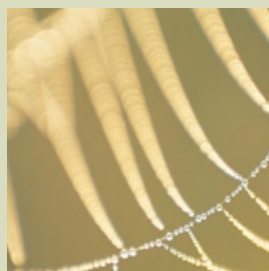
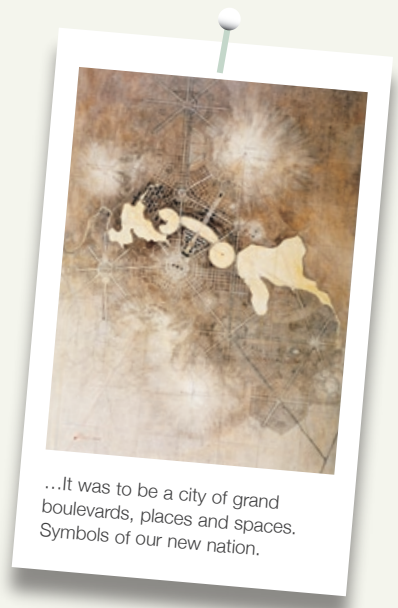


It is a plan for all Canberrans
now and for the future



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...It was to be a city of grand boulevards, places and spaces. Symbols of our new nation.

Canberra

In taking the city forward *The Canberra Plan* connects the threads of the past and the present, creating a vision for the future – one that will strengthen the fabric of our community.

Canberra was born out of a vision and a dream. The vision was of Australia as a unified federation – one nation for a continent. Canberra was to be the embodiment of that unity – a new style of city.

Walter Burley Griffin’s inspired design, supported by Marion Mahoney Griffin’s stunning watercolour imagery, gave life to the vision. It was to be a city of grand boulevards, places and spaces. Symbols of our new nation.

It was also to be a city of people and for people. Innovative. Creative. Forward looking. A city with a heart. A city of choice. A city and place in which to live that future Canberrans wouldn’t swap for the world. Many people would live close to one another in the city centre.

Much of that original dream has been achieved. Dotted around the landscape are important reminders of our Indigenous and non-Indigenous past.

The wonderful landscape is forever part of the city’s structure, distinct identity and attractiveness – it has become a central part of Canberra’s character. Canberra is the symbolic and parliamentary centre of the federated nation. It contains rich collections of Australia’s history within its iconic structures.

Canberra’s greatest strength, however, is that it is a city for its people. It is a city about which people get passionate. And after the bushfires of 2003 it demonstrated, especially to those beyond its borders, that it has a strong heart, compassion and a deep community spirit.

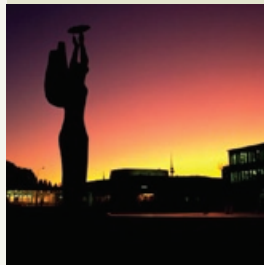
Canberra’s greatest strength,
is that it is a city for its people

Yet like cities the world over, it struggles with competing demands for finite resources. It is adapting to new, wider challenges like sustainability and globalisation, some of which could not really have been foreseen even 50 years ago, let alone a century ago. There are also many local challenges – like managing a growing community in the nation’s largest inland city of the world’s driest continent.

Like the seasons that so characterise Canberra, the city has experienced distinct cycles of change, largely influenced by its central role as the home of the Commonwealth Government and public service. *The Canberra Plan* will guide the coming cycle of growth and change – it will be an exciting period in a much more diverse economy and community.

It will ensure that the original farsightedness of the city design endures and remains remarkable, within a contemporary interpretation of the vision and dream.

In taking the city forward *The Canberra Plan* connects the threads of the past and the present, creating a vision for the future – one that will strengthen the fabric of our community.



A Canberra snapshot

Population: 322,900, June 2003

Economy: Gross State Product – \$14.1 billion, 2001/02

Income: \$36,831 (national average \$24,677 per year), 2002/03

Labour market: 71% participation level (national average 63.6%), 2002/03

Education: 65.5% people aged 25-64 with post-school qualifications (national average 55.3%), 2003

International students: 4,600 enrolled in ACT educational institutions (up by 60% in 4 years), 2003

Health: 65.3% people reporting excellent to very good health (national average 59.2%), 2002

Housing: 114,842 occupied private dwellings in the ACT, 2001

Median house price: \$305,000, 2003

Tourism: Over 1,000 local businesses contribute \$690m each year to the ACT economy and employ 11,000 people, 2003

Small business: 20,000 small businesses in the ACT, employing 53,000 people, 2003

Computer use: 73.8% of Canberrans use a computer at home (national average 55.3%), 2002

Sport and recreation: 76% of Canberrans undertake regular physical exercise (national average 69%), 2001

Rainfall: 630.2mm average annual



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics; Business ACT; HIA/Commonwealth Bank Housing Affordability Report; REIA Market Facts, Economic White Paper.

