“Creating a Sustainable Garden City”

Simon Corbell MLA
Attorney-General, Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development, Minister for Territory and Municipal Services, Minister for Police and Emergency Services

5.30-7pm, Monday 24 October 2011
Ann Harding Conference Centre, Building 24, University Drive South, University of Canberra

The design legacy of Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Mahony fits well with the adoption of higher density urban environments, yet are there benefits and opportunities presented by the polycentric nature of our Garden City? Can the Garden City be sustainable? What is the role of existing and new suburban development? And how can sustainability be achieved in a relatively low density, dispersed city like Canberra?

Population growth and climate change are key challenges for the future development of the National Capital. Growth to 500,000 people by 2040 and a doubling of transport journeys present our city with major challenges. How does the urban structure of Canberra help or hinder our response to these challenges?

In this talk the ACT’s Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development, Simon Corbell MLA, will outline how the ACT Government is answering some of these questions. The future direction of the ACT’s planning, transport and climate change policies will be discussed in the context of the built environment and transport provision. The talk will also examine how other policy settings can exploit the strengths and advantages of Canberra’s urban structure to move towards a more sustainable city, with issues such as water, energy and food security and housing affordability also considered.

Simon Corbell MLA is a Labor Member for Molonglo and was first elected to the ACT Legislative Assembly in 1997. Simon has held the Attorney General and Minister for Police and Emergency Services portfolios since 2006 and was appointed to the new portfolios of Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development and Minister for Territory and Municipal Services in 2011. Simon has a strong interest in sustainable development policy and integrated transport and land use planning. The creation of the Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate brings together strategic and land use planning, transport planning and development control with environment, climate change, energy and water policy. As the responsible Minister Simon is driving the development of policy and planning frameworks to position Canberra as a sustainable city. As Minister for Planning from 2001-2007 he was responsible for the development of the ACT’s strategic planning framework, the re-introduction of public sector land development and the development of new urban centres in Gungahlin and Kingston Foreshore. Simon is also responsible for the establishment of policies to drive the development of Canberra as Australia’s Solar Capital.

For more information or to register for this event, contact:
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