



**Chris Steel MLA** Minister for Transport and City Services Minister for Skills Special Minister of State

Member for Murrumbidgee

Mr Tom Duncan Clerk ACT Legislative Assembly London Circuit CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Duncan

Thank you for your letter regarding petition 7-23, lodged by Mr Michael Pettersson MLA, regarding traffic management for the Grove Retirement Village.

Monty Place, the access road to the Grove Retirement Village, has been designed and constructed to have left-in and left-out only access. Monty Place is located close to two adjacent roundabouts on Gungahlin Drive and as such, providing full movement of traffic to Monty Place would significantly adversely affect traffic on Gungahlin Drive.

Access to developments is not generally permitted from arterial roads. During the development assessment process for the Grove Retirement Village, it was agreed that access could be provided from Gungahlin Drive on the basis that the access would only provide movements left in and left out. This mitigates conflicting movements, which makes the access safer. By removing right turns, it reduces the impact of the access on the arterial road traffic. Given the proximity of the roundabouts either side of Monty Place on Gungahlin Drive, the impact on residents of the Grove Retirement Village is minimal.

Safety issues that arise at Gungahlin Drive / Monty Place are usually a result of drivers attempting to make illegal maneuvers rather than travelling the short additional distance to the adjacent roundabouts. Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) has installed low-cost measures to dissuade drivers from making illegal maneuvers and to help guide visitors to use the roundabouts to access the Grove Retirement Village.

TCCS will arrange for a safety assessment of the Monty Place / Gungahlin Drive access to be undertaken by an independent consultant to assess if further measures may be appropriate. This

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9 chrissteelmla

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assessment will include a review of the crash history for this section of Gungahlin Drive and the adjoining roundabouts.

Transport Canberra provides multiple bus services from Casey Shops that connect to Gungahlin and beyond. These services run approximately every 30 minutes during the day and every hour after hours and on weekends.

Regarding the proposed development at Gold Creek Homestead, any comments should be directed to the Development Assessment team within the Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate as part of the usual consultation process.

However, I can confirm that the ACT Government has delivered a 2020 election commitment to develop a Gungahlin Reference Traffic Model comprising the base year model calibrated to 2022 conditions, and future base year models for 2026 and 2031 periods. These models provide outputs for weekday morning and evening peak hour periods.

The model will assist with assessment of land use policy and inform evidence-based infrastructure planning and prioritisation of road network upgrades within the Gungahlin region – with accurate outputs such as forecast traffic volumes, travel times, queue lengths, and congestion delays.

The ACT Government is developing a Multimodal Network Plan (MNP) which will confirm the modal priorities and vision for key corridors and transport areas, including Gungahlin Town Centre and its surrounding corridors. It will provide performance indicators and a prioritised program of initiatives.

The MNP and other future transport planning activities, will consider duplication of single lane sections of Gungahlin Drive, Horse Park Drive and Clarrie Hermes Drive. However, it will also be necessary to consider other measures which promote public transport and active travel in order to reduce network demand and to meet Government and community climate change objectives.

The ACT Government takes a considered approach to investing in transport infrastructure, including our road network, to ensure investment is consistent with the strategic priorities outlined in the ACT Planning Strategy, the ACT Climate Change Strategy and the ACT Transport Strategy.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Chris Steel MLA Minister for Transport and City Services 13 July 2023