

Mr Tom Duncan
Clerk
ACT Legislative Assembly

Dear Mr Duncan

Thank you for your letter of 14 May 2025 concerning petitions E-PET 009-25 and PET 024-25, lodged by Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA, regarding the repair of the Wanniasa Hills Fire Trail. I am responding on behalf of Minister Cheyne, as the Acting Minister for City and Government Services.

The sealed management trails within Wanniasa Nature Reserve and associated stormwater infrastructure were constructed around 1989, to the standards of the era. The construction of the sealed management trail and associated stormwater infrastructure within nature reserve estate was built upslope of the suburb of Fadden and along with providing access, serves to protect residential areas from surface water run-off. As such, the stormwater drainage system is integrated with the management trail on the edge of the Wanniasa Hills Nature Reserve adjacent to the Fadden Hills estate.

On 18 June 2025, an ACT Government civil engineer completed a site visit to the Wanniasa Hills Nature Reserve to inspect the concerns raised in the petitions. This site visit assessed the risks, options and costs to address the issue against other pressing maintenance challenges across Canberra.

As a result of the inspection, targeted maintenance will be conducted for the foreseeable future, including stormwater network asset maintenance. Further technical consideration is required on how best to address the long-term pressures on the management trail, and the relative priority of these against those elsewhere across Canberra.

Thank you for bringing the petitions to my attention. I trust this information provided is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Steel', is positioned above the printed name.

Chris Steel MLA

A/g Minister for City and Government Services

7 August 2025