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13 June 2017

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ACTON PENINSULA

We acknowledge the vision of the National Capital Authority (NCA) to improve the quality and accessibility of the Acton Peninsula commensurate with its significance.

The following comments are provided.

1. The vision and objective to protect and enhance the heritage and landscape qualities of the peninsula is appropriate and supported. To achieve this, it is necessary to recognise, protect and promote the Commonwealth Heritage values of the three hospital buildings and the limestone outcrops, and the significance of the site as a whole as an important feature of the central Canberra landscape.
2. Lake Burley Griffin has been assessed and found to have Commonwealth Heritage values. Redevelopment of the Acton Peninsula should recognise and protect the identified heritage values of Lake Burley Griffin and promote them where possible.
3. The National Museum of Australia is the dominant built feature of the Acton Peninsula landscape and should maintain this status throughout the proposed development.
4. The National Museum of Australia is likely to meet the threshold for listing in the Commonwealth Heritage List if formally tested. It is therefore recommended that a heritage assessment of the Museum is undertaken prior to any major development of the site.
5. Maintaining significant views to and from the peninsula is supported. Significant views include distant views, particularly to the Brindabella Ranges.

The whole issue of buildings and building heights around the lake edge and city to lake is of concern as it is likely to affect significant views. This has not been adequately considered and detailed in the proposal.

6. All future development at the site should be undertaken following the policies provided the Acton Complex Heritage Management Plan (2016) and the Lake Burley Griffin and Adjacent Lands Heritage Management Plan (2010).

This is particularly relevant to the existing elements of Acton Peninsula which represent a very extensive cultural heritage and landscape precinct of Canberra over the 1911-1940s period when it was the administrative hub of Canberra and accommodated many significant individuals including Charles Scrivener and Charles Weston.

The peninsula's significance and relationship to the lake needs better recognition and be restricted from development.

7. Detailed information on the potential removal of buildings is not included in the Draft Structure Plan. More information is required on this, particularly if it is in reference to buildings with identified heritage values. The removal of significant buildings is not supported.
8. Community and stakeholder engagement is appropriate and should continue for the duration of the development of the precinct.
9. In the 1964 paper prepared by Richard Clough and John Gray titled the 'Landscaping of Lake Burley Griffin', it was recommended that the "*character of the natural landscape should be maintained*". This level and density of proposed new development may conflict with this recommendation.



10. The purpose of creating a unique sense of place and identity is appropriate. The creation of a recognisable character for the area was an early design recommendation for Lake Burley Griffin.
11. A heritage interpretation strategy and plan should be undertaken prior to any major redevelopment of the site.

Yours sincerely



Eric Martin AM