

	A.C.T. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE OFFICE
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Dear Legislative Assembly

RE INQUIRY INTO BILLBOARDS FOR OUTDOOR ADVERTISING

I would like to offer a community view. Canberra is a beautiful place to live, a bush city – somewhere between a country town and a bustling cosmopolitan. More and more it is drawing people because of its charm, great wines, country feel with enough facilities to do anything you want to. People like the feel of it – and the emerging culture.

One of the things that's so lovely about Canberra is the wide open spaces, the bush land and undisturbed scenic views. There is nothing trashy, busy or ugly about it.

And here we have a proposal for billboards for outdoor advertising. Which in themselves aren't necessarily bad, if they were tasteful and promoting good messages. But let's face it, anyone can advertise. And it's ugly.

For me, a Canberran who loves this city, the thought of living in a town with McDonald advertisements plastered around (a company which doesn't even sell what could be classified as food – trust me I know someone who kept a cheeseburger for four months and the composition did not change), or signs telling me that even though I'm a 32 year old woman who looks after herself, I should do something about my wrinkles, because, you know, aging is unnatural, is highly displeasing, if not repulsive.

Canberra, why not maintain a community and culture which values it's beautiful nature landscapes, roadside artworks, and emerging food and wine culture. A community of natural beauty, fine foods and artistic creation. We are getting on the map – let's stay there!

Thank you for considering my submission.

Yours sincerely,

Michelle Hanson
A Canberra Fan