

Mick Gentleman MLA



Member for Brindabella

Manager of Government Business
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for the Environment and Heritage
Minister for Planning and Land Management
Minister for Urban Renewal

18/05923

Mr Chris Steel MLA
Member for Murrumbidgee
Chris.Steel@parliament.act.gov.au

Dear Mr Steel *CHRIS*

Thank you for your email of 1 March 2018 on behalf of your constituent regarding the wetland proposed as part of the ACT Healthy Waterways Project in Holder.

The proposed wetland will play an important part in improving water quality by reducing stormwater pollutants flowing into Weston Creek and the Molonglo River.

The design of the wetland involves diversion of low flows from existing stormwater pipes/drainage paths in the area to the wetland before flowing into Weston Creek and the Molonglo River. As the wetland is being 'retrofitted' into a fully established urban catchment, the project will involve modification of the existing stormwater system. The arrangements for entry and egress of the diverted flows have been designed to minimise impacts on the existing stormwater system.

The wetland design also includes a new gross pollutant trap and trash racks to manage litter and maintain the amenity of the wetland. The existing gross pollutant trap will remain in place. The ACT Government will operate and maintain both the gross pollutant traps and the trash racks. An embankment will be constructed to keep the one percent Annual Exceedance Probability flood away from the wetland and to safely convey flows around the wetland in large events.

I am advised that the finished wetland will cover 5,600m² and, when full, contain approximately 2.4 million litres of water (about the same as an Olympic swimming pool). The wetland layout consists of an inlet pool, four intermediate pools and an outlet pool, of varying depths to achieve diversity in vegetation planting. The wetland will slow the flow of water, allowing the uptake of pollutants by fringing vegetation. The landscape design plan, along with further information on the project, can be found on the [ACT Healthy Waterways](#) webpage. The landscape design respects the existing local ecology.

In addition to the primary focus on water quality improvement the wetland will also create an appealing landscape improving the visual amenity of the area. The popular Centenary Trail will weave through the new wetland and pedestrian access, around the site, will be maintained during

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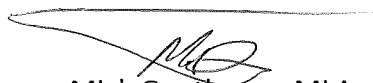
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construction. Rock seats have been incorporated into the design to allow the community to sit and view the wetland. These seats will be accessed via the existing shared path.

If your constituent would like any additional information with respect to this proposal or the ACT Healthy Waterways Project more broadly, please contact Mr Justin Foley, ACT Healthy Waterway Program Manager (6205 8062 or justin.foley@act.gov.au).

Thank you for raising this matter with me. I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Mick Gentleman MLA
Minister for the Environment and Heritage

9/11/18