The Canberra Plan – Strategies for our future

The Canberra of *The Canberra Plan* is both familiar and different. It is familiar because the vision is of a Canberra that is unchanged in many ways. This is unquestionably what Canberrans want.

Yet there are differences. They are fundamental, deliberate and essential. They respond to opportunities and challenges. Left unchecked these challenges could easily compromise the familiar that we hold so dearly.

For example, we know the population here, just as in other communities, will age significantly over the next 20–30 years. We will need to support our older people and celebrate and value their wisdom and contribution. Our strategies for housing and community services are already adapting to meet the needs of a different demographic group and much more will need to be done. But we also need strategies for attracting younger people to stay, or move to Canberra.

The quality of our environment, urban lifestyle and the general culture of creativity will play a key part in ensuring that Canberra remains attractive and competitive. Without a diverse population mix our economy may slow – and we may not be able to support our population with the services expected and needed.

Thus *The Canberra Plan* takes an optimistic approach to our future, one that:

- consciously invests in people of all ages and socio-economic groups, providing a wide spectrum of opportunities, activities and interests;
- recognises and respects Canberra's unique built heritage and natural environment; yet
- plans for and promotes urban growth, but growth within a contained urban structure that will

support strategies for sustainable development of Canberra, and the immediate sub region; and

- actively establishes dynamic new partnerships to pursue our vision.

And that's how we can help to deliver jobs for future generations as well as quality education, health services, housing and transport systems.

Canberra is already a centre of learning and creativity – a learning city if you like. We are determined to strengthen that position by leading Australia in education and lifelong learning. Investing in education is an investment in our future, and commercialising Canberra's research strengths is an important cornerstone of our plan. We will integrate Canberra's research and development and educational strengths with local businesses.

Canberra business people have already shown they have the capacity, products and services to work locally while marketing nationally and internationally, and we plan to make Canberra the most small-business friendly place in Australia.

While the vision is long-term, *The Canberra Plan* will be able to respond and adapt to more immediate challenges. The need for flexibility was reinforced during the Plan's development, when Canberra was confronted by devastating human, suburban and natural loss. Following the January 2003 bushfires the original concept of *The Canberra Plan* broadened from a focus on urban areas to include a wider perspective of Canberra and its relationship with the surrounding rural and natural environment.

The experience of our bushfire recovery process has also been a catalyst for bringing Canberrans even closer together. New connections were created across our community to ensure the

The strategic Themes

Investing in our People

Building a Stronger Community

A City for All Ages

Canberra's Knowledge Future

Partnerships for Growth

A Dynamic Heart

Living with the Environment
– our Bush Capital

ongoing recovery. Not only did the experience unify our community but new leaders and innovative partnerships have emerged.

It has also strengthened the vision set out in this Plan – and the resolve in many parts of our community – to move forward more decisively and together. Even from these tragic circumstances, positive opportunities can and will now flow. We are determined to maintain the momentum for Canberra and capture the lessons from recovery.

The Canberra Plan vision will be achieved by focussing on seven Strategic Themes – or priorities for action. These integrated themes reflect the strategies of the major component plans. Commitments are made to the landscape setting, to a vibrant regional economy, a high quality built environment, safety and security and, most importantly, to community and people...to a sustainable Canberra.



The Vision

What is a vision? – a view of our preferred future

Because we all view things differently we may need to express that vision in number of different ways. But the 'destination' for Canberra – what we want it to be like – has been progressively resolved and refined over several years of discussion and consultation.



Canberra will be recognised throughout the world – not only as the beautiful city, uniquely designed in harmony with its environment, the seat of Australia's government and the home of its pre-eminent national institutions but also as a place that represents **the best in Australian creativity, community living and sustainable development.**

See yourself in Canberra...

