



Minister for City Services  
Minister for Multicultural Affairs  
Minister for Recycling and Waste Reduction  
Minister for Roads and Active Travel  
Minister for Transport  
Member for Murrumbidgee

Mr Tom Anderson  
Chair  
Weston Creek Community Council  
PO Box 3710  
Weston Creek ACT 2611  
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Dear Mr Anderson

Thank you for your letter of 2 May 2020 to the Chief Minister, Mr Andrew Barr MLA regarding the Molonglo River Bridge crossing on John Gorton Drive. I am responding to you as this matter falls within my portfolio responsibilities.

The ACT Government is pleased with the support our current stimulus packages are providing to local businesses and workers, while also providing important infrastructure to the community. SPIRE and Light Rail Stage 2A are also priority projects for the Government as you have mentioned.

The Molonglo River Bridge crossing is a very exciting transport project for the Territory. The benefits you have outlined are acknowledged and accepted by the Government. There are also other wider economic and social benefits. The bridge will be able to accommodate light rail in the future, support the current public transport network and provide for active travel with designated on-road cycle paths and a shared path each side of the bridge. There has been considerable architectural input into the bridge design to provide an aesthetically pleasing structure which will also provide recreational connections to the Molonglo River Reserve in the future. Finally, the project will support the delivery of the Molonglo Town Centre, an important mixed used commercial centre to service the Molonglo Valley and wider community. For these reasons the Government has already committed nearly \$3 million in design and investigation studies. I am pleased to advise that we are now in the last stage of early design and development approvals.

The Government is currently considering a business case to deliver the final stage of the project. This will be a significant design and construction undertaking to finalise the detail design and construct the bridge crossing, as well as connect arterial road approaches.

Given the early stages this project is in and the significant amount of design work that is still required before it can progress further, the Government is not looking to fast track the project at this time.

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### ACT Legislative Assembly

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@ChrisSteelMLA



chrissteellabor



chrissteelmla



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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Steel', written in a cursive style.

Chris Steel MLA  
Minister for Roads and Active Travel

5 June 2020