012 Top Issues Survey.

Council President, Darryl Johnston said the survey covers transport, health, environment and heritage, law and order, planning and development and youth and education issues.

Mr Johnston said these were issues identified during a brainstorming session of Council members.

He said the survey asks Tuggeranong residents to rank each issue in order of importance and to nominate any other issues that concern them.

Early results show that once again Tuggeranong residents have registered their strong opposition to residential development at South Tralee.

Fifty percent of respondents believe it is extremely important to object to any residential development under or near Canberra Airport flight paths. Fifteen percent believe it is a very important issue and 18% consider it important.

Forty eight percent of respondents believe it is extremely important and 20% believe it is very important that development on the land opposite Bunning's should not exceed 12 storeys.

Thirty six percent believe it is extremely important and 26.7% believe it is very important that the ACT Government adopt new cleaner cremation technologies for the planned Southern ACT Cemetery.

Road duplication is a top transport priority in Tuggeranong, 42.6% consider it extremely important, 23% very important and 24.6% important, followed by the co-ordination of traffic lights on Drakeford Drive (33.9% extremely important, 27.4% very important and 30.6% important), the need for a rail based public transport system (32.3% extremely important, 16.1% very important, 30.6% important) and a fast train service linking Canberra and Sydney (31.1% extremely important, 29.5% very important and 29.5% important).

The majority of respondents believe the most important environmental issue is to re-establish the Tuggeranong wetlands (45.9% extremely important, 26.2% very important and 18.0% important) followed by cleaning up Lake Tuggeranong (41.7% extremely important, 35.0% very important and 20% important), reducing air pollution in the Valley (40% extremely important, 21.7% very important and 28.3% important) and cutting tip fees (39.3% extremely important, 36.1% very important and 18% important).

On the law and order front, Tuggeranong residents believe sentences should fit the crime (38.3% extremely important, 26.7% very important and 23.3% important) and they support strong objections to any proposals that will allow brothels to legally operate in residential areas of Tuggeranong (36.7% extremely important, 23.3% very important and 18.3% important).

Tuggeranong residents believe it is extremely important to establish a nurses walk-in centre in the Valley (40%) while 38.3% of respondents believe it is extremely important to encourage more doctors to live and work in the Valley and 33.9% believe it is extremely important to provide affordable nursing home and retirement accommodation in the Valley.

On youth issues most respondents say it is extremely important that the Council

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Tuggeranong's new top cop

New Officer in Charge of Tuggeranong Police Station, Sergeant Daryl Neit

If anyone can lay claim to Tuggeranong as their police beat, Sergeant Daryl Neit can. The third generation Canberran and Tuggeranong resident is settling into his new role as Officer in Charge of Tuggeranong Police Station. Sergeant Neit is proud of his family's links with Canberra and speaks highly of his ancestors who moved to the city from country New South Wales during the foundation of the nation's capital.

"My grandfather was a bullock team driver from Kurri Kurri in New South Wales," Sergeant Neit said.

"He came to Canberra as a labourer and boilermaker. He helped to build Wentworth Avenue and old Parliament House. As a boilermaker, he supplied hot water every morning to the first public servants to move to Canberra and who lived at Acton House, he added.

Sergeant Neit grew up in Hackett. After leaving school he tried his hand as a plasterer and tradesman before joining the Australian Federal Police and graduating in 1982.

"I have covered the Canberra beat working out of all stations including a previous posting at Tuggeranong, Sergeant Neit said.

He has also worked in CIB as a detective, traffic and crash investigations and the exhibit management centre.

Sergeant Neit admits he has some big shoes to fill with the departure of Sergeant Rod Anderson.

"Sergeant Anderson did a great job as Officer in Charge at Tuggeranong. He built a great team here and I look forward to continuing his work at the station and in the community.

"I will be managing the Tuggeranong Station with responsibility for running the patrols, the watch-house, police volunteers and working with Woden Police Station as part of the Southern District command area," he said.

Sergeant Neit said he also looked forward to working with the Tuggeranong Community Council.

"I am impressed with the Council meetings and to the fact that our local MLAs' are members and regularly attend," he said.

"I plan to provide each Council meeting with a report on Police activities in Tuggeranong. I hope to also provide demonstrations of equipment and introduce some of our crime prevention team members."

"I am also hoping Council members will provide me with feedback on issues and problems in their neighbourhoods. I don't mind the tough questions or the occasional kick in the pants if some-one feels we are not doing our job properly," Sergeant Neit said.

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work closely with police to discourage anti-social behaviour, encourage youth groups to take an active role on the Council and establish a graffiti art wall in Tuggeranong.

The majority of respondents also believe it is extremely important or important to establish a combined University of Canberra and CIT campus in Tuggeranong.

Mr Johnston said the Council's Top Issues Survey is still open and Tuggeranong residents can participate in the survey by visiting the Council's website at www.tuggcc.com

He said the final results will help form the Council's agenda for 2012 and provide a focus on those issues the TCC will highlight during the ACT Election Campaign.

