



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

2020–2021–2022–2023

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No 89

TUESDAY, 27 JUNE 2023

- 1 The Assembly met at 10 am, pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (Ms Burch) took the Chair and made the following acknowledgement of country in the Ngunnawal language:

Dhawura nguna, dhawura Ngunnawal.

Yanggu ngalawiri, dhunimanyin Ngunnawalwari dhawurawari.

Nginggada Dindi dhawura Ngunnaawalbun yindjumaralidjinyin.

This is Ngunnawal Country.

Today we are gathering on Ngunnawal country.

We always pay respect to Elders, female and male, and Ngunnawal country.

The Speaker asked Members to stand in silence and pray or reflect on their responsibilities to the people of the Australian Capital Territory.

- 2 **ABSENCE OF CLERK**

The Speaker informed the Assembly that, due to the absence of the Clerk, the Acting Deputy Clerk will act as Clerk for today.

- 3 **LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER**

Ms Castley moved—That leave of absence be granted to Ms Lawder for this sitting week due to personal reasons.

Question—put and passed.

- 4 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT 18—INQUIRY INTO MODERN SLAVERY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2023—REPORT NOTED**

Mrs Kikkert (Chair), pursuant to order, presented the following report:

Public Accounts—Standing Committee—Report 18—*Inquiry into Modern Slavery Legislation Amendment Bill 2023*, dated 21 June 2023, together with a copy of the extracts of the relevant minutes of proceedings—

and moved—That the report be noted.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

5 PETITIONS—MINISTERIAL RESPONSES—RESPONSES NOTED

The Clerk announced that the following responses to petitions had been lodged:

Mr Rattenbury (Minister for Consumer Affairs), dated 8 June 2023—Response to e-petition No 038-22 and petition No 008-23, lodged by Mr Pettersson on 21 March 2023, concerning the establishment of an ACT Ombudsman for retirement villages.

Mr Steel (Minister for Transport and City Services), dated 9 June 2023—Response to e-petition No 041-22, lodged by Mr Braddock on 21 March 2023, concerning road safety on Nullarbor Avenue in Harrison.

The Speaker proposed—That the responses so lodged be noted.

Question—put and passed.

6 OUTCOME OF 2023 AUTUMN PRESCRIBED BURNING PROGRAM—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED

Mr Gentleman (Minister for Planning and Land Management) made a ministerial statement concerning the outcome of the 2023 autumn prescribed burning program and presented the following paper:

Outcome of 2023 Autumn Prescribed Burning Program—Ministerial statement, 27 June 2023.

Mr Gentleman moved—That the Assembly take note of the paper.

Question—put and passed.

7 NORTHSIDE HOSPITAL TRANSITION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED

Ms Stephen-Smith (Minister for Health) made a ministerial statement to provide the Assembly with an update on the northside hospital transition and presented the following paper:

Northside hospital transition—Ministerial statement, 27 June 2023.

Ms Stephen-Smith moved—That the Assembly take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

8 REVIEW OF EMBEDDED NETWORKS IN THE A.C.T.—EMBEDDED UTILITIES NETWORKS—ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION OF 18 OCTOBER 2022—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPER—PAPER NOTED

Mr Rattenbury (Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction) made a ministerial statement concerning the Government response to the Assembly resolution of 18 October 2022 relating to embedded utilities networks and presented the following papers:

Review of Embedded Networks in the ACT—

Final Report, dated 12 May 2023.

Embedded Utilities networks—Assembly Resolution of 18 October 2022—Government response—Ministerial statement, 27 June 2023.

Mr Rattenbury moved—That the Assembly take note of the ministerial statement.

Question—put and passed.

9 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—APPROPRIATION BILL 2023-2024 AND APPROPRIATION BILL (OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY) BILL 2023-2024

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent:

- (1) any business before the Assembly at 5 pm on Tuesday 27 June 2023 being interrupted to allow the Treasurer to be called on forthwith to present the Appropriation Bill 2023-2024 and the Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2023-2024;
- (2) where business before the Assembly has concluded before 5 pm on 27 June 2023, the Assembly shall suspend proceedings and reconvene at 5 pm to allow the Treasurer to be called on forthwith to present the Appropriation Bill 2023-2024 and the Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2023-2024;
- (3) at 5 pm on Thursday 29 June 2023, the order of the day for the resumption of debate on the question that the Appropriation Bill 2023-2024 and the Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2023-2024; be agreed to in principle, being called on notwithstanding any business before the Assembly;
- (4) debate on any motion before the Assembly at the time of interruption being adjourned until the adjournment questions in relation to the Appropriation Bill 2023-2024 and the Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2023-2024 are determined; and
- (5) where business before the Assembly has concluded before 5 pm on 29 June 2023, the Assembly shall suspend proceedings and reconvene at 5 pm to allow resumption of debate on the question that the Appropriation Bill 2023-2024 and the Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2023-2024; be agreed to in principle.

