

Australian Capital Territory

City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency (City Renewal Authority) Statement of Expectations 2021

Notifiable instrument NI2021–173

made under the

City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency Act 2017, s 17 (Ministerial statement of expectations)

1 Name of instrument

This instrument is the *City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency (City Renewal Authority) Statement of Expectations 2021*.

2 Commencement

This instrument commences on the day after its notification day.

3 Statement of expectations

I make the statement of expectations as provided in schedule 1.

4 Revocation

The *City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency (City Renewal Authority) Statement of Expectations 2019* (NI2019-508) is revoked.

Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister
29 January 2021

Schedule 1
(see s 3)

ACT Government

Statement of Expectations 2021

City Renewal Authority

Overview

This Statement of Expectations (the Statement) is made by the Chief Minister in accordance with section 17(1)(a) of the *City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency Act 2017* (the Act). In accordance with section 17(1)(b) of the Act, the Statement will be given to the City Renewal Authority (the Authority) Board.

The purpose of this document is to set out the Government's requirements and priorities in relation to urban renewal in the City Renewal Precinct (the Precinct), which spans Dickson, Northbourne Avenue, Haig Park, the City and West Basin. The Precinct is declared by notifiable instrument *City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency (Urban Renewal Precinct) Declaration 2017* (NI2017-425).

Objectives

The Authority operates in partnership with Government, the community and business, and was established to:

- encourage and promote:
 - an active city through the delivery of design-led, people-focused urban renewal;
 - social and environmental sustainability; and
- operate effectively, in a way that delivers value for money, in accordance with sound risk management practices.

The statutory functions given to the Authority are deliberately broad to enable it to lead, manage, facilitate and undertake urban renewal projects in declared precincts, consistent with these overarching objectives.

The significance of these responsibilities is reflected in the breadth and depth of experience, skill and expertise expected from, and provided by, the Authority's Board.

The Government strongly believes in the fundamental purpose of the Authority in delivering the range and quality of urban renewal outcomes necessary to firmly embed Canberra's standing as a city of choice, a city of talent, and a city of ambition that is open to all.

To achieve this purpose, it is essential that the city is shaped for the future, and that it is done with a people-focused perspective, founded on principles of good design and place making. Urban renewal should be delivered in a way that will stand the test of time for members of the community, and for our city as a whole. The built form needs to promote connected and innovative communities that deliver the activity, lifestyles, and healthy environments that people want.

The Government's expectation is that the Authority will:

- consult and establish productive working relationships with key stakeholders, including all levels of Government and other relevant bodies and organisations;
- engage widely to inform both the design and delivery of works;
- promote cooperation, collaboration and coherent urban renewal with other key entities including the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, the National Capital Authority and the Suburban Land Agency; and
- noting the impact COVID-19 has had on businesses, consider the impact of precinct works on the operation of businesses.

The Government expects a high degree of accountability and transparency from the Authority in relation to the decision-making of its Board and Chief Executive Officer. In this regard, the Government expects the Authority to provide accurate and timely advice on significant issues in its core area of business.

The Authority is expected to proactively manage risk in accordance with best practice risk management.

Urban renewal requirements and priorities

The Government recognises the role of the Authority to deliver coordinated urban renewal within the Precinct as a whole.

The Government expects that this work will:

- identify and recommend prioritisation and sequencing of major public infrastructure works within the Precinct;
- be developed in consultation with key stakeholders;
- promote Government, stakeholder and community understanding of, and confidence in, the total program of renewal initiatives to be undertaken and delivered within the Precinct;
- enable, encourage and promote integrated renewal and development outcomes;
- be supported by clear timeframes in which identified renewal projects need to be delivered commencing with those of highest impact value;
- be consistent with the Territory Plan and the strategic planning framework established by the *Planning and Development Act 2007*; and
- reflect and be consistent with the Government's publicly-stated policy commitments.

Consistent with this, the Government expects the Authority to prioritise the implementation of the City Precinct Renewal Program, which sets out a clear direction and detailed plan of action for urban renewal in the Precinct over a 30-year delivery horizon.

Achieving this vision will require collaboration. The Government expects the Authority to review the Program regularly to ensure it is using the best, most current information available to shape the Precinct's ongoing transformation.

Specific projects and initiatives

- **Canberra Civic Arts and Cultural Precinct** – Progress precinct plan and possible land release, in conjunction with the redevelopment of the Canberra Theatre Complex.
- **Haig Park** – Complete design documentation and commence construction of the new Community Centre, along with park lighting and footpath upgrades.
- **Acton Waterfront** – Complete land reclamation works as the first phase of Stage 2 of the Acton Waterfront Boardwalk project. Based on master planning undertaken to date, commence analysis of development delivery and funding options for the next stages of the project.
- **Braddon** – Complete design documentation (to Preliminary Sketch Plan stage) for streetscape upgrades. Based on the completed designs, commence staged delivery in Lonsdale Street. As businesses recover from the prolonged impacts of COVID-19, first stage construction will focus on low impact works, traffic calming measures and key intersection improvements on Lonsdale Street at the intersections of Girrawheen and Cooyong Streets.
- **Dickson** - Complete design documentation (to Preliminary Sketch Plan stage) for precinct streetscape upgrades and commence implementation in Woolley Street. The scope and staging of works will seek to minimise construction impacts on local business.
- **City Hill** – Complete a concept design for improvements to City Hill Park, including easier pedestrian access. Specific consideration will be given to options for the inclusion of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander safe space, including a garden and ceremonial smoking area.
- **Sydney and Melbourne Buildings** – Finalise the revitalisation plan to restore the external condition of these historic buildings with the building owners and ACT Heritage Council.
- **City Place Activation and Management** – support local businesses by encouraging visitation to the precinct through the:
 - implementation of a diverse public space activation program, that supports major seasonal events linked to Enlighten (autumn), Wintervention (winter), Floriade (spring) and Christmas (summer)
 - delivery of specific precinct place management services (extra cleaning, planting, street furniture etc) across key areas of the precinct.

Relevant legislation and government policies

The Government expects the Authority's Board and Chief Executive Officer to ensure that the Authority operates in accordance with all relevant legislation and legal instruments, in particular the following:

- *Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act 2004*
- *City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency (City Renewal Authority Land Acquisition) Direction 2017*
- *Environment Protection Act 1997*
- *Financial Management Act 1996*
- *Freedom of Information Act 2016*
- *Government Agencies (Land Acquisition Reporting) Act 2018*
- *Government Procurement Act 2001*
- *Information Privacy Act 2014*
- *Integrity Commission Act 2018*
- *Planning and Development Act 2007*
- *Public Sector Management Act 1994*
- *Territory Records Act 2002*
- *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*

The Government is pursuing a strong one government agenda. This agenda recognises that Canberrans do not live their lives according to how government Directorates and agencies are structured. Instead, it is up to Government to join up the experiences and services delivered by different entities to improve outcomes for the whole community and ensure Canberra continues to remain one of the most liveable cities in the world.

The Government's commitment to whole of government policies is reflected in the Act. This commitment requires therefore that the Authority's operations be considered in the context of the following policies:

- *ACT Government Statement of Ambition*
- *ACT Government Infrastructure Plan 2011-2021*
- *ACT Planning Strategy 2018*
- *Transport for Canberra: Transport for a sustainable city 2012-2031*
- *ACT Affordable Housing Action Plan (Phase III in particular)*
- *ACT Housing Strategy 2018, and Implementation Plan*
- *ACT Waste Management Strategy 2011-2025: Towards a Sustainable Canberra*