

MEDIA RELEASE



6 October 2020

Opposition Planning Announcement Welcomed

The Housing Industry Association (HIA) has welcomed an announcement by the ACT Opposition that if elected it will allow more blocks to be subdivided in Canberra's suburbs and called on all parties to match this pledge.

"It is common sense that the right blocks in Canberra's suburbs are in the mix for redevelopment," said HIA Executive Director ACT Greg Weller.

"This was one of the options identified by HIA in our policy imperatives document released in the lead up to the election to help stimulate building and give greater access to housing to Canberrans.

"There has been a strong push for a number of years to increase density in the ACT, but the sensible subdivision of RZ1 has unfortunately been off the table. If done correctly this can help the ACT make better use of its existing infrastructure, while allowing citizens to downsize without leaving their street.

"When the ACT Government held its Collaboration Hub in 2018, which utilised a cross section of ordinary members of the community to discuss planning issues, the final report stated that many agreed to the proposition to allow dual occupancy with separate title in RZ1.

"The process was designed to help influence government policy, and this idea has been gaining momentum and public acceptance for some time.

"We hope that the all parties would also back this policy announcement in principle.

"There is still a discussion to be had on the finer details of how this would be implemented, but we would welcome the opportunity to have this conversation with whoever is in power after the election," concluded Mr Weller.

For further information please contact:

Greg Weller, Executive Director ACT

0438 846 752