

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, TRANSPORT, AND CITY SERVICES Ms Jo Clay MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair), Mr Mark Parton MLA

## Submission Cover Sheet

## Inquiry into Urban Forest Bill 2022

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Government Submission - Standing Committee's Inquiry on Urban Forest Bill 2022

2022





**Chris Steel MLA** Minister for Transport and City Services Minister for Skills Special Minister of State

Member for Murrumbidgee

Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services ACT Legislative Assembly GPO Box 1020 CANBERRA ACT 2601

By email only: LAcommitteePTCS@parliament.act.gov.au

Dear Chair

## **INQUIRY INTO THE URBAN FOREST BILL 2022**

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services (the Committee) Inquiry into the Urban Forest Bill 2022 (the Bill) introduced in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 3 August 2022.

The introduction of the Bill in the Assembly followed an extensive review of the *Tree Protection Act 2005* and introduction of the *Urban Forest Strategy 2021-2045* to improve tree protection on both public and private land and encourage shared care of trees by the ACT Government, industry and the community.

The introduction speech and the explanatory statement, which were both tabled with the Bill, explain the purpose of this Bill and the benefits it will bring to Canberra.

I would also like to draw the Committee's attention to the supporting draft instruments which have been published on the <u>Urban Forest Bill YourSay website</u>. Whilst instruments may only be made under an existing Act, these draft instruments have been prepared and provided to assist the Assembly and Committee in understanding the detailed operation of the Bill. These draft instruments, and a summary of community consultation, are available at the following website: <u>www.yoursayconversations.act.gov.au/urban-forest-bill</u>

I would be happy to meet with the Committee to answer any subsequent questions they may have.

Yours sincerely

Chris Steel MLA Minister for Transport and City Services 31 August 2022

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