

30 May 2016

To Shane Rattenbury MLA, Alistair Coe MLA, Andrew Barr MLA , Mick Gentleman MLA
CC: Crace Community Association

Re: Limiting size of Giralang shops to 1000m2 or no shops will probably result in Supabarn Crace selling to Woolworths, lessen competition

Dear all,

Why is Supabarn continuing to pursue legal action against the developers of the Giralang shops now that they have sold Kaleen Supabarn to Coles? The Crace Supabarn is far enough away from Giralang shops it cannot possibly be argued that a Woolies in Giralang would send it broke especially when Supabarn in Casey can survive right next to an Aldi.

The only logical explanation is that they believe that when Woolworths pull out of the Giralang shops deal due to the decreased size, they can sell Crace Supabarn to Woolworths as Woolworths will still want to expand in the local area. Obviously, Supabarn want to sell Crace – they were blocked from selling to Coles by the ACCC but a sale to Woolworths may get the green light with nearby Kaleen Coles.

This will lessen competition as Crace will be just another Colesworths and yet another Supabarn gone. Supabarn do not need protection against Colesworths. They need to be stopped from selling their stores for their own greed at the cost of competition and choice to consumers.

Many Crace residents will be upset if Supabarn is sold to Woolworths. Kaleen residents already upset at the sale of Kaleen Supabarn to Coles, who will now be shopping at Crace, will be even more angry. Die hard Supabarn fans (of which there are many, look at the outrage when most of their stores were sold to Coles) will be angrier still.

1000m2 Giralang shops = Woolworths in Crace

The ACT Government is playing right into Supabarn's hands by conspiring with them for a smaller supermarket in Giralang, under the guise of protecting competition and independent supermarkets, when limiting the size of Giralang's supermarket will have the exact opposite effect.

Regards,

Giralang Resident