Question—put and passed, with the concurrence of an absolute majority.

10 JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY—STANDING COMMITTEE (LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY ROLE)—SCRUTINY REPORT 31—STATEMENT BY CHAIR

Mr Cain (Chair) presented the following report:

Justice and Community Safety—Standing Committee (Legislative Scrutiny Role)—Scrutiny Report 31, dated 20 June 2023, together with a copy of the extracts of the relevant minutes of proceedings—

and, by leave, made a statement in relation to the report.

**11 ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY—STANDING COMMITTEE—
REPORT 8—INQUIRY INTO HOUSING AND RENTAL AFFORDABILITY—REPORT NOTED**

Ms Castley (Chair) presented the following report:

Economy and Gender and Economic Equality—Standing Committee—Report 8—*Inquiry into Housing and Rental Affordability*, dated 22 June 2023, together with a copy of the extracts of the relevant minutes of proceedings—

and moved—That the report be noted.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**12 HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT 10—
INQUIRY INTO ABORTION AND REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE IN THE A.C.T.—
CORRIGENDUM—STATEMENT BY CHAIR—PAPER**

Mr Davis (Chair), pursuant to standing order 246A, made a statement concerning the issuance of a corrigendum to the report on abortion and reproductive choice in the ACT by the Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing.

Paper: Mr Davis presented the following paper:

Health and Community Wellbeing—Standing Committee—Report 10—Inquiry into Abortion and Reproductive Choice in the ACT—Corrigendum, dated 21 June 2023.

13 COURTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2023

Mr Rattenbury (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend legislation about courts, and for other purposes.

Paper: Mr Rattenbury presented the following paper:

Explanatory statement to the Bill, incorporating a compatibility statement, pursuant to section 37 of the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Title read by Clerk.

Mr Rattenbury moved—That this Bill be agreed to in principle.

Debate adjourned (Mr Cain) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

14 WATER RESOURCES AMENDMENT BILL 2023

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—

Debate resumed.

Question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—put and passed.

Leave granted to dispense with the detail stage.

Question—That this Bill be agreed to—put and passed.

15 TRANSPORT CANBERRA AND CITY SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2022

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—

Debate resumed.

Question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—put and passed.

Leave granted to dispense with the detail stage.

Question—That this Bill be agreed to—put and passed.

16 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

17 QUESTION ON NOTICE NO 1212—ANSWER—EXPLANATION

Ms Castley, pursuant to standing order 118A, asked Mr Barr (Treasurer) for an explanation concerning the answer to question on notice No 1212.

Mr Barr gave an explanation.

18 QUESTION ON NOTICE NO 1160—ANSWER—EXPLANATION

Ms Castley, pursuant to standing order 118A, asked Ms Davidson (Minister for Mental Health) for an explanation concerning the answer to question on notice No 1160.

Ms Davidson gave an explanation.

19 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE NOS 1139, 1140, 1176 AND 1179—ANSWERS—EXPLANATION

Ms Castley, pursuant to standing order 118A, asked Ms Stephen-Smith (Minister for Health) for an explanation concerning the answers to questions on notice Nos 1139, 1140, 1176 and 1179.

Ms Stephen-Smith gave an explanation.

20 PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

The Speaker presented the following papers:

Auditor-General Act, pursuant to subsection 17(5)—Auditor-General's Report No 2/2023—Management of Operation Reboot (Outpatients), dated 14 June 2023.

Budget 2023-2024—Financial Management Act, pursuant to section 20AB—Recommended appropriation—

ACT Audit Office—Copy of letter to the Treasurer from the Speaker, dated 19 June 2023.

ACT Electoral Commission—Copy of letter to the Treasurer from the Speaker, dated 14 June 2023.

ACT Integrity Commission—Copy of letter to the Treasurer from the Speaker, dated 19 June 2023.

Standing order 191—Amendments to:

Corrections and Sentencing Legislation Amendment Bill 2022, dated 14 and 16 June 2023.

Period Products and Facilities (Access) Bill 2022, dated 14 and 16 June 2023.

Planning Bill 2022, dated 19 June 2023.

Road Safety Legislation Amendment Bill 2022, dated 14 and 16 June 2023.

