

Gungahlin Strategic Assessment Report: Commitment 30

Plan to address the preparation and provision of educational documentation for residents moving into Throsby and for people buying the remaining blocks in the suburb

Commitment 30:

Establish educational resources including signage and guidelines for residents of east Throsby, including:

- Description of ecological values and significance of the Mulligans Flat – Gorooyaroo nature reserve complex;
- No domestic animals in reserves;
- Management of pest species along the urban edge.

Background

First land sales in Throsby commenced in February 2016 with first settlements in May 2017. As at July 2017, 34 dwelling sites were under construction (1065 vacant sites). Occupation has commenced recently.

General information about the ecological values and significance of the Mulligans Flat and Gorooyaroo nature reserve has been included through meetings with the community and community groups and is available on the Suburban Land Agency website as part of the FAQ for Throsby. Nothing specific was included in the Throsby Housing Development Guide however a brochure produced and provided by the Woodlands & Wetlands Trust (**Attachment A**) was included in the sales pack to purchasers.

Actions undertaken to date

- Information sessions have been undertaken for interested buyers and the Gungahlin Community Council (GCC) – Sample at **Attachment B**
 - A presentation regarding the draft Estate Design for Throsby was made at the GCC meeting on 14 May 2014.
 - Drop-in information sessions were held on 15 and 17 May 2014 at the Gungahlin Library to provide an opportunity for the public to view the draft design.
 - The EDP was publicly exhibited as a part of the Development Application process.
 - A presentation providing an update on progress and outlining the construction program was made at the GCC meeting on 12 August 2015.
- Media release from 20 April 2015 announced the new suburb of Throsby declared a cat containment area.
http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/open_government/inform/act_government_media_releases/ratlenbury/2015/new-suburb-of-throsby-declared-cat-containment-area
- Domestic Animals (Cat Containment) Declaration 2017 (No 1) includes Throsby dated 1 August 2017 – http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/es/db_56649/current/pdf/db_56649.pdf
- Cat Containment – installation of cat containment signage throughout Throsby during 2017. Information available on the ACT Government Website <https://www.tccs.act.gov.au/city-living/pets/cats/cat-containment>

- Suburban Land Agency Website Throsby FAQ - <http://suburbanland.act.gov.au/throsby/throsby-faqs>
- Sales Pack – Brochure prepared by Wetlands & Woodlands Trust (**Attachment A**)
- Information Expos – presentations provided outlining the estate and sales process. This included an overview of the values of the adjacent nature reserve and design responses in the estate to respond to these values – 5 February and 9 April 2016.
- Fencing - Banners were placed on Suburban Land Agency construction fencing prior to the erection of the predator proof fence by PCL during 2017.
- Social media – launched Throsby Mingle Facebook page in November 2017. Information on Superb Parrot listed on 8 December 2017. Information on ‘Friends of Mulligans Flat’ provided on 11 December 2017.
- Spring into Throsby Sales event – representatives from Woodlands & Wetlands Trust attended and provided images of proposed Woodland Learning Centre. The team engaged with future and residents.

Proposed Actions and Timeframes

In terms of current and future engagement/education with Throsby residents the ACT Government and Wetlands & Woodlands Trust can:

Short Term – underway to be implemented early 2018

- **January 2018** - Deploy banners (**Attachment C**) on Predator Proof fence which includes:
 - Fox proof fence, superb parrot, bettong, echidna, sugar glider, quoll, Woodlands Learning Centre and welcome (Woodlands & Wetlands Trust)
 - Social media content to be provided on the installation of new fence signage (Suburban Land Agency)
 - Mingle introduction newsletter to be distributed via email to all Throsby purchasers and delivered to households (less than 10) by late January 2018 (Suburban Land Agency)
 - Launch of Throsby community survey in early January 2018 which includes questions relating to resident interests in connecting with the nature reserve (Suburban Land Agency)
- **April 2018** - Install signage in the reserve, draft versions are attached as **Attachment D** and will include information on:
 - Protecting our nature, fox-free zone, flora and fauna, reserve and wildlife guide. (Woodlands and Wetlands Trust)
 - Park opening – proposed event mid February to officially open a new park. The Woodlands & Wetlands Trust will be invited to the event.

Medium Term – within 6 months

- Undertake a proactive communication campaign through the Suburban Land Agency's Mingle newsletter to be distributed quarterly for up to three years from early 2018. The newsletter will be distributed via email and delivered to households where relevant. A copy will also be made available on the Suburban Land Agency website (Suburban Land Agency)
- Develop a specific educational brochure for distribution to Throsby residents which would include (via letterbox delivery to residents and available at Sales Information Centre and events):
 - Description of matters of National environmental significance including:
 - Golden Sun Moth
 - Superb Parrot including nesting trees and period
 - Box Gum Woodland
 - Significance of the Nature Reserves
 - Cat containment
 - Restriction regarding domestic animals in reserves
 - Pest species management
(Woodlands & Wetlands Trust/Parks and Conservation)
- Purchaser Contact information is held by the Suburban Land Agency who will be able to distribute a digital version of the educational material to all purchasers via email and on the Throsby website by end March 2018 (Woodlands & Wetlands Trust via Suburban Land Agency)

- Invite Throsby resident involvement in the expanded Friends of Mulligans Flat for volunteering opportunities (Woodlands & Wetlands Trust via Suburban Land Agency)
- Provide management and engaging information at the Visitor Centre including pest management, cat containment and restriction of domestic animals in reserves (Woodlands & Wetlands Trust)
- Provide management and engaging information in the Mobile App including pest management, cat containment and restriction of domestic animals in reserves (Woodlands & Wetlands Trust/Parks and Conservation)
- Development of a walking and cycling map of Throsby and adjacent areas which will include details on the Nature Reserve – by June 2018 (Suburban Land Agency)

Potential Opportunities for future activities in conjunction with Woodlands Learning Centre

Provide day and night interpretive walks for Throsby residents (Woodlands & Wetlands Trust/Parks and Conservation via Suburban Land Agency)

*Note: All timeframes are indicative and require relevant approvals and clearances to be released through the Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate and the Suburban Land Agency. All content to be provided by Woodlands & Wetlands Trust and Parks and Conservation for Suburban Land Agency to distribute via sales and Mingle materials.