...in a generation from now

Canberra

- A city for all ages
- A learning city
- A centre of creativity
- A dynamic heart
- An international city
- The sustainable city
- Our bush capital
- An unbeatable community
- "Wouldn't swap it for the world"

To explain in more detail, we see Canberra being:

A community

- Committed to living in harmony with its natural environment.
- Representing the best in Australian creativity.
- Promoting lifelong learning and celebrating participation in community activities, culture, sport, recreation and work-life.
- Recognised for the way tolerance, fairness and equity shape the way we live.
- Where all people reach their potential, make a contribution and share the benefits of our community.

A city

- Confident in its role as the national capital.
- With a high-quality built environment that celebrates Canberra's planning legacy and national role.
- Uplifting and inspiring, with liveable neighbourhoods and an extraordinary range of public spaces that attract us to meet, relax and celebrate.
- The dynamic centre of a thriving economy and region.
- Respecting our magnificent natural environment and cultural heritage.
- The model of sustainable urban development in the 21st century.

In looking at Canberra and six other cities, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in its study of urban renaissance, concluded that it was not that cities have problems – a city without problems would be one without people. The real source of the problems faced by cities at the beginning of the 21st century is that strategies for solving problems have broken down.

'There is not so much a shortage of investment as there is a shortage of imagination and an excess of caution.'

The Journey of The Canberra Plan

'Chapters of the Plan'

The Canberra Plan seeks to implement the vision through actions under its seven strategic themes (see pages 8–14). These themes bring together a series of strategic documents, which directly and indirectly form *The Canberra Plan*. Integral but separately produced 'chapters' of *The Canberra Plan* include *The Economic White Paper*, *The Canberra Social Plan* and *The Canberra Spatial Plan*.

The Economic White Paper

is our economic development strategy. It sets out measures to support commercial, educational and research activities in order to achieve greater economic

opportunity and maintain high employment.

The ACT will be the heart of a region known for its dynamic, innovative and growth-oriented economy and its quality of life. It will have a tolerant, creative and socially inclusive community committed to protecting the natural environment. We strive for a society that is cohesive, tolerant and fair, and a society that protects the vulnerable and supports those in need. We aim for a society, place and environment that is truly sustainable.

We understand these aspirations can only be realised in a highly productive and competitive economy.

The currency for our community and the Government is jobs and secure jobs.

Building our Community – The Canberra Social Plan

sets out priorities for increasing the well-being of our community.

It is an expression that captures the Government's commitment to the principles of access, equity and participation, and its belief that we must:

- value and invest in our people as the ACT's most precious asset;
- ensure that every citizen has a decent standard of living; and
- safeguard the freedoms necessary to allow all to live a life of dignity and value.

Underpinning the vision is the concept of sustainability, a recognition that innovation and creativity must be encouraged in order to continue strong economic growth, that the causes of disadvantage and social exclusion must be addressed if all citizens are to share in our good fortune, and that our natural and built environment must be kept healthy so that all in the community can reap the recreational and spiritual benefits they offer.

The Canberra Spatial Plan

released in March 2004 outlines 'what goes where' that is, where we 'live, work, learn and relax'. It is based on maintaining a healthy community, sustaining employment opportunities, retaining the current ease of movement within the city, respect for the natural environment, protecting Canberra's unique sense of place, and ensuring fiscally responsible development in the ACT.

The Canberra Spatial Plan aims for a Canberra that in 2032 will have the following characteristics – an international city, enjoyed by all; a place where the natural and cultural environment is protected; a city of choice; and a liveable, compact city.

Other contributions

Many specialised reports and studies have contributed to the direction of *The Canberra Plan*. In total, they bring together new goals for the way that services will be provided across the community.

Detailed references to these many reports and studies can be found in appendices to *The Economic White Paper*, *The Social Plan* and *The Spatial Plan*.

Of particular significance has been the report developed in the aftermath of the January 2003 bushfires, *Shaping Our Territory: Opportunities for Non-Urban ACT*.

OECD STUDY

Another significant contribution was the OECD urban renaissance study of Canberra. That report, in 2001, proved to be a catalyst to the process of *The Canberra Plan*. It recommended amongst other things, the development of a vision and strategy for Canberra that engaged widely with the community and its leadership interests. This Plan is the culmination of the process that followed.

The Canberra Plan



The Economic White Paper

Greater economic opportunity and high employment by supporting commercial, educational and research activities.

Canberra: the heart of the region and a city renowned for its dynamic, innovative and growth-oriented economy.

