

**From:** Gordon Ramsay [gordon@kippax.org.au]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 5 July 2015 10:50 PM  
**To:** Terrplan  
**Subject:** Comments on Proposed Variation #351 - West Belconnen Urban Development

On behalf of UnitingCare Kippax, I welcome the opportunity to provide a contribution to proposed variation #351 to the Territory Plan - regarding the West Belconnen Urban Development.

We note and affirm the extensive consultation that has already taken place between the Riverview Group leaders (& consultants) and a wide range of local individuals and organisations in West Belconnen. We note that UnitingCare Kippax has been involved for well over 2 years in a range of consultations, both individually and as part of broader community consultations.

During that time we have made a range of comments and recommendations to the consultants and to Riverview Group directly regarding the creation of a sustainable and inclusive community. We have been involved in formal and informal consultations, and in some of the ongoing working groups related to the project. We have been pleased with the good will and the response to those comments and recommendations.

We believe that ongoing work by Government and the developers will be important regarding sound investment in the current West Belconnen suburbs so that there is not the inadvertent creation of a pocket of disadvantage between two other sets of suburbs with relative advantage. We affirm the importance of ongoing attention to community development in the current suburbs as a necessary element of good planning. We also note the added importance of this given the increased demand for commercial retail and other services that will be placed on the current Kippax centre during the first stage of development.

We note and affirm the stated intentions of the Riverview Group to invest in community support and community development services from the earliest times in the project's development, and in a timeline where the service provision is ahead of the 'demand'.

We note and affirm the stated intentions of the Riverview Group to develop social enterprise and local employment as part of the overall development.

We look forward to working with the ACT Government and the Riverview Group regarding the nature of the community facilities in the West Belconnen project, and to ensure that sufficient space is set aside for community services, community development and community gathering space. We note that we believe this is likely to include some forms of space which cater for holistic care of the community, including spiritual health and wellbeing.

I am available for further discussion of these matters

Gordon Ramsay  
Executive Minister  
Kippax UnitingCare  
0407 218 226