ACT Government

100 CANBERRA

Campaign kicks off to clear the air

Winter wood smoke pollution lingers over the Tuggeranong Valley.

Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development, Simon Corbell, is urging Canberrans who own a wood heater to take advantage of government rebates and replace them with natural gas heaters to reduce pollution and improve the ACT's air quality.

Mr. Corbell said there were great incentives for Canberrans to make the change, with an $800 rebate for replacing wood heaters with ducted gas systems and a $600 rebate for replacing them with new flued gas installations.

"The ACT's air quality is among the best in the nation, however, we continue to have a winter particle pollution problem due to emissions from wood heaters, particularly in Tuggeranong as it sits in a valley," Mr. Corbell said.

"Replacing old wood heaters is a simple and effective way that individual households can contribute to lowering pollution and protect both our environment and our health."

Mr. Corbell said almost a thousand less wood heaters are in homes across the region since the program began.

"Since the program was launched in 2004, 953 wood heaters had been replaced with cleaner heating alternatives contributing to a reduction in wood smoke levels," he said.

"Despite this positive trend, we continue to have a winter particle pollution problem due to emissions from wood heaters used for home heating." Mr. Corbell added.

"As there is no safe threshold for particle pollution, the ACT Labor Government is focused on further improving air quality and ensuring people remain vigilant about wood smoke pollution."

"I encourage Canberrans with wood heaters to take advantage of this offer, which runs from 1 March to 31 December and help improve our air quality."

"Making the change now to a more efficient natural gas heating system will help people prepare for winter," he said.

The wood heater replacement program is a partnership between the ACT Government and ActewAGL to provide incentives to encourage people to replace their wood heater with a new mains-supplied natural gas heater.

TCC President, Darryl Johnston, said he welcomed the continuation of the wood heater replacement program.

He said neighbourhood wood smoke pollution is a serious health issue especially for the very young, the elderly and those with pre-existing heart or lung conditions.

For more information, or to apply for the Wood Heater Replacement Subsidy, please visit www.environment.act.gov.au or call Canberra Connect on 13 22 81.

Source: Media Release

Apology accepted

Tuggeranong Community Council (TCC) members have accepted an apology from Labor Member for Brindabella, John Hargreaves.

In February during debate in the Legislative Assembly Mr. Hargreaves described the Council as a geriatric mob and accused it of being a self help group.

At a packed meeting on 6 March TCC members adopted a motion accepting;

- the statement of apology to the Council by Mr John Hargreaves delivered to the ACT Legislative Assembly on Wednesday 22 February 2012.
- the letter written to the Council President by Mr John Hargreaves on 21 February 2012.
- the verbal apology and letter from the Chief Minister received by the TCC President on 16 February 2012.
- that official Legislative Assembly Hansard recorded positive statements about the Council from the Chief Minister, Leader of the Opposition and other members of the Legislative Assembly.

During consideration of the motion one member accused Mr. Hargreaves of breaching the TCC Code of Conduct and suggested if he was a member he could be dismissed. Another member said they believed Mr. Hargreaves comments were, in fact, an accurate portrayal of his opinion of the TCC as an entity.

After the motion was put and accepted several Council members wished it officially recorded that they had voted against the motion.

Heritage grants open

Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development, Simon Corbell, is encouraging community members involved in heritage projects to apply for funding as part of the 2012-13 ACT Heritage Grants program.

Mr Corbell said approximately $296,000 is available to allocate to various individuals and groups to carry out projects that promote and conserve our local heritage.

"Applications for the 2012-13 round are open to individuals, community groups and incorporated non-profit or private organisations to help fund projects that have a focus on heritage," he said.

Source: Media Release

DV306 referred to committee

Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development, Simon Corbell, has announced that Draft Variation 306 (DV 306) has been referred to the Assembly's Standing Committee on Planning, Public Works and Territory and Municipal Services.

"DV306 proposes improvements that affect redevelopment of residential blocks, residential estate development, and solar access are important changes, and should be considered by the relevant Assembly Committee," Mr Corbell said.

Key features of DV 306 include:

- requirements that blocks in new estates achieve good solar orientation and solar access to future dwellings
- new provisions for multi unit residential redevelopment in RZ2 zones including: no building will contain more than four dwellings
- buildings containing two or more dwellings on the same block must be separated by at least four metres
- for residential redevelopment, the minimum site area for each dwelling is 350m2 for up to five dwellings and 250m2 for the sixth and each subsequent dwelling
- consolidation of blocks is only permitted where they have adjoining street frontages
- provision for secondary residences (or granny flats) up to 75m² in floor area on blocks larger than 500m2
- provisions requiring dwellings suitable for families to be provided in redevelopment proposals in established areas.

"The provisions relating to RZ2 multi unit redevelopment and the residential block compliance tables were given interim effect from 3 June 2011. The latter has meant that all new blocks designed since that time have been orientated to achieve high standards of solar access," Mr Corbell added.