December 2003



The Canberra Social Plan

Increasing the well-being of our community; ensuring we are a place where all of our people reach their potential, make a contribution and share the benefits of our community.

February 2004



The Canberra Spatial Plan

'What goes where', it is based on maintaining a healthy community, respect for the natural environment, protecting Canberra's unique sense of place, and retaining the current ease of movement within the city.

March 2004

Progress for each Plan will be monitored regularly, linking to *The Canberra Plan's* annual review in March.

The Canberra Plan



Implemented through 7 strategic themes or priorities for action

- Investing in our People
- Building a Stronger Community
- A City for All Ages
- Canberra's Knowledge Future
- A Dynamic Heart
- Partnerships for Growth
- Living with the Environment – Our Bush Capital

A Sustainable Canberra

Towards Sustainability Report
Assessing progress

Investing in our People



We are looking to provide choice and opportunity for everyone to pursue personal growth and development

Canberra will be a place where we never stop learning – where we are always keen to stretch the boundaries in search of more knowledge and better ways of doing things. The quality of education and training is a priority. We are looking to provide choice and opportunity for everyone to pursue personal growth and development – whether formal or informal.

The collective health and well-being of our community is important. We will strengthen our efforts in early childhood development across health, education and family services. This valuable community-based support will be available to people at all stages of life with the aim of securing productive and fulfilling lives. Balanced healthy lifestyles will be strongly promoted and modelled.

We will establish a culture of creativity and make it a distinctive feature in all aspects of our community life. We will promote the concept of a learning city and encourage people to explore new opportunities. Individual enterprise in business, science and the arts will be strongly encouraged, and we will work hard to promote creative synergies across the different streams of activity.

This is what ‘Investing in our People’ means in Canberra.

Why we are investing in people

People make or break cities and communities or, as the OECD put it, ‘*Canberra’s greatest asset and potential is of course its people.*’

Investing in people and releasing their creative potential turns the promise into one of the foundations of a sustainable city of the 21st century.

How?

Investment in Canberrans will take many forms. In education, training and lifelong learning there will be targeted activities occurring from the time children are born through to old age. Specific new strategies will support those who choose to enter the workforce immediately from school.

High-level strategic advice on social priorities and community development will guide our efforts to realise the potential of all Canberrans. Child and Family Centres, for example, will provide a focus for holistic support services at the community level. We will adapt and develop childcare programs to support working parents and begin to develop the potential of Canberra’s youngest citizens.

Our focus on establishing a community culture of learning and creativity will be a core issue for each of our leadership forums, and we will report on progress each year.

Building a Stronger Community

There is little better in life than the sense of belonging to a group that you value greatly – a family, team, or community. Canberra has a great heart and sense of community cohesion. The recovery from the 2003 Canberra bushfires demonstrated that.

We will continue to encourage people to contribute and participate in community life. We should all feel confident about getting involved in community activities, events and groups that can add to the quality of life. Canberra will be a healthy community.

We will see to it that those who are less well off, or isolated, are not left behind. Social justice is something that is important to us all.

We want to work together to safeguard our community and neighbourhoods so that people can feel secure. Canberra should be a place where neighbours not only know each other and provide some help when it is needed, but are also able to feel a strong sense of belonging and pride for the place where they live.

This is what is meant when we talk about ‘Building a Stronger Community’.

Why we need to build a stronger community

- Stronger communities are places with fewer problems. They are not only enjoyable and rewarding, but also more secure and safe.
- Canberrans have clearly indicated that this is a priority – making a strong community even stronger, at all levels.

How?

The Community Engagement Strategy will ensure stronger relationships between the ACT Government and the community. The viability of the community sector will be strengthened through the renewal of community infrastructure and the reform of the ACT Government’s funding policy for the sector. Community networking grants will strengthen networks at the grassroots level. We will promote our values of equity, inclusion and fairmindedness.

Health, housing and education programs will be adapted to recognise that at different times in our lives, our needs, and what we can give back to the community do change. We will focus on fitness and health, food and nutrition, and other measures to combat childhood obesity. For older students, mentoring and education in drug issues, sexuality and relationships, and domestic violence will proactively address the challenges of the generation. Specific resources will assist the most vulnerable members of our community as part of a concerted attack on the causes of poverty and exclusion. Our quality public hospital and health services will be maintained and adapted to the needs of a changing community.

