



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 41-22, lodged by Mr Andrew Braddock MLA, about road safety on Nullarbor Avenue in Harrison.

The determination of speed limits in the ACT is based on the classification of roads through a formal road hierarchy. This classification fundamentally relates to the predominant function of a road and to the extent it serves the two basic purposes of the road network – the movement of traffic and access to property.

Nullarbor Avenue has been designed and constructed as a major collector road with a desirable environmental capacity of 6,000 vehicles per day. Its predominant function is to provide a principal link between the arterial road network (Flemington Road and Well Station Drive) and the lower order residential streets within the suburb, as well as provide access to properties. The 60km/h speed limit is therefore an appropriate reflection of the functional requirements of this road. A 40km/h school zone and pedestrian crossing have been provided in the vicinity of the school and the playing fields to further provide a safe environment for pedestrians as well as other road users.

Notwithstanding the above, Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) has investigated the concerns raised regarding travelling volumes and speeds on Nullarbor Avenue. The most recent traffic surveys indicate the road carries approximately 2,742 vehicles per day travelling at an average speed of around 53 km/h in the vicinity of the residences near Well Station Drive, and 3,891 vehicles per day travelling at an average speed of around 46 km/h in the vicinity of the Harrison playing fields. These speeds are well within acceptable limits for the road environment.

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The situation in Harrison raises broader issues about the designation of roads and safety standards across the road hierarchy in the ACT. The issue of road safety and safe speeds on certain collector roads that include adjacent facilities such as schools will be considered as part of the development of the next Road Safety Action Plan.

I am aware that some motorists speed on many ACT roads. Speeding is an enforcement issue best addressed by ACT Policing. I encourage constituents to report such behaviour to ACT Policing on 131 444 or to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000, providing as much detail as possible. This information can assist ACT Policing in following up the matter.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Chris Steel MLA
Minister for Transport and City Services
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