

Response to question on notice

Questions on Notice Paper No 09

05 September 2025

Question No. 559

Leanne Castley MLA: To ask the Minister for Planning and Sustainable Development

1. Does the Government intend to implement a new facility with four cinemas, as expressed on the amended development approval of Section 96 Gungahlin, formerly the site of the Capitol Theatre.
2. If the capacity referred to in part (1) has changed, what is the reason for the change, and what community consultation was undertaken after residents were shown the initial plans.

CHRIS STEEL MLA - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The development application (DA) for the Capitol Theatre development relates to Blocks 1, 2 and 5 Section 96 Griffith. This is a private proposal not a Government project. On 21 July 2021, the DA (DA-202038142) was conditionally approved by the Territory Planning Authority for a commercial development comprising demolition of the existing building and construction of a 6-storey hotel, cinemas, commercial building, basement car parking and associated works. Plans endorsed as part of the development approval indicated five cinemas.

Two amendment applications have since been approved which included a variation to the Crown Lease to reduce the provision relating to the maximum floor areas allocated for cinema use. However, there have been no amendments to the development approval to reduce the number of theatres.

It is open for the applicant to submit an amendment throughout any stage of the development prior to completion. If a DA amendment was lodged in the future to reduce the number of theatres, the Authority has the discretion to publicly notify the amendment application.

Access Canberra is further investigating whether the Building Approval complied with requirements of the Development Approval.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.



Chris Steel MLA
Minister for Planning and Sustainable Development

Date: 1/10/25

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This response required 2hrs 25mins to complete, at an approximate cost of \$274.51.