

Your local voice



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Minutes of General Meeting Wednesday, 26 November 2014

Opening of Meeting

The meeting was opened at 7.36pm. The Chair welcomed members and guests

Apologies: Kimberley Granger, Chronicle

Guests: John Hindmarsh, Glen Lacy, Mike Day – EDD, Tony Gill – ACT Roads

Approximately 50 people attended the meeting.

PRESENTATION

RoadsACT – Tony Gill

BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting of 30 October 2014

Motion: That the Minutes of the previous meeting be approved as circulated.

Moved: Pat McGinn

Seconded: Rosemary Drabsch

Motion carried.

Business arising from the minutes of the meeting of 30 October 2014

- Nil

Treasurer's Report

- Nil

Other Business

ACT Roads –

Cotter Road – Stage 2

- Yarralumla Creek to Tuggeranong Parkway This is currently with the National Capital Authority for approval. It is expected to cost \$18m.
- The technical trigger to duplicate roads in the ACT is 18,000 cars per day. This stretch of road does not have that many cars as yet.
- There is competition for funding from Gundaroo Drive, William Slim Drive (\$60m between them) and Ashley Drive (\$25m).
- There are some issues with the Torey Pines. Seeds are being taken from them to grow at the Arboretum.

Q. Are you having sound buffers?

A. Yes, mounds and walls

Car Parking

- 80 extra spaces to be provided
- This has gone to tender but there hasn't been much interest
- Currently assessing the two tenders received
- \$500,000 has been provided in budget but it will cost \$650,000.

Q. When will the extra car parks be ready?

A. The contract will probably be let in January with construction starting in February and being finalised in June.

Cotter Road/ Streeton Drive, Streeton Drive/Dixon Drive

- There are concerns about safety when turning right from Cotter Road into Streeton Drive
 - The left turn lane could be controlled
 - This will help with only marginal impact on traffic.
- The three lanes turning into Streeton, with two lanes becoming one makes it very difficult to turn right into Dixon Drive
 - The solution, again, would be to put a red light on the left lane to allow Molonglo traffic to turn right without merging with left lane. This would give traffic turning into Dixon Drive a clearer run.
 - Tony Gill asked if residents were happy to have a trial of this. The meeting indicated that it was.

Bus Stop

- The bus stop on Streeton Drive immediately after the Cotter Road intersection has been moved as ACTION didn't think it was properly placed.
- There is still a concern with the bus stop when turning left from Dixon Drive onto Streeton Drive and the Bus Stop adjacent to the same intersection when travelling south.
- Tony Gill was going to check on both of these.

Ramp Metering

- Shane Rattenbury has asked ACT Roads to review the project to possibly put the ramp metering somewhere else or to use the money elsewhere.
- The only other location considered was Hindmarsh Drive onto the Tuggeranong Parkway but it will not be put there.
 - Q. What about John Gorton Drive going north?
 - A. Coppins Crossing to William Hovell Drive is three to four years away.
 - Q. Are there plans to increase the number of lanes on the Tuggeranong Parkway?
 - A. No current plans – ramp metering would help the capacity.
- A video on ramp metering was shown.
 - Q. What distance do we need on the ramp to get up to speed?
 - A. There is enough room.
 - Q. What happens to the queue on Cotter Road?
 - A. The traffic will queue into two lanes and then merge into one to go onto the highway.
 - Q. Why not get people to move in the right hand lane on the Tuggeranong Parkway.
 - A. The right lane is always busy.
- Ramp metering only kicks in when the traffic reaches a certain level.
 - Q. How often?
 - A. About once or twice a week.

General comments/questions

- There is no sign at the intersection of Cotter Road and Streeton Drive saying Weston Creek. It only says Weston. If you are going to Holder etc. and you don't know the road it is an issue.
- There are always at least 5 cars (not in peak periods) wanting to turn right into Dixon Drive. There is a need to have the lane lengthened
- There are no signs when cars are turning right from Molonglo advising that there is a merge around the corner.

We will take these on board.

Q. There is a sign on Cotter Road saying it is 500m to Hindmarsh Drive but no sign saying it is now.

A. We will take it on board

Q. There is no sign on John Gorton Drive saying turn here to Cotter Road.

A. It is going up in the next couple of weeks.

Q. Are we still using the Australian Standards for disabled parking (yellow hatching and poles).

A. We have no choice.

Q. What are the parameters for planning roads?

A. 10-20 years into the future and Canberra/Queanbeyan population numbers.

Mr Fluffy

30 to 40 Mr Fluffy homeowners, mainly from Weston Creek were present at this meeting.

- Many are struggling with understanding the information that has been received from the Task Force set up by the Government and remain confused;
- It is clear that people are struggling and seem to have been left on their own.
- Many feel rushed by time frames set for decisions;
- Elderly people, who attended, can't understand why they can't live their life out in their present home. If there is a 5 year time limit to vacate houses why can't this be extended for individual situations such as these;
- Some want to stay where they live and be able to buy the block back at the price they were valued at on 28 October 2014 after it has been demolished and cleared.
- Some people, at the moment, are wanting to stay where they are and not leave their homes unless they can maintain their block;
- There are concerns for some Mr Fluffy owners who were not present and are believed to be traumatized by the whole situation and that there is a need by the community to reach out to them to assist but the community is unable to as they can't be identified.
- There is concern in the Community with the statement of , 'where possible, blocks once remediated will be subdivided and sold on the market' What thought has been given to the change in character of neighbourhoods where these are RZ1 zoned blocks?
- Will legislation be introduced to allow the sub-division of these blocks in RZ1 locations?

The meeting closed at 10.10 pm

Next Meeting Wednesday 25 February 2015
Weston Club, 1 Liardet St, Weston