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STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES  
Jo Clay MLA (Chair), Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy), Mark Parton MLA

**Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2020-2021**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

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Asked by Mr Mark Parton MLA: To ask the Minister for Transport and City Services

Ref: TCCSFOI 21-008, TCCSFOI 21-126, TCCS Annual Report Page 261 – Statement of Performance

In relation to: Community Footpaths

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1. The community path priority list was requested by FOI in both February 2021 (TCCSFOI 21-008) and November 2021 (TCCSFOI 21-126). The first 71 priority footpaths are unchanged from February to November. Inspection of several of the first 10 ranked paths confirm they have not been built. Why have many of the highest ranked paths on the priority list not been built?
2. Given the top 71 ranked paths have not been changed, indicating they have not been built, why then has the footpath along Tharwa Drive ranked 72 in February, now dropped in rank to 99 as of November 2021?
3. Have any of the paths listed on the February 2021 FOI been built?
  - a. If so, what were those paths?
4. The annual report states that TCCS had a target of a 35km increase in community paths. The actual result was a 65km increase. The report goes on to say that the 65km figure is reached by both the creation of new paths by the directorate and by the gifting of paths created by land developers. What was the split between gifted paths from developers and paths built by the directorate?
5. Is there a list that TCCS produces of the locations of the paths they plan to build and the order in which they will be built?
6. If so, what is the name of that list and how does it compare to the community path priority list in terms of priority?
7. How does TCCS determine its annual program for:
  - a. The repair of existing paths; and
  - b. The construction of new paths
  - c. What was completed in 2020/21 for each of these?
  - d. What are the targets for 2021/22 for each of these?

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

1. Funding initiatives during the COVID-19 period in the 2019-20 financial year focused on the delivery of a large number of new path links based on the community path priority list, under the Fast-Track “shovel ready” program.

In 2020-21, focus shifted towards path renewal with the undertaking of a comprehensive network inspection and maintenance works under the Jobs for Canberrans program. The Government has also funded an additional \$4.7 million over four years towards path maintenance as part of our election commitment.

As such, no dedicated community path infill program was undertaken. However, a number of paths from the community path priority list were still constructed as part of other capital works projects.

2. TCCS uses a warrant ranking to identify and prioritise the need for community identified path connections. These rankings are constantly changing as new requests come in and the assessments are reprioritised.
3. Yes. The following new paths from 2021 FOI list were delivered in the context of other capital works programs:

- a. Alsop Close, Phillip

College Street, Bruce

Corner of Sulwood Drive/Athllon Drive, Wanniasa

Coulter Drive - Western Verge, Page

Currong Street South & Boolee Street, Reid

Drakeford Drive, Kambah

Drakeford Drive, Wanniasa

Edinburgh Avenue, City

Joynton Smith Drive, Belconnen

Liffey Circuit, Kaleen

Luxton Street, Belconnen

Snowy Place - Turon Place, Cook

Stockdale Street, Dickson

Stockman Avenue, Lawson

Torrens Street, Braddon

4. In the 2020-2021 financial year the current figures show a split of approximately 70% gifted and 30% capital works.
5. Yes.

6. The listing of paths that are prioritised to be built can be found at:  
<https://www.cityservices.act.gov.au/Infrastructure-Projects/programs/community-paths-program>.

The Active Travel Practitioner Tool (<https://activeinfrastructure.net.au/>) also identifies future intended main and principle community routes, inline with the ACT Transport Strategy.

To assist in managing expectations, TCCS identifies the locations of paths planned to be built after funding has been allocated, which may include sites from the community path priority list.

7.

- a. TCCS develops the annual path maintenance program based on the proactive inspection program which provides the condition assessment of the current path network and reactive work requests received through Fix My Street.
- b. TCCS considers community path investments that add new connections as well as those that replace/renew existing connections. Capital funding allocation through the ACT Budget between renewal and new investment is approached strategically to support the ACT Government's policy direction, manage risk and ensure financially sustainable decisions.
- c. TCCS undertook approximately \$7.4M worth of maintenance (repair) works on existing paths in the 2020-21 financial year.

Information about new path projects completed in the 2020-21 financial year can be found at <https://www.cityservices.act.gov.au/Infrastructure-Projects/completed-projects>.

- d. There are currently no annual targets for the repair of existing paths, however TCCS is considering the introduction of an accountability indicator for path maintenance.

The Accountability Indicator for the construction of new paths is currently 35 km per year as identified in the ACT Budget (2021-22).

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

Signature:



Date:

7/4/22

By the Minister for Transport and City Services, Mr Chris Steel MLA