

Your local voice



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Mr Chris Steel MLA
Minister for Roads and Active Travel
ACT Government

14 August 2020

steel@act.gov.au

Dear Chris,

Acceleration of Infrastructure Projects: Molonglo River Bridge Crossing

Thank you for your response of 5 June in relation to fast tracking the building of the high-level bridge over the Molonglo River near the proposed Commercial Centre for Molonglo. It is disappointing to not only the Molonglo community but the wider Canberra community to hear that there is no plan to bring this project forward.

Coppin's Crossing has been closed now for some 6 days and is likely to be closed for several more days. We see this morning that southbound traffic on Gungahlin Drive and at the Glenloch Interchange has been stopped for over an hour due to a single accident. Traffic is backed up all the way to the Barton Highway and has resulted in severe backing up along William Hovell Drive, Belconnen Way and Parkes Way.

This is the exact type of scenario that Council has warned about for several years now, and we can expect similar events of this scale to occur in the years ahead. Surely now the cost of these incidents and closures to the community and Government should bring about a re-assessment of the proposed timeframe for the new flood-proof Molonglo River Bridge. As I said in Council's last letter on this matter:

We see this project as an essential link to ensure all-weather access between Molonglo suburbs, as well as alternative access routes in times of high congestion or emergency. If the Tuggeranong Parkway is blocked there is no alternative crossing west of Commonwealth Avenue Bridge apart from Coppin's Crossing, and if this is flooded or compromised there is none.

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Chris Steel letter re Bridge over the Molonglo Aug 20

We would welcome the fast tracking of the building of this bridge to provide these many benefits to the ACT Community.

As always, I am more than happy to discuss this further with you.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Anderson".

Tom Anderson
Chair
Weston Creek Community Council

Cc Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister