



ACT
Government



Molonglo Valley Community Information Night

Thursday 19 May 2016, 7pm, Charles Weston School

Summary of main topics discussed

Presentation 1 – Icon Water

- Icon Water is installing a new North Weston Odour Control System.
- The system infrastructure will impact access on Clos Crossing which will be closed for approximately three months. Fencing of the area will commence in May 2016.
- More details are available from Icon Water - <https://www.iconwater.com.au/Community-and-Education/Our-projects/Molonglo%20Odour%20Management%20Project.aspx> or via phone on 6248 3111.

Presentation 2 – Land Development Agency (John Pooley – Project Director Molonglo Valley)

- Some open space areas will open in the next few weeks. This involves removal of the temporary fences from areas on John Gorton Drive, including the park area near the school.
- The developer of the Coombs shop site is still in discussions with the Environment and Planning Directorate after having the Development Application (DA) refused twice. A stop-work notice was placed on the site when development commenced without approval. The LDA is waiting on more information, particularly whether there will be a third submission for the development and the community will be updated as soon as possible. The site includes a development area of approximately 2,500m² which includes a supermarket space of 1,000m² (suitable for an IGA, Spar etc).
- The developer of the service station site on Cotter Road has confirmed it will include a Caltex service station, two fast food outlets and a car wash. The service station site is owned by a private developer and it is up to the owner/developer as to when and how they build on their site. The LDA are liaising with the Environment and Planning Directorate regarding timings and the community will be updated as soon as possible.
- Details on timings for the Child Care centre are not yet available as this DA process is still progressing. The site is owned by a private developer and it is up to the owner/developer as to when and how they communicate details of the Child Care operator and other approved services and inclusions on the site.
- Works on Stromlo Cottage are continuing with the sewer system currently being upgraded. The cottage will become a local community hub for residents as soon as possible.
- The LDA is still finalising plans for the site in Coombs allocated for the Community Garden.
- No sports field facilities are identified for Wright/Coombs. The school oval is scheduled to open in the coming months. Residents have access to the fitness equipment in Wright and some new additional equipment will be available in Coombs soon.

- The areas to the north of Wright and Coombs are North Wright and North Coombs. The LDA is in the planning stage of these developments and more details will be provided when available.
- The Molonglo Group Centre (in the future suburb of Molonglo) is still in the planning stages. The Commercial Centre will eventually house an approximate population of 6,000 - 9,000 residents, commercial and retail uses. Currently Wright and Coombs have a total of approximately 2,800 residents.
- There are other Mixed Use sites in Wright and Coombs along John Gorton Drive which allow retail uses and opportunities for commercial space.
- The first Stage release of Molonglo 3 in the suburb of Whitlam will occur in 2018/19 with 500 dwellings being placed to the market.

Presentation 3 – Denman Prospect (Ivo Matesic - Project Director Capital Estate Developments)

- Access to the first stage of the Denman Prospect site will be available in the next couple of weeks (May 2016).
- The shop site is being brought forward with an expected completion time of Christmas 2017. This includes a supermarket site area of approximately 1,000m² with a small number of specialty shops.
- A public school site is included in Denman Prospect (Preschool to year 10). The Education Directorate has not yet confirmed timings. Approximately 160 students are currently at the Charles Weston primary school.

Presentation 4 – Molonglo River Corridor (James Overall, ACT Government Molonglo River Park)

- Infrastructure and signage are being developed for the Molonglo River Corridor.
- No timings are available yet on access to the River, including fence removal.
- A local restoration project is underway at Barrer Hill to enhance and protect the area.
- Involvement in the ParkCare group is encouraged from Molonglo Valley residents.
- Request to community to avoid going into the fenced areas along the Molonglo River Corridor to help protect the areas until available.
- Details on the future of the Molonglo River Corridor are available through TaMS - http://www.tams.act.gov.au/about-us/community_engagement/recent_consultations/molonglo_river_park_-_coombs_riverside_preliminary_designs
- Information on how to volunteer for ParkCare is available at - <http://www.tams.act.gov.au/parks-conservation/parks-and-reserves/get-involved/parkcare-and-urban-landcare-program>

Presentation 4 – Territory and Municipal Services – (Brian Bathgate – Operations Manager)

- Molonglo Valley is the fastest growing area in Australia (2015) with a population increase of 127%.
- Over 1,100 maintenance requests have been issued to Access Canberra since January 2016 across Canberra.
- TaMS are working with the LDA to investigate opportunities for more shade sails in play spaces within the region.

- An update on playground surfaces was provided showing the cost differences for maintenance between tan bark and soft fall. More tanbark options will be used in Canberra parks due to the ongoing costs and maintenance of other alternatives.
- Parklands are currently mowed between 3-12 times per year.
- Weed spraying is focused on curbs/gutters on main roads and parks. It is conducted twice each year.
- The number of rubbish bins in parks is being reduced around Canberra. A new solar bin is being piloted in Link Park (Wright) which aims to increase capacity by sending a text to TAMS when full.
- The maintenance of nature strips (verges) are the responsibility of the resident/owner of the property.
- Illegal dumping is a big problem in new areas. A Ranger Task Force has been allocated to Coombs in June who are able to issue warning notices if required.

Questions from community

- Lights in parks – Further lights are not expected to be placed into existing park areas.
- Bus Services – there is a planned service increase for September 2016. Residents are encouraged to complete the Transport Canberra survey. A resident advised that Coombs was not listed on the survey (as at 27 May 2016 – this has been fixed).
<http://haveyoursay.transportcanberra.act.gov.au/public-transport-survey>
- Trees – some areas of the region are not suitable for large Eucalypts. The LDA has planted trees which are planned to grow large but this will take some time. Mature trees are very expensive so more, younger trees have been planted. If residents notice damaged trees then should contact Access Canberra
(<https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/app/forms/fixmystreet/> or 13 22 81).
- Speeding cars – residents need to contact Crime Stoppers (1800 333 000) for Police to action any complaints directly.
- Public Housing – a map is available on the Public Housing Renewal Taskforce website showing all sites allocated for Public Housing in Coombs. No sites in Wright have been identified for Public Housing at this stage.
<http://www.economicdevelopment.act.gov.au/urban-renewal/public-housing-renewal/new-public-housing/coombs>
- Soil stockpiling in North Coombs – The soil is being temporarily stock piled in Coombs to reduce the environmental effects and cost to rate payers of removing soil to only later import it. The soil will be utilised within the North Coombs development. The stockpile will be stabilised and have sediment control measures which have been agreed with EPA.
- Stromlo Forest Park media showed significant changes to the use – the Stromlo Forest Park Master Plan was updated in late 2015 and the LDA will advise of any further updates when available.

Community updates

- Fitness cards demonstrating how to use equipment in Wright are now available through Karen Jesson - Molonglo Valley Community Development Worker:
mingle@commsatwork.org

- A resident-led Christmas Carols event is again being planned. Residents encouraged to get involved – contact through mingle@commsatwork.org
- A group of residents are working on establishing a 'Park Run' for Molonglo Valley. A draft course is being mapped out and more details will follow in the coming months. It will become a weekly 5km event on Saturdays at 8am.
- A resident provided details on a 'Know your Child' workshop in May 2016.
- Astronomy Night on 24 May 2016 still has places available. Residents were encouraged to book a place.
- Molonglo Valley's Biggest Morning Tea to be held on Sunday 29 May 2016 between 10am-12pm.