

Lake Burley Griffin Guardians responses to public invitation - consultation on the 2018 ACT Budget

Question	Response
Please provide a brief summary of your suggestion.	Lake Burley Griffin Guardians is an advocacy group focused on a sustainable and significant environment around Lake Burley Griffin and its lakeshores, including its water catchments. This will increase visitor engagement with the Territory and in the long term have financial benefits.
What services do you believe are most important for the Territory?	There needs to be a thorough conservation management plan prepared for ACT lake lands to match what was done for the Commonwealth lands and lake water (refer Godden Mackay Logan (2009) Lake Burley Griffin and Adjacent Lands Heritage Management Plan Volume 1). The report must analyse all the values in terms of social, environmental, aesthetic and heritage with impact studies including an assessment of cumulative impacts. Lake Burley Griffin and its Lake shore landscape needs a whole of lake integrated management plan.
How can the Government deliver current services more efficiently and productively or to better meet the needs of Canberrans?	In West Basin savings to the budget can be achieved by throwing out the propose West Basin development that includes appropriating 2 ha of the nation's lake. This should save at least \$30 million. Part of that money could be invested in a review to give full environmental consideration on what can be achieved for the benefit of the City and its citizenry.
Are there particular services that you consider the Government should stop delivering or should deliver in a different way?	The budget must cover master plans for any lakeside areas to be changed and all planning needs to have full community involvement. A citizen's jury would be relevant.

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Are there any new ways to generate revenue and/or services you consider that the community should make a direct contribution to (a fee for service)?

The current proposed City to the Lake which will take away 2 ha of lake bed, will massively and detrimentally impact:

- The existing social use by obliterating a public park, obliterating the three small beaches, having no public parking areas, taking away green space used for public events and recreation;
- Block vistas across the lake;
- Have extensive cold winter shadows on the proposed public areas;
- It will damage the urban form of the Central Canberra by reducing West Basin in size and give it the form of a potato, making it almost half the size of East Basin;
- Reduce birdlife by removing trees;
- Reduce the presence of water birds by concreting the entire lake edge;
- There are issues of night sky pollution, diminished water quality with additional urban runoff in an area with poor water flow;
- Traffic flow impacts will occur around the entry from Commonwealth Avenue.

What can the Government do to make Canberra even more liveable?

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The budget currently allocated for the West Basin development should be relocated to upgrade West Basin. Weeds (mostly Alders) around the lake are increasing and taking over lake beach areas. There needs to be many, more of the in-stream water gardens, riparian plants such as in north Canberra which strip nutrients out of storm water. There must be attention to constructing uninterrupted riparian strips that allow long-shore movement of the biota requiring larger ranges of movement. All emphasis must be on providing effective riparian strips.

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