The experiences and wisdom of older Canberrans will be highly valued. Indigenous Canberrans will be supported to confidently confirm their place in our community, and the creative and multicultural strengths of Canberra will be permanent feature of our city.

Celebrations such as Canberra Day, that say so much about our identity, will be strengthened and community events at the local level will be fostered.



Stronger communities are places with fewer problems

A City for All Ages



A City for All Ages takes up the dual challenges of an ageing population and the need to recognise the potential of our young people. It celebrates the experiences and knowledge of our older citizens, and adapts housing supply and community services to meet their needs.

The city must also be attractive to young people with skills and resources. These young people will be a very important part of our future workforce and economic development.

In contributing their different experiences and perspectives, people of all ages will help to grow a strong, sustainable, dynamic Canberra.

This is the essence of ‘A City for All Ages’.

Why a City for All Ages?

- A City for All Ages reflects a fair, equitable and inclusive society, where there is a place for people of advantage and less advantage. It also provides opportunities for the transfer of knowledge and experience between generations, to create an economically and socially-rich society.
- Older citizens have tremendous capacity to contribute to our community.

- Many cities like Canberra will be competing for young workers in the knowledge economy. We need to be proactive in ensuring Canberra has appeal as an attractive, vibrant and desirable place for young people to live.

How?

Planning, human services, economic and cultural development will concentrate on creating and supporting a City for All Ages. We will provide specific new strategies to attract and retain young people and maintain a balanced age profile.

We will also provide positive ageing programs that allow older citizens to remain actively involved in our community. Future housing will be adapted to meet the requirements and choices of an ageing population.

We will provide opportunities for people to age in place, and move to more appropriate accommodation as they wish. More effective transport options will connect people to their work, their recreational pursuits, to necessary human services and make it easier for people as they move through life’s stages.

There will be a focus on dealing with people that recognises all of their needs. Human services will be responsive and accessible and our schools and institutions will support a culture of lifelong learning and a continuous improvement of skills.

people of all ages will help grow a strong sustainable, dynamic Canberra

Canberra's Knowledge Future

Knowledge-based industries will form the base of Canberra's future growth, helping to diversify the economy. The city will build a reputation for commercialising research, innovation and education strengths – as a place that stays ahead of the competition by quite deliberately turning ideas into assets.

We will capitalise on Canberra's research, innovation and educational strengths. This will generate new jobs in leading-edge industries and establish a momentum for Canberra's economic development.

This is what 'Canberra's Knowledge Future' means.

Why we need to be a knowledge city

Canberra needs a strong, private sector economy. As a land-locked Territory without the natural resources that drive a traditional heavy industry, a knowledge-based economy is essential. It also allows us to play to Canberra's strengths.

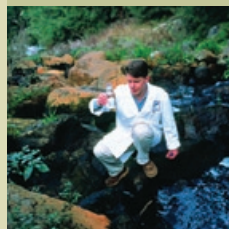
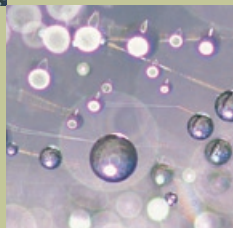
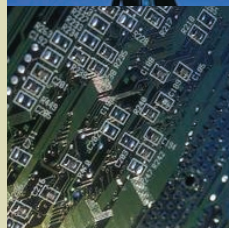
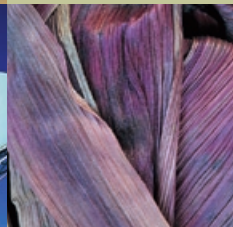
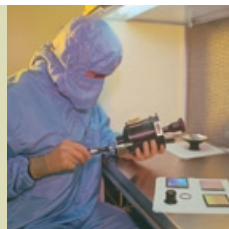
Focusing on creativity and innovation will allow Canberra and the Capital Region to be competitive in the globalised economy.

How?

Our strategies for the knowledge economy will include investment funds and intellectual property management policies to support local commercialisation. Company-to-company partnerships will be supported locally and throughout Australia.

The ACT's strengths will be strongly marketed nationally and internationally. Planning policies will promote the natural clustering of innovation-based industries to support a knowledge economy.

A place that stays ahead of the competition by turning ideas into assets



Partnerships for Growth



Dynamic and adaptive partnerships will help our community to capitalise on the work of *The Canberra Plan*.

