



Tara Cheyne MLA


Minister for the Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy
Minister for City Services
Minister for Government Services and Regulatory Reform
Minister for Human Rights

Member for Ginninderra

Our ref:24/317

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

28 June 2024

Dear Mr Duncan 

Thank you for your letter regarding petitions 007-24 and 013-24, lodged by Nicole Lawder MLA regarding 'Calwell Shopping Centre Needs Urgent Attention'.

The ACT Government maintains and upgrades public open space infrastructure to ensure current standards of safety, access and security are met. In addition to routine maintenance, the ACT Government, through Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS), has an ongoing commitment to improving local centres to increase their vitality, safety, accessibility and usability.

Design work commenced on the Calwell Group Centre improvements in early 2023 with a draft preliminary design being released for public consultation from June to August 2023. The detailed design is presently being finalised and a construction tender is planned to be released to market in June 2024. The specific construction start date and timeframes will be confirmed upon engagement of the successful contractor. However, based on a successful procurement process, works are expected to commence on site in August 2024.

ACT Legislative Assembly London Circuit, GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601



+61 2 6205 1470



steel@act.gov.au



@ChrisSteelMLA



chrissteellabor



chrissteelmla

Key features of the design are:

- New seating and tables providing spaces to sit and gather;
- Revamped play and accessible play elements which include an accessible nest swing, bounce zone, steppers and climbing set;
- New accessible parking bays;
- Safer pedestrian entrance through re-engineered levels;
- A service gate to restrict parkland access;
- Additional trees and better landscaping; and
- Improved access for pedestrians including paths, safe crossings and stairways.

Construction timeframes will be finalised through the tender process and timing of the works will be communicated to the community at this time.

I am advised that two tree stumps at the Calwell Shopping Centre were removed on 7 March 2024. It is anticipated the stumps will be replaced with new plantings and alternative tree-friendly surrounds are currently being investigated. Similarly, work has commenced on addressing the damage caused by lifting pavers and this is expected to be completed in June 2024.

The Principal Petitioner or an appropriate community representative will be invited to a site meeting in June 2024 with a senior Urban Treescapes Manager for the purpose of clearly documenting a list of additional agreed works to be completed. This will provide an opportunity to review specific sites where the community has concerns in relation to foliage, leaves and debris causing drainage issues, and where trees may be blocking lighting of footpaths or obstructing surveillance cameras. The Urban Treescapes Manager will be able to provide site specific advice on the scope of works that is possible, the timing and any need for additional ongoing monitoring or scheduled pruning maintenance.

Works to repair the potholes at the loading dock were completed on 1 May 2024. These repairs were undertaken using cold mix, which provides a safe and immediate solution to trip hazards. Long term repair works using heavy patching will be added to the road maintenance schedule for future works.

An inspection of the stormwater drains at the Calwell Shopping centre will be undertaken during June 2024 and a clean programmed as necessary. As well as an assessment of the street lighting along the footpath from the aged care village will be undertaken June 2024.

Yours sincerely



Tara Cheyne MLA
Minister for City Services