

Green community rating tool gets its first outing

The planned ‘loop’ precinct in Canberra will be Australia’s first pilot ‘Green Star – Communities’ rated development.



Credit: Rock Development Group

The new Green Building Council of Australia’s (GBCA’s) pilot ‘Green Star – Communities’ rating aims to promote communities that are liveable, resilient, diverse, and adaptable.

Anthony Albanese, the federal minister for infrastructure and transport, launched the tool at the Built Environment Meets Parliament summit in Canberra recently.

The loop precinct is a 40,000 square metre development at the Belconnen Fresh Food Markets in Canberra, which will include spaces for housing, retail, office, recreation and the arts. The developer’s plan for the precinct includes:

1. GBCA ‘green star’-rated buildings
2. electric vehicle recharge points
3. a residential car pooling scheme
4. precinct-wide energy generation
5. water capture and waste management
6. a focus on healthy, active living.

‘We are thrilled to be working with Rock Development Group on what will be one of Australia’s greenest communities.

Rock Development Group has supported our vision for 'Green Star – Communities' from the earliest stages, and it is appropriate that we will now work together to test the tool's benchmarks,' says Robin Mellon, GBCA Executive Director of Advocacy and Business Services.

The GBCA will now work with Rock Development Group to benchmark loop against 38 credits in the 'Green Star – Communities' categories of 'liveability', 'economic prosperity', 'environment', 'design', 'governance' and 'innovation'.

Source: Green Building Council of Australia

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