Summary of Mawson Consultation Group Meeting – Thursday 25 May

Representatives of the Mawson community and the Public Housing Renewal Taskforce (the Taskforce) met again to further discuss the proposed public housing development on Block 29 Section 36 Mawson. Participants represented the Mawson Citizens’ Group, Woden Valley Community Council, Woden Community Services and Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS). An independent community engagement practitioner facilitated the meeting.

The community representatives provided feedback to the meeting that the outcomes of the first had been distributed by letterbox drop to 400 surrounding homes, and that the Mawson Citizens’ Group had received further feedback and input from the community Representatives of TCCS answered questions and provided information to the meeting about the process of reviewing impacts of a development on surrounding traffic, pedestrian movements and parking in the area. Community representatives raised concerns about road safety. It was explained that to address concerns, such as speeding and pedestrian safety, it is important to have a good understanding of the issues to allow an appropriate response. TCCS undertook to review the Mawson community’s feedback about local traffic experience in more detail. TCCS also provided information on vehicle movements and volumes on roads surrounding the development, and undertook to provide more information on active travel routes in the area.

The Taskforce provided an update on further studies being undertaken on the geology of the site and birdlife in the area.

The meeting discussed and documented the community representatives’ aspirations for the site. This will form the basis of a brief for the architect.

Outcomes

- The Taskforce will document the community representatives’ aspirations expressed in this meeting on to a site map for sharing with the broader community.
- Taskforce will discuss with architect and return to the next meeting with options for reduced number of houses on the site, noting the aspirations of the community for community garden, pathways, preserved trees and onsite parking.
- The Mawson Citizens’ Group will provide the Taskforce with written community feedback on local traffic experience.
- TCCS will respond to community feedback on local traffic issues.
- Community representatives will provide information to the broader community, including details of upcoming geotechnical investigations on the site.
- The group will meet again this week.