Achieving a common city vision requires shared responsibility and collective approaches that contribute resources to the effort from many areas.

Transparency, accountability, respect and, where possible, partnerships will be the basis of our work together on long-term strategies.

When people come together to work for a common cause much more can be achieved.

‘Partnerships for Growth’ – we are all in it together.

Why we need Partnerships for Growth

We need to bring together the best possible creative talents from different areas to get the work done well. Experience indicates that governments alone cannot achieve the scale of the challenges we are embarking. Partnerships create synergies where we learn and contribute even more by working across traditional boundaries. Good governance is a feature of successful communities.

How?

New and stronger partnerships of leaders – including government, community, business and academia – will pursue the vision and lead Canberra’s social and economic development.

In business, the partnerships will have a strong focus on the commercialisation of intellectual property and the attraction of investment. Canberra will be the most small-business friendly place in Australia with small business recognised and supported as a continuing strength of the ACT economy.

A Regional Management Framework, principally between the NSW and ACT Governments, will evolve to provide a stronger basis for co-operative management of critical regional issues, such as water supply and urban development.

When it is necessary we will establish specific leadership teams for key short-term tasks with various parts of the community and government working closely together. Advances in electronic communications will also provide opportunities for us to develop new ways of engaging the broader community in progressing the Plan.

A cross-section of community leadership will come together periodically to provide feedback and advice on the progress of *The Canberra Plan* and the range of initiatives that flow from it.

Partnerships for growth
– we are all in it together

Great cities have a great heart

A Dynamic Heart

The centre of Canberra will be a dynamic place – the heart of our city, Territory and region. It will be a point of identity for all Canberrans no matter where they live.

Civic will be a vibrant hub of activity. It will be energised as the commercial and community heart of Canberra, with higher-density residential choice just one part of a mixed-use centre.

The high quality urban environment and lifestyle of central Canberra will play an important part in attracting a new generation of Canberrans. Innovative and resourceful young people will see central Canberra as a place where entertainment happens, careers can be developed, connections are made and ideas and businesses grow.

The social, academic, community, arts, cultural, political, business and tourism activities will very actively work together to generate a sense of optimism and confidence about Civic. It will be the core from which an enriched central area radiates – this core both strengthens and is strengthened by our town centres and suburbs.

This is what ‘A Dynamic Heart’ means.

Why we are investing in A Dynamic Heart

- Great cities have a great heart which is alive and well – giving life to other parts of the city. Civic, as the heart of the central area, has been identified as ‘a priority and an opportunity for Canberra’*. Development of a city

centre which can remain adaptable over time benefits other parts of the city.

- The city centre is a critical unfinished part of Canberra’s planning and development. The economic success and vitality of Civic is fundamentally linked to Canberra achieving a sustainable transport network and meeting our future housing needs.

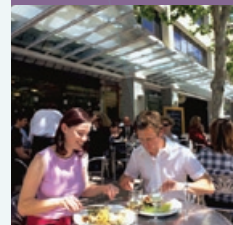
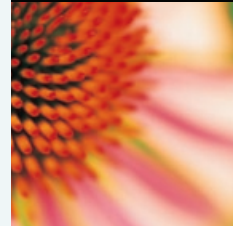
How?

A high-level Central Canberra Task Force, or leadership team, will bring together all key interests to drive the revitalisation, development and promotion of Civic and central Canberra. A concentrated program of effort in land release, housing, infrastructure, public domain and transport improvements, entertainment events and promotion will see that major employers are attracted to Civic.

A more compact and efficient city structure will help to provide access and a natural focus on the city centre as a place for cultural events and activities. The Civic Square Cultural Precinct will be further developed as the key focus for cultural life in the city.

The National Capital’s CBD will realise its potential to become a source of great pride, creativity and energy.

* OECD, 2002, *Urban Renaissance Canberra: A Sustainable Future*.



Living with the Environment – Our Bush Capital



We need to minimise our impact on the environment

A city in harmony with nature is one that minimises the impact of human activity and development on the natural environment. It does so by recognising these impacts and responding with integrated planning strategies and more innovative solutions.

For example, in the largest inland city of a dry continent, a major challenge is maintaining our green landscape whilst meeting the needs of a growing population. The city has demonstrated its capacity to respond to drought conditions with responsible water management. In the long term, being a ‘water smart city’ with new approaches to planning and infrastructure will be imperative.

