

19th April 2010

The YRA committee wishes to draw your attention to several matters of particular current interest.

NCA Public Forum on April 29th

The National Capital Authority is holding a Public Forum at 6p.m. April 29 at the Australian War Memorial. The proposed agenda is to discuss:

- consultation protocols
- a review height limits of buildings in the ACT
- a review of the national capital open space system

While such discussions are just the beginning of any such process, the implications for the future of the ACT are enormous. The YRA committee notes the commitment of the present Chief Executive of the NCA, Mr Gary Rake, to be consultative at these early stages, as also evidenced by his willingness to talk to our group on several occasions.

Residents are urged to attend.

To RSVP, log on to www.nationalcapital.gov.au or phone 6271 2888.

Yarralumla Brickworks

Jon Stanhope issued a Press Release on the 16th April (see <http://www.chiefminister.act.gov.au/media.php?v=9398>) outlining “The community is being invited to help determine the future of the iconic Old Canberra Brickworks site in Yarralumla, with a comprehensive consultation starting in the coming weeks”

The YRA has been invited to meet with representatives of the Act Government to discuss the proposed consultation process.

Also a Project Reference Group is being formed and the Yarralumla Residents Association has been invited to be part of that Reference Group.

The consultation and planning study will be managed by the LDA (Land Development Agency). More information can be found at the LDA website at http://www.lda.act.gov.au/?/old_canberra_brickworks/index

Tree removal in Yarralumla.

Under the Hazardous Tree Removal program (TAMS: Territory and Municipal Services), there are 194 trees or stumps scheduled for removal in our suburb over the next couple of months. Of these the majority are in Weston Park, and 19 are in suburban streets.

To see a listing of trees that require removal, go to the TAMS website at www.tams.gov.au Go to 'What's new' on the right of screen, click on 'What else is new?' and then scroll down to 'Keeping Canberra's Trees Safe-Hazardous Tree Removal'.

There has been a considerable effort by TAMS to improve their communication on such removals, and the following information has been provided to us.

- The resident will receive a letter from the Department advising that the tree has been identified as hazardous/dead and requires removal. The letter will provide contact details for Canberra Connect to enable residents to have an opportunity to contact a member of the Department and enquire about the condition of the tree. (All trees have already had 2 assessments by qualified and experienced arborists).
- The envelope will be marked with the words Tree Removal Notification printed on the front and addressed to “the resident” of the address adjacent to where the tree is to be removed.
- A notice will be placed on the tree/trees noting that the tree requires removal. The notice will be placed on the tree at least 2-4 weeks prior to the tree being removed
- An audit will be undertaken on 5% of trees that have been removed.
- A notice will be placed on the Community Notice Board in the Canberra Times to advise people that trees require removal and for further information go to the TAMS website.

Additionally, information will be provided to the Yarralumla Residents Association at regular intervals about tree related activities in the suburb, with the request from TAMS that it be circulated in the residents' newsletter.

Federal Golf Course development application.

The Federal Golf Course has submitted a development application (DA 200900284 Block 1 Section 56 Red Hill [Woden Valley]) to build low density housing. There are competing viewpoints being expressed on this, and members may have read articles in the Canberra Times on the subject.

If interested, members are invited to do an Internet search for ‘Federal Golf Course Crown lease deconcessionalisation’, and also to look at www.redhillregenerators.org.au and click on ‘**Current issues**’.

While the time for comment officially closed at the end of March, we understand that some people may still wish to express their opinion to relevant groups, and that those opinions will be taken into account.

Marist Collage school bus service

Carolyn Dunphy (usadunphys@grapevine.com.au or phone (02) 61618084) is coordinating an effort to approach the ACT Government about a dedicated ACTION bus service to and from Marist College for 39 Deakin/Yarralumla children (some as young as eight years old). Please contact her if you are interested in supporting her initiative on this.