

Bruce Paine – Independent Candidate for Kurrajong

Response to ISCCC Priority policies and actions for the incoming ACT government

Dear Chair,

Thank you for inviting me to provide a response.

If elected, my vote in the Assembly will be guided by the following key principles: inclusiveness, sustainability and achieving value for money, and I will insist on meaningful consultation (except in a genuine emergency), transparency and accountability.

I will not enter into a 'Parliamentary agreement' with any other Members, and will judge all matters on their merits with the objective of doing what is in the best interest of the overall community.

As an Independent candidate, unfortunately, during the campaign I do not have the resources to respond in detail to the ISCCC's sub-priorities. However, I have provided a broad outline of my current views on your 6 broad areas. Of course, if elected, I would undertake broader consultation and analysis.

A. Streetscapes, Urban Forest and Open Spaces

I am a strong proponent of protecting and maintaining to a higher standard than recently the existing open spaces in and between existing suburbs.

I recognise that, if Canberra's population increases, this entails increased pressure to allow the height of buildings to increase, reduce the size of residences and/or enlarge Canberra's footprint.

B. Planning priorities

If elected, I will argue strongly for the development of appropriate master plans, incorporating high quality planning and construction standards.

I oppose poor quality and inappropriate development, not development per se. We need to retain what is working well, improve things that are not, and plan for the future.

It is critical to introduce a system that considers the cumulative impact of past, proposed and future developments; and includes meaningful consultation at all key stages.

C. Manuka to the Lake

An appropriate Master Plan must cover this iconic area.

D. Heritage

I think every community should retain key heritage features. I think though that we need to be realistic - not everything old was good (even 'in its day'). However, it should be possible to retain, in some form, a record of heritage features.

E. Transport

It is time for a comprehensive open review of the demand for and options to provide private and public transport. This is particularly important as a result of

COVID that may have changed the pattern and demand for movement in Canberra including movements during peak hours.

With respect to light rail, and indeed any major proposed development or expenditure, if elected I will push for a comprehensive comparison of the cost vs benefits (private and public) of the project; and then if it proceeds, for construction and operation to occur at minimum cost to the community (subject to meeting appropriate technical standards).

F. Waste Management

I strongly support the ISCCC's push with respect to the proposals in Fyshwick.

Proper Master planning would have avoided the current situation.

Regards,

Bruce Paine