



Tara Cheyne MLA

Minister for the Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy
Minister for City Services
Minister for Government Services and Regulatory Reform
Minister for Human Rights

Member for Ginninderra

Our ref: S2023/02864

Ms Jo Clay MLA

Chair

Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services

LACommitteePTCS@parliament.act.gov.au

Dear Chair

I write to refer the Draft Urban Open Space Land Management Plan (the draft Plan) to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services for consideration. This is consistent with the requirements of section 392 (2) of the *Planning Act 2023* (the Act).

The draft Plan was approved by Government on 12 December 2023.

The draft Plan describes how Transport Canberra and City Services, will manage the diversity of urban open space types, such as district parks, sportsgrounds, dryland ovals, playgrounds and urban corridors and describes the management activities such as mowing, litter and graffiti management and weed control to be employed.

The Plan responds to consultation feedback that called on Government to highlight opportunities to enhance the value of public open space for social wellbeing and the protection of the natural environment. Specifically, the draft Plan include commitments to:

- activate urban open spaces with more social connection opportunities;
- identify suitable urban locations for rewilding with native species and improving ecological connectivity in the *green* and *blue* space network District Strategies;
- review mowing programs in consultation with the Conservator for Flora and Fauna to maximise biodiversity, habitat and water quality outcomes; and
- consult traditional custodians for collaborative land management and ecological outcomes.

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I have included a copy of the Plan, copies of all submissions made during the public consultation process on the draft Plan and a report setting out the issues raised by submissions and how they were addressed in the draft Plan.

I acknowledge the efforts of officers within Transport Canberra and City Services who conducted the extensive drafting and consultation phases with the community, land managers and Government Directorates to prepare the draft Plan.

I request the Standing Committee, as per section 392 (3) of the Act, consider the draft Plan and accompanying documents and recommend the draft Plan be approved or make another recommendation about the draft Plan.

Yours sincerely

Tara Cheyne MLA
Minister for City Services

December 2023