



Meegan Fitzharris MLA

Member for Yerrabi

Minister for Health and Wellbeing

Minister for Transport and City Services

Minister for Higher Education, Training and Research

Mr Tom Duncan
Clerk
ACT Legislative Assembly
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Duncan

Thank you for your letter of 8 May 2018 attaching petition No 2-18 from Ms Caroline Le Couteur MLA regarding a dedicated bike path between Commonwealth Avenue and Kings Avenue Bridges.

The walk around Lake Burley Griffin is one of Canberra's most popular recreation areas and it's great to see so many locals and tourists enjoying this space. The Central Basin route, which is affectionately known by locals as 'Bridge to Bridge,' can be very busy at various times during the day.

It's a space for everyone to enjoy and as a shared space, there is a need for everyone to display courteous and safe behaviours. Cyclists should always slow down and sound their bell when passing pedestrians and all users should keep to the left.

The National Capital Authority (NCA) is wholly responsible for the Central Basin loop and the ACT Government works closely with the NCA to ensure that walking and cycling infrastructure meets the needs of the community and that it is safe for all users.

The ACT Government is working with the NCA to explore capital upgrades to the highest need areas to improve safety and visitor experience.

There is an ongoing campaign to encourage all users to share the path. Key messages of this campaign include observing safe speeds, staying left, being visible and behaving predictably.

As part of this educative approach, the ACT Government partnered with the NCA to install signage and pavement markings as well distributing visitor information to encourage people riding bikes and other recreational equipment, such as in-line skates and scooters, to use the paths responsibly and give way to pedestrians, while encouraging all users to keep left.

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The ACT Government also works closely with cycling and walking groups to ensure we understand people's needs and concerns and consider them in prioritising and implementing activities that support active travel.

I encourage everyone to be patient and mindful of each other when using the paths around Lake Burley Griffin. It truly is a space for everyone to enjoy and we all need to play a part to ensure this area is safe and enjoyable.

I appreciate your assistance in presenting my response to the Assembly.

Yours sincerely



Meegan Fitzharris MLA
Minister for Transport and City Services

14/8/2018