Canberra is – and always will be – a city in the landscape. We take great pride in the look of our city, ensuring the high quality of our natural and built environments are maintained and sensitively integrated.

Canberra will also be a city less vulnerable to bushfire and one that captures the environmental, commercial and recreational opportunities in non-urban ACT.

The structure of the city will be more sustainable, compact and efficient in its layout – responsive to challenges of sustainability, whilst remaining the most accessible major city in Australia.

This is what is meant by ‘Living with the Environment – Our Bush Capital’.

Why we must live with the environment

Retaining the landscape character of the ‘Bush Capital’ is important for Canberrans.

We need to minimise our impacts on the environment and live in harmony with it, ideally leaving it in better shape for future generations. We must be frugal in our use of natural resources. If we do this well we will not only be responsible environmental managers, but we will also create efficiencies for the future success of our city and its businesses.

How?

Our planning strategies will embrace leading approaches to environmental management and design. Urban and non-urban planning and design will fully incorporate our landscape values and bushfire readiness, consistent with the level of threat. We will contain urban development in a more compact, efficient structure and minimise our urban footprint. Areas of high conservation value will be enhanced and protected. We will place continuing emphasis on clean industries to reduce greenhouse gases, noise and air pollution. There will be increased opportunities to enjoy our nature parks with enhanced recreational options.

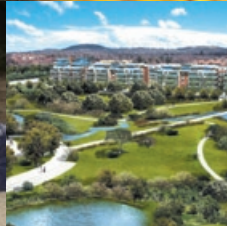
Conserving our valuable water resources will become an increased priority. A greater choice of more efficient transport systems will include more opportunities to cycle and walk.

Sustainable Canberra

Leadership now and for the future



People, Place, Prosperity



Sustainability can mean many things to many people. Essentially sustainability is the concept that joins all of the parts together. It works best when communities and their leaders are looking and working to the long term. We will not borrow from or rob future Canberrans of their quality of life or environment.

In 'Sustainable Canberra', we will be striving to make a lasting difference in the quality of life and well-being for current and future Canberrans. *The Canberra Plan* will be constantly looking for better ways of doing things. To do that we need to consider, at the same time, the long-term health of our economy, environment and our people.

We will creatively integrate each of these considerations and wherever possible strive for a 'win-win-win' on sustainability.

- We will take our responsibilities as environmental managers very seriously. Canberra has been world-renowned as a well-designed city for nearly 100 years. We will strive to see it also recognised as a city that successfully faces the challenges of sustainability.
- We will manage the affairs of government and community using the core guiding principles outlined in *People Place Prosperity – a policy for sustainability in the ACT*.

- At a personal and community level we will be eco-efficient. We will use the minimum natural resources and make the best use of them, reducing consumption and eliminating waste.
- We will be an open, democratic society where people are engaged in and committed to society. As a community we will remain connected to the national and global challenges, looking to learn and contribute where practical.
- We will be known for strong industries that contribute positively to global sustainability not add to its problems. Canberra will be at the heart of a sustainable economic region.

Sustainability will be the barometer by which we monitor and measure the health and success of our city and community.

Making it Happen

Implementation and Monitoring

The Canberra Plan will be directly connected to future planning and budget decisions.

Government agencies will incorporate priority actions of *The Canberra Plan*, *The Canberra Social Plan*, *The Economic White Paper* and *The Canberra Spatial Plan* into their annual corporate and business plans. Annual budgets will reflect these priorities.

The Canberra Plan framework will be dynamic enough to allow the integration of other related strategies, now and in the future.

Progress with projects and programs will be incorporated in agency annual reports. These reports will provide the community and government with the opportunity to regularly assess how we are tracking towards our vision.

One further overall measure of Canberra's health and well-being will be available to us. The *Towards Sustainability Report* will provide a barometer on the condition of our people, place and economy. This report will draw upon a set of social, environmental and economic indicators that measure what is important to our community, as well as the *ACT State of Environment Report*. In measuring progress over time this report can give a perspective on outcomes from *The Canberra Plan*, and how we are progressing over time.

Whilst the more detailed actions in individual component plans will be monitored and reported separately, a regular overview of *The Canberra Plan*'s progress is proposed to coincide with annual Canberra Day celebrations. This will provide the chance to reflect on areas requiring fresh or renewed effort, as well as new challenges that may need to be embraced.

