

	A.C.T. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE OFFICE
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To the Standing Committee on Planning and Urban Renewal,

RE: Inquiry into Billboards

One of the great things about Canberra is the lack of billboards and advertising. Conspicuous advertising around election times in the form of corflute signs is really the most we see as a city, and I believe it should stay that way for two reasons.

1. Many of the roads billboards would be suitable for are also the place of some of Canberra's most beautiful vistas. Coming into Canberra via the Barton Hwy, driving along Majura Parkway and of course from the north down the Hume, are some of Australia's most beautiful sweeping landscapes across valleys and farmland. Billboards are a blight on this view, as seen by the obnoxious big billboards near Lake George.

2. They can be dangerous. If you've ever driven past the Convention Centre at night, you'll know that the lit up advertising board is so bright that it momentarily blinds drivers. I don't imagine all proposed billboards would be like this, but considering how under lit many areas of Canberra are, these signs stick out, and can create problems from drivers with bad night vision.

It's hard to imagine a circumstance where the relatively limited benefits of billboards outweigh the safety of our residents and visitors, and serenity of Canberra. Please consider these factors in making your decision.

Thank you for reading my submission and I look forward to reading the standing committees report.

Kind Regards

Megan Shellie