



Media Release: *A billion reasons to pick Bruce*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Belconnen, 29/08/2024 — The Belconnen Community Council (BCC) calls on the ACT Government to get on with building Canberra's new stadium in Bruce.

Recent media reports have highlighted the escalating costs associated with building a stadium in Civic, with consultants advising of a price tag of up to a staggering \$2.9 billion. In contrast, proceeding with a stadium in Bruce, for a cost reported to be between \$989 million and \$1.869 billion, presents a far more viable and rational option for the ACT.

As the Government's preferred location, Bruce not only promises more than a billion dollars in cost savings, but also offers a wealth of opportunities for the district and the broader Canberra community.

This approach avoids the compromises and costs required for a Civic stadium, such as lowering Parkes Way, and ensures Canberra remains a home for national sporting teams and a destination for international sporting and entertainment events.

"Choosing Bruce is more than just about saving money — it's about ensuring that investment in Canberra's future is strategic, and not wholly focused on the Civic centre," said Mr Lachlan Butler, Chair of the BCC.

"Bruce provides access to the ACT's districts via major roads, and existing and future transport connections makes it ideal for major events, and it would promote a vibrant entertainment precinct outside the City, akin to Olympic Park in Sydney."

"The potential is enormous. Bruce is uniquely positioned to host a world-class stadium, well-connected, and with the opportunity for new businesses, jobs, and amenities that support a vibrant entertainment precinct. This project builds on the legacy of the Bruce Stadium, offering long-term benefits to the entire ACT."

The BCC strongly advocates for the ACT Government to prioritise the delivery of Canberra's new stadium in Bruce. There must be a plan in place once the technical due diligence and site analysis is completed in early 2025 - years of talk and inaction have had a cost, and it's time to deliver a modern stadium and entertainment precinct for the ACT.

Media Contact:

Lachlan Butler

Chair, Belconnen Community Council

Phone: 0438 458 220 | Email: chair@belconnen.org.au