



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 Max Kiermaier
Acting Clerk
ACT Legislative Assembly
London Circuit
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Kiermaier *Max,*

Thank you for your letter of 24 October 2017 regarding petition No 22-17 lodged by Ms Elizabeth Lee MLA regarding a bus service from Deakin to Kingston and Manuka. I apologise for the delay in responding.

The provision of new routes in the public transport network needs to be considered as part of the overall network design and not in isolation. This ensures that the public transport service is efficient and connects as many people and places as possible within the available fleet and budget.

I am pleased to inform you that Transport Canberra will soon be undertaking community consultation on local bus services across Canberra to complement the Rapid Network that has been announced for implementation in mid-2018.

This will provide an opportunity for residents to let the ACT Government know how their local bus services should connect their local areas to the Rapid Network and other important destinations.

Under the current network, customers can travel between Deakin, Kingston and Manuka by making a connection at the Barton Bus Station. This connection will improve under the Rapid Network in 2018, with the service between Deakin and Barton increasing to a Rapid frequency of 15 minutes or better between 7am and 7pm. The services will also run seven days a week, making connections between these areas much easier on weekends.

I understand that there are also members of our community who cannot access the public transport system and some of these people may be eligible to use the Flexible Bus Service. The service is designed specifically for residents, such as the aged or people with a mobility difficulty. It is a free service which picks up residents from their home and takes them to local community services, such as local shopping centres and hospitals.

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Passengers can contact the Community Transport Coordination Centre on 6205 3555. Bookings are generally to be made two days prior to travel, but can be made as little as 24 hours prior to the journey. Further information on the Flexible Bus Service is available on the Transport Canberra and City Services website.

Thank you for raising this matter. I trust the information provided is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Meegan Fitzharris MLA
Minister for Transport and City Services

14/12/17