4 West Belconnen Project Vision



The Belconnen Project Sustainability Vision

"Creating a sustainable community of international significance in the Nation's capital."

The Riverview Group, working with the ACT and NSW Governments, will develop the site at Belconnen to achieve a vision of inspiring sustainable living, development practice and awareness. Achieving a high quality of life for the people living at Belconnen is at the heart of our project planning and design.

We will create a community that exemplifies World's Best Practice in its design, construction and long-term liveability. As a model of sustainable community living it will be a place and community that can be showcased throughout Australia and internationally.



Project objectives:

To achieve our Vision we will challenge conventional industry thinking. We will employ practices, processes and systems that embody innovation and design excellence.

This project has been conceived and will be delivered on a fully integrated and audited triple bottom line basis.

Our project will:

- » Be sustainable over time, socially, economically and ecologically (with a low and reducing ecological footprint)
- » Respond to the local and global environment
- » Provide for future beneficial change to occur in design, infrastructure and regulatory mechanisms
- » Be cost effective, replicable and measurable
- » Act as a new model that others can follow.



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Guiding Principles for Sustainable Results

The principles below will direct decision-making by all project management, sub-consultants and referral agencies in the delivery and development of the Belconnen site. They reflect national priorities and Federal, State and Territory Government policies on housing affordability, climate change and environmental protection.

PARTNERING PRINCIPLES

- Ptnr 1. Partnering is essential to this project and the scale and timeframe will allow for positive partnerships to grow and thrive
- Ptnr 2. Partnering with public agencies is a cornerstone of our approach
- Ptnr 3. Engaging the community in design and governance is fundamental to the delivery of the project.
- Ptnr 4. Designing the project for community ownership and ultimate community control
- Ptnr 5. Supporting community housing through public and private partnering arrangements
- Ptnr 6. Collaborating with research and educational institutions to drive innovation.

EVALUATION PRINCIPLES

- Eva 1. Identifying and delivering realistic and costed initiatives
- Eva 2. Providing independent peer review of project proposals and project outcomes
- Eva 3. Using recognised international and national benchmarks for sustainability performance to publicly report and raise awareness of project outcomes
- Eva 4. Empowering resident and community monitoring and management of sustainability performance
- Eva 5. Encouraging a culture of continuous improvement.

ECOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES

- Eco 1. Acknowledging the intrinsic value of all species and the special role and regional significance of the Murrumbidgee river corridor and Gininnderra Creek
- Eco 2. Respecting and supporting the ecosystem functions of air, soil and water, recognising the importance of living and non-living environmental resources
- Eco 3. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions through innovative products and place design, material selection and service provision
- Eco 4. Recognising our natural ecological limits and minimising our resource, water and energy consumption
- Eco 5. Using existing local infrastructure to deliver efficient renewable services and reusable resources
- Eco 6. Enhancing local opportunities for food production and production of materials
- Eco 7. Fostering a deep sense of respect for and connection to the land, flora and fauna.

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL PRINCIPLES

- Soc 1. Respecting and honouring Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal cultural, historical and spiritual values, including integrating with the existing rich, social fabric of Belconnen
- Soc 2. Designing for social equity, affordability, diversity and interdependence, honouring differences and catering for the needs of individuals through all stages of life
- Soc 3. Maximising health, safety and comfort of the built environment to provide enduring quality of life
- Soc 4. Instilling awareness and supporting education of sustainability values, technology and lifestyles
- Soc 5. Using creative and robust design solutions to create a continuing sense of place and beauty that inspires, affirms and ennobles
- Soc 6. Designing neighbourhoods that support and encourage community interactions through imaginative, functional and enjoyable public spaces

ECONOMIC PRINCIPLES

- Econ 1. Delivering a financial return to the ACT Government recognising their sovereign interest in the land
- Econ 2. Recognising the opportunities provided by the project's scale and low capital base to achieve high-level sustainability outcomes while delivering profitability to joint venture partners
- Econ 3. Building on existing local infrastructure
- Econ 4. Ensuring long-term economic viability through design excellence and community building
- Econ 5. Minimising obsolescence through design of enduring component life cycle, allowing for disassembly and change
- Econ 6. Integrating with the Belconnen commercial, retail and employment networks
- Econ 7. Growing a formal and informal green economy that fosters local jobs and builds regional learning around green innovation and technology