



NATIONAL TRUST

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PATRON: The Hon Margaret Reid AO

7 June 2018

The Committee Secretary  
Standing Committee on Environment and Transport and  
City Services  
Legislative Assembly for the ACT  
GPO Box 1020  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Attention: [LACommitteeETCS@parliament.act.gov.au](mailto:LACommitteeETCS@parliament.act.gov.au)

## NATURE IN OUR CITY

The National Trust considers the natural environment a fundamental part of our heritage that needs to be conserved. This means:

- An appropriate and detailed assessment;
- Identification and definition of heritage values;
- Establishing management plans to protect the heritage values;
- Implementation to ensure best conservation outcomes; and
- Interpretation so values are understood by all.

The “nature in our city” extends beyond the natural values into the ideals of :

- Open space for healthy living; and
- Celebration of all aspects of the Garden City which is what Canberra is known for but which are constantly being eroded away.

Too often the true values of spaces are not defined and realized before the sale of land or developments are proposed creating tensions among all parties (conservationists, the National Trust and developers). Recent examples include CSIRO Campbell HQ, Federal Golf Course and Urban Land release in Gungahlin.

The National Trust urges the Assembly Committee to rigorously analyse the current situation, establish processes to reinforce the garden city ideas in our planning, promote national heritage listing of Canberra as a Garden City and implement processes to conserve it. This will lead to increased tourism and better healthy living for residents and reduced health costs, all of which benefit Canberran’s and the nation.

Yours sincerely

Eric Martin AM