



## Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services

### **Inquiry into the Territory Plan and other associated documents** **ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Asked by Ms Jo Clay MLA:

Reference: Hearing on 7 December 2023

In relation to: Inability to meet with the National Capital Design Review Panel

At recent hearings into the new Territory Plan a question was asked about the time it was taking for proponents to get a meeting with the National Capital Design Review Panel. In response the Director-General, Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate advised that additional resources had been secured in the 2023-2024 Budget 'to support the secretariat and the work of the Design Review Panel and that was in response to what we had been hearing from industry about the time it was taking to get in'.


1. How will these additional resources improve the time that it takes a proponent to get a meeting with the National Capital Design Review Panel?
2. How much money has been allocated and is this funding on-going or just a one-off allocation to address the current inability for proponents to get a timely meeting with the National Capital Design Review Panel?
3. What will be the wait times with the new resources?

**Mr Chris Steel MLA:** The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. The additional resources will be used to schedule additional design review sessions each month and increase staffing to service these sessions.
2. In the 2023-24 Budget, the ACT Government allocated \$477,000 in 2023-24 and \$493,000 in 2024-25 for the expansion of the National Capital Design Review Panel (NCDRP). Funding allows for the costs associated with additional design review sessions and two FTEs.

3. The additional resources will result in additional sessions being offered each month, with sessions targeted to be available within two to three months of a request. The lead time for design review fluctuates with demand from industry however the NCDRP Secretariat promotes early engagement in the design review process in relation to the proponent's overall project programming so that session availability does not cause project delays.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services

Signature: 

Date: 20/12/23

By the Minister for Planning, Mr Chris Steel MLA