



**ACT**  
Government

Transport Canberra  
and City Services

Mr Tom Anderson

Chair- Weston Creek Community Council

info@westoncreek.org.au

Dear Tom

### **Feedback from Weston Creek Community Council Meeting – 27 November 2019**

Thank you for the opportunity to attend the Weston Creek Community Council Meeting held 27 November 2019 at the Raiders Weston Club.

Both myself and my colleague Heidi Stephenson enjoyed hearing from community members about their experiences using the public transport network.

Below is a brief summary of what we heard on the evening along with answers to questions taken on the night.

- We heard the community's concerns with timing of route 70 and 71 being too close together. This is an issue Transport Canberra has heard about from the community of and will continue to investigate how we improve timing of these services.
- One resident spoke about weekend service bus connections and shared her friends experience of missing a connecting bus by a few minutes and therefore had to wait another two hours for the next bus. As we discussed on the evening, the bus drivers are not always aware of other bus movements (in this instance, the connecting bus was likely not aware the previous bus was running slightly behind on their run). While every effort is made to ensure connections are smooth unfortunately this does happen from time to time. The broader issue of weekend frequency was discussed. Further information relating to the Action Plan for weekend services can be find online:  
[https://www.transport.act.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0015/1416210/Action-Plan-Weekend-bus-service-reliability.pdf](https://www.transport.act.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0015/1416210/Action-Plan-Weekend-bus-service-reliability.pdf)
- There was discussion around electric buses and questions relating to recent purchases of diesel buses and how this aligns with the governments zero-emissions by 2040 target. As we discussed at length on the night, there is an immediate need for new vehicles to replace existing fleet that are not accessible and have no aircon or heating. The purchase of diesel buses will address the immediate need while the infrastructure and assets for an electric fleet are being investigated further. The purchase of these diesel buses will not interfere with the zero-emission target as the buses will be past their useful life date and will then be replaced by an electric bus.

- There were concerns raised by residents about the impact of Light Rail Stage 2. Some residents felt the approach to Light Rail Stage 1 would not work for their community. There were concerns about stops being placed too far apart and buses being removed, therefore impacting on members of the community who are less mobile. As I mentioned on the evening, Transport Canberra will work closely with Major Projects Canberra on the placement of Light Rail Infrastructure and ensure buses complement the system to minimise impact on the community.
- A resident asked if the Terminus on Hindmarsh Drive could be used as a bus stop. As I mentioned on the evening, at this stage it is not a suitable site for the public to use as a bus stop due to how buses move through the terminus. I have asked my colleagues to review the site and see if it can be made safely available to the public as part of future changes.
- One resident asked if a direct service from Weston Creek to Belconnen would be considered to assist students getting to CIT. As I noted on the evening, at this stage there are no plans for this service as there is higher demand on other routes that Transport Canberra need to address first. As the fleet grows Transport Canberra will test demand for services and introduce further services where demand is highest.
- Residents asked if there was a real-time app to track buses. As I mentioned, there is no official Transport Canberra app at this stage. Transport Canberra work closely with developers and a list of apps is available on the Transport Canberra web site: <https://www.transport.act.gov.au/contact-us/apps>
- Overall residents are happy with the bus network within their community, particularly the rapid route services from Weston and Molonglo into the City. It was noted that more parking to support the increase demand on park and ride facilities is required. This is something Transport Canberra has been hearing from the community and will continue to investigate options to improve park and ride facilities.

I would appreciate if you would provide this information onto members. If there is anything that was discussed on the evening that they feel is not captured above or needs to be followed up further, they can email Heidi Stephenson ([heidi.stephenson@act.gov.au](mailto:heidi.stephenson@act.gov.au)).

Again, I want to thank you and your members for the opportunity to discuss the public transport network and look forward to continuing to update your community into the future.

Kind Regards



Peter Steele

Senior Director, Transport Canberra

4 December 2019