

Belconnen Community Council

Building a stronger community

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DRAFT VARIATION No. 351

The Belconnen Community Council (BCC) hereby registers in principle support for Draft Variation No. 351. The BCC appreciates that a variation to the Territory Plan is necessary for the Riverview/West Belconnen development to proceed.

The BCC considers that the Riverview Group and its agents have provided exemplary public consultation in numerous forums organised by the BCC and have also established and conducted an ongoing, accessible information setting at the Kippax Shopping Centre. The BCC is of the view that the proposed development, according to plans presented to the BCC, will enhance the Belconnen community, provide innovative dwelling options, and assist in meeting the district's housing needs. The BCC, however, has a number of remaining concerns:

- 1. The BCC is concerned about the future of the *Golden Sun Moth*. The BCC notes that the Conservator of Flora and Fauna reported that "a future extension of Ginninderra Drive...in this location will impact on an area set aside as an environmental offset for impacts on Golden Sun Moth from previous developments." The BCC also notes that the response to the concern states "the draft variation has been updated to clearly identify that the road is subject to a separate approval under the Commonwealth's *Environment Protection Biodiversity and Conservation Act 1999* and that the alignment indicated is indicative. The final Variation will reflect the road alignment, if approved by the Commonwealth. If the extension is not approved, it will be removed from the final Variation" (2.8 Consultation with Government Agencies, pages 13 & 15).
- 2. The BCC is concerned that, given the proximity of the proposed development to bushland and a potential future national park, cats in an area would be a serious threat to native flora or fauna in the area. The area should be an area where cats must be confined to their keeper's or carer's premises at all times (Minister's discretion under Section 81 of the *Domestic Animals Act 2000*).
- 3. The BCC is aware of discussions between the Riverview Group and the Ginninderra Falls Association with regards to the width of the buffer zones protecting the river. The BCC considers that the buffer zones should be set at width that is mutually agreed, to the extent possible, by both parties.

The BCC is pleased that the issues of Aboriginal heritage and the clearance zone for the Little Eagle are being addressed.

The Belconnen Community Council is committed to building a stronger community and enhancing Belconnen as a place to work, play, study and reside.

Tara Cheyne Chair

Belconnen Community Council

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