

Mr Simon Corbell MLA
Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development
Legislative Assembly for the ACT
GPO Box 1020
Canberra, ACT 2601

Dear Mr Corbell

Pressures of Commuter Parking, Inner South Canberra

We are writing to you on behalf of, respectively, the Inner South Canberra Community Council and the Kingston-Barton Residents Group.

Thank you for informing us of upgrades to bus services in Parkes and Barton, in response to the concerns of residents, set out in our letters of 30 August and 6 October, arising from the NCA's introduction of paid parking in mid-2014. We hope those upgrades will attract many more of the area's workers to public transport, and assist in a modest way to lightening commuter parking pressures in the inner south.

Your response to the question of parking enforcement, the most effective measure for dealing with this problem, was less reassuring. You told us that the Office of Regulatory Services Parking Operations (ORS) **"is engaging with the NCA and other ACT Government Directorates to ensure parking encroachment issues are thoroughly considered in the development of communication strategies and compliance response to deter illegal parking"**.

We know that ORS currently does not have the resources to patrol streets that have time-limited parking, certainly not with sufficient frequency to deter illegal parkers. So we fear ORS engagement with the NCA will achieve nothing unless many more parking inspectors are made available. Appointing community representation on the relevant ORS-NCA working party would, we believe, assist the working party identify the requirements for an effective enforcement plan.

Commuter parking encroachment is of particular concern in streets fronted by residential apartments that have no driveway to accommodate trades and services callers. These callers are many and varied: electricians, computer technicians, plumbers, removalists, cleaners and so on, not forgetting special nursing and meals-on-wheels services for our older citizens who live in apartments. There are many such streets in the inner south, where there seems to be only two ways of ensuring kerb space is available:

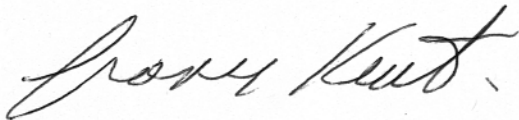
- high frequency patrolling and enforcement of parking regulations, or
- introducing a regulation to enable sections of kerb space to be reserved for trades, services and visitors.

It is now just over six months before the weekly price of parking in the NCA's area of responsibility jumps from zero to \$55. This will have a much more dramatic impact than the equivalent parking costs are having around Civic, where the price has grown steadily over more than a decade. People in the inner south are entitled to be fully consulted on plans for managing the changeover, and to that end we ask that a well-advertised ACT/NCA public meeting be held early in 2014, after the holiday period.

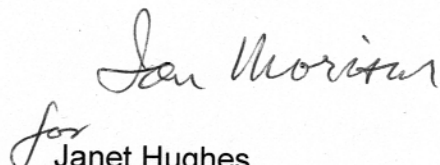
We have also written to Mr Rattenbury in similar terms.

We look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely



Gary Kent
President
Inner South Canberra
Community Council



for Janet Hughes
A/President
Kingston-Barton Residents Group

cc Mr Andrew Smith
Acting Chief Executive
National Capital Authority

Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA
Minister for Territory and Municipal Services
Legislative Assembly for the ACT
GPO Box 1020
Canberra, ACT 2601

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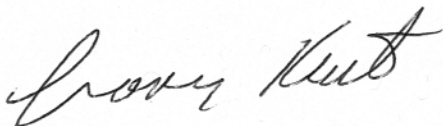
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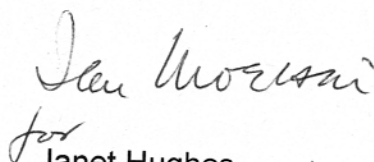
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