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Subject: Submission to the Standing Committee on Planning and Urban Renewal: Inquiry into Billboards

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A.C.T. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE OFFICE	
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Good afternoon,

Submission to the Standing Committee on Planning and Urban Renewal's Inquiry into Billboards

One of the defying characteristics of Canberra as the nation's capital city is the visual cleanliness of the Parliamentary Triangle, the city, the town centres, and the suburban and rural landscapes. And one of the major reasons Canberra is so visually pleasing is the lack of billboards.

Billboards, especially advertising billboards existing only for private profit, are a visual assault on the populace.
Billboards are the visual equivalent of cold calling, and as unwelcome.
Billboards are visual pollution and add nothing positive to people's lives, in fact if they cause drivers to be distracted, billboards can be dangerous.
Billboards can not 'enliven urban areas', they can only dull them with ugliness.
The only way to limit the aesthetic impact of billboards is not to have them.

How could anyone justify interrupting Canberrans' enjoyment of their beautiful city, or visitors' enjoyment of their national capital by allowing billboards to proliferate?

Canberra is not like other cities, nor does it have to be.

I strongly urge the Committee to recommend against relaxing rules which control the nasty visual pollution of billboards.

Thank you,
Laura Rayner

Sent from my iPad

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