Following referral the Legislative Assembly's Standing Committee on Planning, Public Works and Territory and Municipal Services has six months to report its findings and recommendations.

Source: Media Release.

Chief Minister meets Councils

Representatives of the Canberra Community Councils' meeting with ACT Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher.

The ACT Community Councils were recently given the opportunity to raise issues of concern directly with the Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher.

Planning and development was the hot topic of discussions during the hour long face-to-face meeting held at the Legislative Assembly. Other agenda items included public transport, the environment, Tralee and cross border relations.

The Chief Minister described the meeting as useful and promised to hold regular discussions with Community Council representatives.

Tuggeranong, Woden Valley, Weston Creek , North Canberra, Inner South, Belconnen and Gungahlin Community Councils were represented at the meeting with Ms Gallagher.

Greenway plans move forward

An artist's concept of the development on the land opposite Bunnnings

The Land Development Agency (LDA) will shortly commence the Estate Development Plan and detailed design for the south east and west shores of Lake Tuggeranong.

The Plan will be submitted to the Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate (ESDD) for approval.

Land releases are expected by July 2013, with the public realm works commencing similarly in mid-2013.

The LDA exhibited the concept Master Plan for the development of Greenway Lakeside to the community in June 2011. The Master Plan includes revitalising the area with medium density residential development, as well as restaurants and cafes on the Lake's edge.

Other elements include a new pedestrian and vehicular bridge linking the eastern and western edges of Lake Tuggeranong, and a large central park, extending from Anketell Street to the Lake foreshore.

The intent is to enliven the Tuggeranong Town Centre with high quality public realm and community assets. Key features of the Master Plan include:

- Enhanced public access to the Lake;
- a localised cafe or restaurant precinct on the water's edge, where people can enjoy views over the Lake;
- central gathering places where the community can socialise;
- providing each neighbourhood with access to green space;
- improve recreation and connections around the Lake; and
- providing diverse residential development within close proximity to public transport, employment nodes and everyday amenity.

For further information please visit www.lda.act.gov.au or email LDAGreenway@act.gov.au .

Dawes addresses TCC on planning

David Dawes, Director General, Economic Development Directorate, will address the next Tuggeranong Community Council meeting.

Mr Dawes has been asked to provide an update on major planning projects in the Tuggeranong Valley.

The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, 3 April commencing at 7.30pm in the upstairs function room of the Southern Cross Club at Greenway.

Members and guests are welcome. For more information visit www.tuggcc.com.

News in Brief

Bus Stops upgraded

Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher, has announced a project to upgrade 300 bus stops across Canberra and improve accessibility for people with disabilities is now well underway with the first 75 completed.

"This program of works to improve bus stops throughout Canberra will see seniors and people with disabilities benefit from upgrades to existing transport infrastructure," the Chief Minister said.

Zed welcomes rego cut calls

ACT Opposition Leader, Zed Seselja, has welcomed comments from the ACT Council of Social Service calling for the abolition of the $100 per year vehicle registration penalty for those paying quarterly.

"The Canberra Liberals are committed to reducing the massive cost burdens on Canberra families, and getting rid of this tax is an important part of this," Mr Seselja said.

Greens applaud transport changes

ACT Greens Transport spokesperson and Member for Brindabella, Amanda Bresnan, says ACTION's 2012 Network changes show the ongoing positive impact of the ACT Greens in the Assembly.

The Greens pushed to establish the successful Red Rapid bus service as part of transport commitments in the Parliamentary Agreement with the Government.

Closure of CM's website

The Chief Ministers' website www.chiefminister.act.gov.au and the media release email subscription service will be closing down permanently at the end of March.

ACT Government Ministers' media releases and ACT Government Directorate's media releases will be available on the ACT Open Government website at www.cmd.act.gov.au/open_government.

All releases currently on www.chiefminister.act.gov.au will be archived and available on the Open Government site.

For more information please email ACTGOVMedia@act.gov.au .

Volunteer army cleans up Lake

A small army of volunteers turned out for the Tuggeranong Community Council's Clean Up campaign around Lake Tuggeranong on Sunday, 18 March.

Council President, Darryl Johnston, said the event was part of the nationwide Clean Up Australia effort and was postponed due to bad weather.

Volunteers met at the Tuggeranong Community Centre in Cowlishaw Street Greenway. The team was split in two with one group circling the lake clockwise and the other anti-clockwise. At the end of the clean up the groups met at the Sea Scout Hall for a fund raising BBQ with the Lake Tuggeranong Sea Scouts.

Mr. Johnston said the Clean Up campaign received support from many local Tuggeranong businesses and groups including the Hyperdome, Bunnings, Limelight Cinemas, Gloria Jeans Coffee, the 55plus Club, Communities@Work, RiverSmart Australia, Water Watch, The Men's Shed, Rotary and many local residents.