



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–25

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Transport

In relation to: Woden Bus Interchange and Layover facility access for buses

Hearing: 18 November 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript p 21 - 22

Transcript provided: 26 November 2025

Answer Due: 3 December 2025

Ms Carrick: Thank you. I would just like to ask why the Woden Bus Interchange is taking so long to open. I understand it will be three years in February, so it will be over three years by the time it is open.

Mr Steel: The major issue is utilities. That has, I think, been known for some time and sort of it has hampered the project right throughout its construction timeframe. But that still continues to be the major issue, but I will hand over to Ms Bell to provide some further information about the timeframe, which has been delayed.

Ms Bell: Hayley Bell, Executive Group Manager, Health, Education and Justice Delivery. In addition to what the Minister touched on there around the inground latent conditions that we have encountered on that project, some of the future-proofing initiatives that were added into the project also have taken some additional time for us to coordinate, and we have done that to avoid disruption in the future. So all of the inground services have conduits and things to enable the light rail to be commissioned in the future and some of the other services like the sewer and water infrastructure have also been increased in capacity to be future-proofed for the growth that we expect to see in that region. And we acknowledge that it has taken longer and been more disruptive than originally planned, but hopefully it will avoid disruption in the future when those infrastructure assets are required.

Ms Carrick: Thank you, and assumably power is in there too?

Ms Bell: Yes.

Ms Carrick: To power up all the growth in the area.

Ms Bell: Conduits are in place for that, yes.

Ms Carrick: And will the buses using Bow Street and Easty Street cease when it opens?

Mr Steel: They will start to use Callam Street. Easty Street will still be used by buses, as there are still layover facilities there that will be used by the buses. But we expect there will be less buses using Easty Street post-completion.

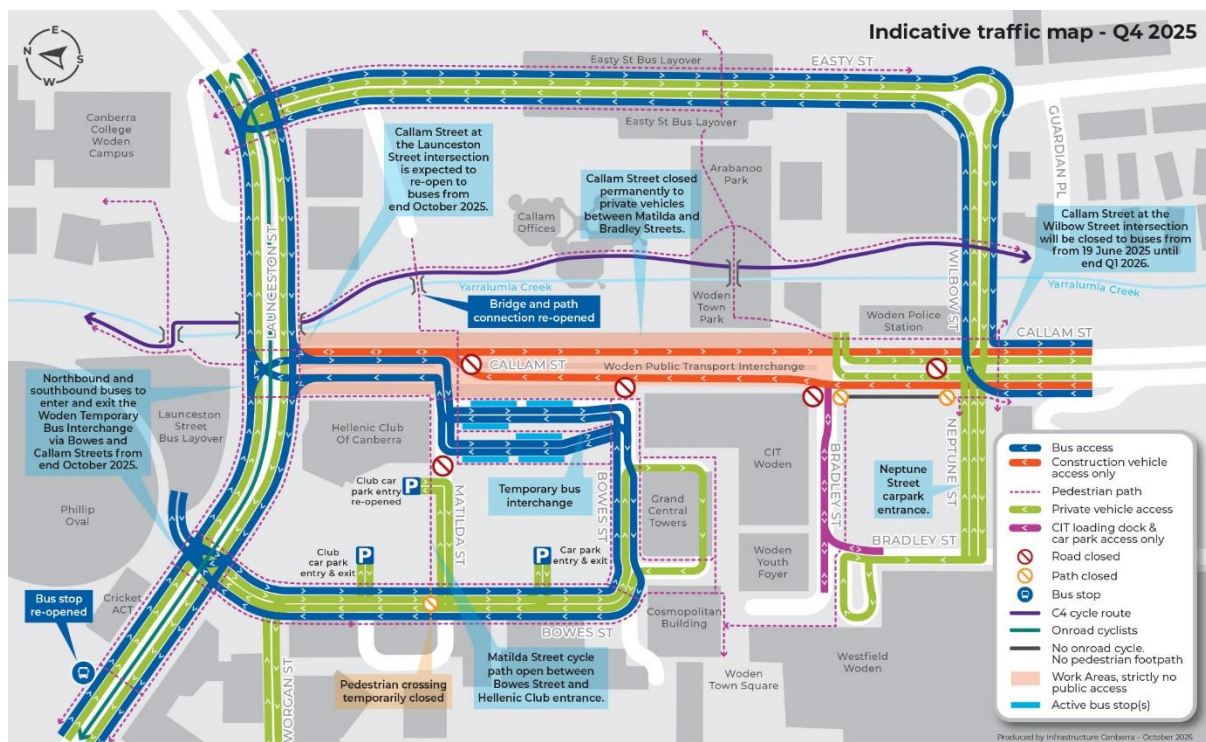
Ms Carrick: So if a bus is coming from the south up through the new interchange, how does it turn around to go south again if it is not progressing through to the City?

Mr Steel: That is not part of Infrastructure Canberra's direct responsibilities, unless you wanted to comment on what Transport Canberra's plans were? But we can take that on notice and provide some information from Transport Canberra if you would like about the directions, yes.

Ms Carrick: Okay. Thank you. Thank you. I have always wanted to know how the buses are going to turn around.

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

Bus routes are designed to minimise unnecessary travel wherever possible. The map below illustrates how buses are currently turning around due to roadworks. Similarly, once the new interchange opens, routes will be planned so buses can enter and exit the interchange and arrive at the correct platform facing the direction of travel. If required, surrounding streets may continue to be used to facilitate bus turnarounds.



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

Signature: 

By the Minister for Transport, Mr Chris Steel MLA

Date: 1/12/25