



24 September 2018

Draft masterplan for West Schofields

To Whom it May Concern,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the *Draft masterplan for West Schofields*.

As the peak body representing people over 50 in NSW we would like to emphasise the importance of ensuring that when developing new suburbs such as West Schofields that the principles of universal design and the WHO Age-friendly Communities' guidelines are incorporated into the design process.

Of particular importance is the construction of an adequate footpath network, that also provides shade and shelter. All public spaces should be based on universal design principles – incorporating accessibility into community spaces, parks and other public areas.

COTA NSW supports the NSW Planning *Draft Everyone Can Play* guidelines and the inclusion of principles that considers all ages and abilities, including older people. The proposed parks and play fields should be designed on the basis of these inclusive guidelines and should integrate safe paths, shade, seating and access to public amenities.

As noted, a key feature of the masterplan is adherence to appropriate building and design controls to create a more resilient community. This project provides an exciting opportunity to implement innovative and sustainable design features in new dwellings that will improve the liveability of housing, reduce energy costs and enrich the visual amenity of the suburb.

COTA NSW would like to thank Planning NSW for the opportunity to comment on these draft guidelines.

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