

Ms Marea Fatseas
Chair
Inner South Canberra Community Council
Email: Chair@isccc.org.au

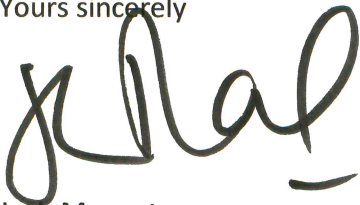
Dear Ms Fatseas

Thank you for your correspondence on behalf of the Inner South Canberra Community Council. I am responding on behalf of all endorsed Liberal candidates for the 2020 election.


Please find attached a response to the survey from the Inner South Canberra Community Council.

Thank you for taking the time to seek our views.

Yours sincerely



Josh Manuatu
Campaign Director

 September 2020

RESPONSE TO INNER SOUTH CANBERRA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Canberra Liberals are committed to making Canberra the best place to live, work and raise a family.

Canberrans, especially in the Inner South, are paying world class taxes but are not getting world class services.

We are committed to reducing cost of living pressures so everyone can get ahead by:

- Freezing rates for four years;
- Lowering car registration costs by \$100 per year;
- Delivering Active and Creative Kids vouchers for school students; and
- Providing rent relief.

The Canberra Liberals have a strong plan to reduce the cost of living for Canberrans, improve education standards, provide better access to health services, fix Labor's transport bungles, and protect the local environment. We will focus on delivering the basic, essential and frontline services that Canberrans want and need.

Streetscapes and open spaces

Labor and the Greens have neglected the precious greenery in the inner north and inner south suburbs. Our once beautiful, well-maintained parks and majestic mature trees have become weed-infested spaces, with dead and dying trees commonplace across Kurrajong.

As a key pillar of our plan to protect the local environment to ensure we have a sustainable future for all, a Canberra Liberals Government will plant and care for one million trees over the next decade. The Canberra Liberals will partner with families, community groups, schools, local businesses and community-minded Canberrans to ensure Canberra lives up to its name as the Bush Capital.

Our long-term vision to plant one million trees and preserve precious green space in new suburbs will ensure all Canberra families and community groups can enjoy the benefits of the fresh outdoors. The most obvious benefits of trees are their natural beauty, their shade, protection from the elements and, of course, their benefit to the ecosystem.

One million trees will strengthen and protect Canberra's air quality for generations to come.

Our Green Space Guarantee will mean all families have a green space close to home and existing spaces are protected. The Canberra Liberals will guarantee that open grassed areas are in place and maintained in each town centre and higher density areas.

Good urban design should include the provision of green spaces. Now that Canberra has thousands of apartments, the inclusion of properly maintained green space is essential.

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Parks should not just be structured concrete areas, but also simple grassed areas for people to kick a ball or relax on a picnic rug. There is ample evidence regarding the mental health and environmental benefits of green space.

Planning Priorities

The Canberra Liberals are committed to improving Canberra's planning system. We do not support the Labor-Greens approach to planning which is characterised by complex processes, dodgy deals and a lack of a genuine two-way community consultation and conversation. The secret land swap deal to develop diplomatic estates and high-rise apartments on the Curtin Horse Paddocks is an obvious example of this.

A Canberra Liberals Government will review the Territory Plan to simplify its structure, clarify terminology and determine areas that could be removed or reformed. We will fight to save the highly valued Curtin Horse Paddocks from development. A Canberra Liberals Government will also stop the Labor & Greens plans to develop hundreds of apartments on the West Basin. We will give interested Canberrans ample opportunity to have their say on how the lakefront is used.

We will prioritise greater transparency in city planning, including genuine community consultation and adhere to the objects of the *Heritage Act 2004* and *Planning and Development Act 2007*. We believe in maintaining the character of our suburbs.

Heritage

The Canberra Liberals are passionate about preserving cultural and heritage sites. We understand the historical value these sites continue to bring to our Canberra community. The ACT Government's inaction in the heritage portfolio is deeply disappointing. It is simply embarrassing that applications to the heritage register can remain unresolved and action-less for over twenty years in some cases.

A Canberra Liberals Government will end the heritage backlog. It is time Canberra's heritage was prioritised and preserved, not stuck in years of bureaucracy. We will provide additional resources to enable the Heritage Council to assess nominations in a timelier way.

Transport

A Canberra Liberal Government will make travel by bus more reliable, efficient and family-friendly, saving commuters more time to spend on the things that matter. The current Labor-Greens Government has failed to deliver a reliable and accessible bus network, which saw Inner South residents lose access to suburban services and face ongoing reliability issues with weekend buses.

A Canberra Liberal Government will fix Labor's transport bungles. We will:

- Bring back dedicated school bus services;
- Introduce 7 new commuter express routes from outer suburbs to employment hubs;
- Introduce new Cross-City Direct services, halving travel time between town centres; and
- Deliver new dedicated commuter carparks to improve access to Park and Ride.

Under Labor and the Greens, our footpaths, street verges and other basic and local infrastructure has been neglected. The Canberra Liberals have committed \$40 million to improving our local roads, to improve road safety and reduce traffic congestion across the city.

With regards to other suburban road traffic calming measures, the Canberra Liberals are committed to proactively identifying roads which are unsafe and ensuring that all Canberrans are able to travel safely on our roads.

Waste Management

The Canberra Liberals recognise that producing less waste should be a priority, and that efficiency of waste processing can be improved.

During the past three years, there have been a number of proposals for waste processing facilities within Fyshwick and there are currently two active applications – one with an approved EIS and another proposal that is yet to lodge a formal development application. Both are located on land that was previously heavy industrial.

Fyshwick in recent years has become increasingly gentrified with large format retail such as Harvey Norman and Bing Lee; as well as specialty shops, childcare centres, boutique cafes and bakeries, and entertainment. Dairy Flat Road is also slated as a new upmarket hospitality and residential area.

The two current proposals, while sound in their objectives, are not appropriate to be located in Fyshwick. The type of activity with the additional heavy traffic and heavy industry are not in keeping with likely future directions and development of Fyshwick.

The ACT needs investment in leading technology such as the two proposals planned for Fyshwick; however, they are not appropriate developments for Fyshwick.

The ACT Waste Management Strategy has already identified Hume as an appropriate waste management hub. We would instead upgrade Hume as an industrial employment hub with appropriate infrastructure, support facilities and traffic management plans to develop world class waste processing facilities.

We would work with NSW rail and other interested parties to get maximum benefit of the rail line that passes through the area.

The development of a Master Plan for Fyshwick, in consultation with the current businesses and surrounding suburbs, would be a priority for an incoming Canberra Liberals Government. Until the Master Plan is finalised, it is not appropriate for heavy industrial, recycling or other waste management activities of any large scale to be developed in the area.

The Canberra Liberals will be making further policy announcements in the coming weeks. If you would like to stay up to date, you can follow the Canberra Liberals Facebook page: facebook.com/CanberraLiberals

Our announced policies are available at: votoliberal.org.au

A Canberra Liberals Government will work with Inner South Community Council to ensure that residents can get ahead.

20 September 2020