

The Renewal of Public Housing in the ACT

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The ACT Government has embarked upon an ambitious program to redevelop more than 10% of its oldest, least serviceable, public housing stock, linked to its Capital Metro Light Rail initiative through the Commonwealth Government's Asset Recycling Initiative.

A newly created Housing Renewal Taskforce will replace 1,288 dwellings by June 2019, taking the annual renewal rate of public housing in the city from 0.5% to 3% PA.

This is being achieved through a number of delivery innovations, including:

- Assigning portions of new housing subdivisions (both Government and Private) for new public housing
- Design and construction on land sourced from Territory Government Agencies;
- Purchasing dwellings from private developers through an Expression of Interest process;
- Spot Purchases in the private sector;
- Redevelopment of existing Housing ACT public housing sites.

A series of Territory Plan Variations to expand the permitted uses and increase the yield of the older multi-unit sites underpins an ACT Government commitment to public housing of over \$550M. This initiative will see the Territory receive a 15% bonus to reinvest in Capital Metro a major transport infrastructure initiative. The replacement of public housing will be completed by June 2019.

The salt and peppering of public housing throughout the city and reducing the concentrations of disadvantage will improve outcomes for public housing tenants and support the renewal of Canberra's urban areas. The Program is contributing to increased economic and commercial activity along key transport corridors, activating the city, its major entrances, and its key commercial areas.