



Tara Cheyne MLA

Manager of Government Business
Attorney-General
Minister for Human Rights
Minister for City and Government Services
Minister for the Night-Time Economy

Member for Ginninderra

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

28 November 2024

Dear Mr Duncan *Tom*

Thank you for your letter concerning petition E-PET-024-24, lodged by Ms Elizabeth Lee MLA, regarding a safe Sturt Avenue crossing for Old Narrabundah.

The ACT Government takes road safety and residents' amenity seriously and encourages all road users to share responsibility for road safety. To identify the need for pedestrian crossings, Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) considers a range of factors such as traffic volume, pedestrian volumes, vehicle speeds and the surrounding land use.

For a priority crossing (including a raised zebra crossing) to be established, there needs to be a reasonable level of demand for the facility. Transport research has demonstrated that pedestrian facilities used infrequently may become ignored by drivers, thus giving a false sense of safety to pedestrians and potentially lead to poorer safety outcomes. In addition, given that Sturt Avenue is a four-lane arterial road (two lanes in each direction) with a posted speed limit of 70 km/h, a zebra crossing would not be suitable for this location.

TCCS has investigated Sturt Avenue near McMillan Crescent on two separate occasions during peak times in September 2024 to observe and count the number of pedestrians/cyclists and vehicles in the area. On both occasions, the numbers of pedestrians observed crossing the road were low at 30 pedestrians within the hour.

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In relation to signalling the intersection of McMillan Crescent and Sturt Avenue to provide a pedestrian crossing, Roads ACT uses a ranking system to assess the need and relative priority of intersection safety improvements. The intersection of Sturt Avenue and McMillan Crescent is currently ranked as a relatively low priority based on historical crash data.

Given this, there are no immediate plans to install a pedestrian crossing on Sturt Avenue in Narrabundah or signalise the intersection of Sturt Avenue/McMillan Crescent.

Planning and design work is underway to improve Hume Circle, the intersection of Canberra Avenue, Wentworth Avenue and Sturt Avenue. As part of this work, the ACT Government will upgrade the surrounding footpaths and complete missing links in the path network. The Government will engage with the local community as this work progresses.

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

Sincerely



Tara Cheyne MLA
Minister for City and Government Services