



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Ms Nicole Lawder MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked By: Ms Nicole Lawder MLA

Addressed to: Minister for City Services

Reference: Footpaths

Hearing Date: 24/07/2024

In relation to: TCCS and Footpaths

QON lodgement Date: 26/07/2024

Answer Due date: 05/08/2024

- 1) What is the reason for only achieving 1/3 of the budgeted increase in length of community paths in 2023-24?
- 2) How does the targeted growth of the community path network, now measured in m² compare with the previous measure of increase in length in km?
- 3) Will the 2024-25 target for community path network growth of >50,000m² be closer to 60km or 22km in the previous measure?

Minister Tara Cheyne MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- 1) The actual increase in length (km) of community paths including cycle lanes was 36.2 km for the 2023-24 reporting period.

This measurement is based on the creation of new paths by TCCS, as well as gifted path assets created by others (e.g. land developers). During the 2023-2024 reporting period, less than anticipated path assets were gifted to TCCS by land developers. Additionally, there were less roads built in 2023-24 that included cycle lanes.

- 2) The new 'annual growth of the community path network (in m²) including separated cycle lanes' measure included in the 2024-25 budget papers replaces the previous 'increase in length (km) of community paths including cycle lanes' measure. It has been developed to capture the expansion of the network (i.e. length) and path upgrades (e.g. widening) to increase safety, accessibility, and capacity more accurately.

The new target of >50,000m² community path network growth has been established based on the previous 2021-22 accountability indicator target for increase in length (km) of community paths only (35 km) and applying the minimum path width (1.5m) as specified in Municipal Infrastructure Standard 05 Active Travel Facilities Design.

Previous 2022-23 and 2023-24 accountability indicator targets also included on-road cycle lanes. The exclusion of on-road cycle lanes on some roads reflects current investigations and future guidance material being developed by Austroads. As well as the ACT Government's Active Travel Plan that promotes conversion of on-road cycle lanes on priority routes to safe separated facilities including both permanent infrastructure and use of 'quick build' infrastructure. Segregated on-road cycle lanes (cyclists physically separated from vehicles) are included in the new target.

Using this new measure, the increase in length of 36.2km of community paths (excluding on-road cycle lanes) during the 2023-24 reporting period resulted in an equivalent annual growth of 70,138m² to the community path network.

3) The target for 2024-25 is >50,000m².

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2024-2025

Signature:



Date:



By the Minister for City Services, Tara Cheyne MLA