PUBLIC HOUSING RENEWAL: TURNER
REPORT ON WHAT WE HEARD

TURNER DEVELOPMENT
From 24 September to 16 November 2018, Housing ACT sought input from the community for a new public housing development in David Street, Turner.

The existing 3-bedroom dwelling at 44 David Street, Turner (Block 2 Section 54), is reaching the end of its useful life. As part of the ACT Government’s ongoing commitment to revitalise the public housing portfolio and ensure that social housing options are available throughout the city, Housing ACT is proposing to replace the existing dwelling with a new dual-occupancy development.

The block is located close to essential services such as shops, health services and public transport options. As such, Housing ACT is proposing to replace the existing 3-bedroom dwelling (built in 1948) with two 2-bedroom Class C Adaptable homes. Adaptable housing ensures that people of all ages and abilities can live within the home and it can be easily adapted to meet changing household needs without requiring costly or substantial modifications.

Housing ACT has given careful consideration to the site and local amenity to produce a high-quality design that aims to integrate with the surrounding area whilst addressing our tenants’ needs. There are a number of large trees on the site which will be retained where possible to maintain the leafy character of the block.

THE CONVERSATION
Housing ACT engaged with the community to seek feedback on the shape and scale of the proposal and asked people to consider the orientation, look, design and landscaping of the new development. We engaged with stakeholders face-to-face and online about the proposed development from 24 September to 16 November 2018.

In early September, Housing ACT sent a letter to 94 residents in the surrounding neighbourhood to inform them of the proposed development. Information about the proposal, as well as the proposed concept design options, were published on the YourSay website. An information session was held on-site on 16 October 2018, and community members were invited to drop by to see the plans, ask questions and engage with representatives from Housing ACT about the project.

Feedback received from the community was in support for keeping public housing in the area. The single storey design that is consistent with the suburb’s existing character was well received.

WHO ENGAGED
Some local residents made comments on YourSay and others attended the on-site information session to discuss the proposal.
The YourSay page for the proposed development at David Street, Turner reached 34 Canberrans. Five local residents attended the on-site drop-in session on Tuesday 16 October 2018. We receieved one item of feedback on YourSay and two emails in relation to the development.

Key insights from the community

Public Housing in Turner
1. There was support for public housing in Turner and in close proximity to essential services such as transport

Affordable and Accessible Housing
2. There was general interest in the design of the properties, and support for adaptable homes
3. The single storey design was well received by the local neighbourhood

WHAT’S NEXT?
Housing ACT values the community’s feedback to the proposed development. For the most part, feedback was supportive of the inclusion of public housing in the area.

Matters raised through the community engagement process have been taken into consideration and determined to have been addressed through the design or directly by Housing ACT. A table outlining what we heard and how we have responded is attached to this report.

The next step is to lodge the Development Application (DA). There will be further opportunity to provide comment as part of the DA process. Please visit http://www.planning.act.gov.au/development_applications/pubnote

To find out more about the David Street development and other Housing ACT projects in Canberra visit www.yoursay.act.gov.au or email the Housing ACT team directly at housingactrenewal@act.gov.au.

Key Timings

Step 1: 24 September – 16 November 2018, community engagement

Step 2: November-December – compile and respond to community feedback
  We are here

Step 3: Early 2019 – finalise design and submit Development Application

Step 4: July 2019 – commence construction (subject to development approval)
THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK

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<td>We reached 34 people via YourSay</td>
<td>We spoke to 5 individuals face-to-face</td>
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<td>We sent letters to 94 households in the surrounding area</td>
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<td>We received 2 items of written feedback via email</td>
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