



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2022-2023

Mr James Milligan MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair),
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Jo Clay MLA: To ask the Minister for Planning and Land Management

Ref: Budget Statement E pg 5, (EPSDD)

In relation to: Integrating active travel design standards into suburb planning

1. How does the Planning and Land Authority integrate Municipal Infrastructure Design Standard MIS05: Active Travel Facilities Design when developing Estate Development Plans, Masterplans and other relevant planning and development proposals? How is it integrated within the work of the directorate?
2. How does the Planning and Land Authority integrate the “Planning for Active Travel in the ACT - Active Travel Infrastructure Interim Planning Guideline” when developing Estate Development Plans, Masterplans and other relevant planning and development proposals? How is it integrated within the work of the directorate?
3. How does the Planning and Land Authority integrate the Active Travel Practitioner Tool network map when developing Estate Development Plans, Masterplans and other relevant planning and development proposals? How is it integrated within the work of the directorate?
4. Are the documents developed by TCCS considered optional for consideration into the work of the Planning and Land Authority?

Mick Gentleman MLA: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

1. The Planning and Land Authority’s (the Authority) functions are outlined in the *Planning and Development Act 2007* (the Act). These primarily include the preparation and administration of the Territory Plan, advising on planning and land policy, administering the Territory’s leasehold system and assessing applications for approval to undertake development.

The Authority does not propose developments, prepare estate development plans (EDPs) or any other type of development application (DAs). The Authority is independent from these roles given their functions in setting the planning policy and assessing the proposals, as outlined above.

EDPs prepared by developers, whether government or private, are subject to the Territory Plan which has specific sections and requirements for estate layout, walking, cycling and public transport. These are also referred to entities including Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) who provide advice on future public facilities and assets. The EDP DA is then determined utilising TCCS advice on such assets including new active travel facilities. Typically, this will include any advice regarding applicable standards the development needs to proceed with.

In accordance with the Territory Plan, any shared paths, on-road cycling routes, intersections and shared path crossings proposed as part of an EDP must be endorsed by TCCS. The Territory Plan also notes that TCCS DS13-Pedestrian and Cycle Facilities or its successor (i.e. MIS05 – Active Travel Facilities Design) will be considered by TCCS when providing their advice.

The detailed design, construction and hand over stages of a new estate are then subject to the more detailed elements and standards including Design Standard MIS05 as managed by TCCS.

Active travel networks and connections are an important part of the early planning phases undertaken by the Directorate. These inform subsequent estate development plans as prepared by government or private developers. There are parts within Design Standard MIS05 which supports good connections and a hierarchy of active travel infrastructure. Other strategies including those in the ACT Planning Strategy 2018 and the ACT Transport Strategy 2020 are also referenced and utilised in this work.

2. As stated above, the Planning and Land Authority does not prepare estate development plans (EDPs) or any other type of development application (DAs).

The broader Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD), of which the Planning and Land Authority is a part, works closely with TCCS to integrate active travel requirements within land use planning documents and strategic designs. This includes coordination and integration of active travel policy directions from the ACT Transport Strategy and the draft Active Travel Plan into the implementation of the ACT Planning Strategy, the development of draft district strategies and other strategic planning documents. Masterplans, concept plans and strategic designs are also prepared by the directorate, often using consultants who are expert in the application of the referred standard, guideline and tool.

3. The Active Travel Practitioner Tool network map and associated data is being used by EPSDD to inform Concept Planning, strategic designs and the development of the draft district strategies, which recognises the importance of active travel as a key driver to

support city growth. TCCS are able to comment on elements of the Active Travel Infrastructure Interim Planning Guideline and active path hierarchy as displayed in the Active Travel Practitioner Tool network map in their advice on EDP DAs.

4. TCCS documents including the Planning for Active Travel in the ACT - Active Travel Infrastructure Interim Planning Guideline, the ACT Transport Strategy, the draft Active Travel Plan are considered, along with direct consultation with TCCS, in planning and design projects undertaken by EPSDD. EPSDD is also working closely with TCCS to coordinate work on the development of the draft district strategies within the Territory Plan and the upcoming Multimodal Network Plan.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

Signature: 

Date: 13/19/2022

By the Minister for Planning and Land Management, Mick Gentleman MLA