21 PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) presented the following papers:

Children and Young People Act, pursuant to subsection 727S(5)—ACT Children and Young People Death Review Committee—Annual Report 2022, dated 28 April 2023.

Public Accounts—Standing Committee—Report 12—*Inquiry into the Work Health and Safety Amendment Bill 2022*—Government response, undated.

Rights of Older Persons—Assembly resolution of 18 October 2022—Letter to the ACT Minister for Veterans and Seniors from the Federal Attorney-General, dated 29 May 2023.

Subordinate legislation (including explanatory statements unless otherwise stated)

Legislation Act, pursuant to section 64—

Animal Welfare Act—Animal Welfare (Fees) Determination 2023 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-101 (LR, 13 June 2023).

Clinical Waste Act—Clinical Waste (Fees) Determination 2023 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-102 (LR, 13 June 2023).

Dangerous Goods (Road Transport) Act—Dangerous Goods (Road Transport) Fees and Charges Determination 2023—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-113 (LR, 19 June 2023).

Dangerous Substances Act—Dangerous Substances (Fees) Determination 2023—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-114 (LR, 19 June 2023).

Domestic Animals Act—Domestic Animals (Fees) Determination 2023 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-103 (LR, 13 June 2023).

Electoral Act—Electoral (Fees) Determination 2023—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-109 (LR, 15 June 2023).

Gambling and Racing Control Act Financial Management Act—Gambling and Racing Control (Governing Board) Appointment 2023 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-96 (LR, 1 June 2023).

Government Procurement Act—Government Procurement (Non-Public Employee Member) Appointment 2023 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-107 (LR, 13 June 2023).

Health Infrastructure Enabling Act—Health Infrastructure Enabling Regulation 2023, including a regulatory impact statement—Subordinate Law SL2023-11 (LR, 2 June 2023).

Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission Act—Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission (Price Direction for the Supply of Electricity to Certain Small Customers on Standard Retail Contracts) Terms of Reference Determination 2023—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-97 (LR, 5 June 2023).

Labour Hire Licensing Act—Labour Hire Licensing (Fee) Determination 2023—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-115 (LR, 19 June 2023).

Machinery Act—Machinery (Fees) Determination 2023—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-116 (LR, 19 June 2023).

Plastic Reduction Act—

Plastic Reduction (Single-use Plastic Products) Exemption 2023—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-99 (LR, 5 June 2023).

Plastic Reduction (Single-use Plastic Products—Special Circumstances) Exemption 2023—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-98 (LR, 5 June 2023).

Plastic Reduction Amendment Regulation 2023 (No 1), including a regulatory impact statement—Subordinate Law SL2023-10 (LR, 8 June 2023).

Public Place Names Act—Public Place Names (Macnamara) Determination 2023 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-100 (LR, 8 June 2023).

Public Unleased Land Act—Public Unleased Land (Fees) Determination 2023 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-104 (LR, 13 June 2023).

Race and Sports Bookmaking Act—Race and Sports Bookmaking (Sports Bookmaking Venues) Determination 2023 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-110 (LR, 19 June 2023).

Scaffolding and Lifts Act—Scaffolding and Lifts (Fees) Determination 2023—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-117 (LR, 19 June 2023).

Tree Protection Act—Tree Protection (Fees) Determination 2023 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-105 (LR, 13 June 2023).

Utilities (Technical Regulation) Act—Utilities (Technical Regulation) (Operating Certificate Fees) Determination 2023—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-111 (LR, 19 June 2023).

Waste Management and Resource Recovery Act—Waste Management and Resource Recovery (Fees) Determination 2023 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-106 (LR, 13 June 2023).

Work Health and Safety Act—Work Health and Safety (Fees) Determination 2023—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-118 (LR, 19 June 2023).

Working with Vulnerable People (Background Checking) Act—Working with Vulnerable People Background Checking (Fees) Determination 2023—Disallowable Instrument DI2023-108 (LR, 15 June 2023).

22 LIGHT RAIL STAGE 2B—COST BENEFIT ASSESSMENT

Mr Parton, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes that:
 - (a) the Greens/Labor Government has provided no comprehensive business case for Stage 2B of the tram project;
 - (b) getting the tram to Woden will be one of the largest capital projects in the history of the ACT;

- (c) the people of Canberra have never been given a comprehensive and compelling business case for connecting Commonwealth Park to Woden with a tram system;
 - (d) the people of Canberra have not been told what Stage 2B will cost;
 - (e) previous stages of the tram project have relied on property value uplift to yield a positive benefit and the proposals did not stand up based on transport benefits alone;
 - (f) there are other lower cost alternatives to the tram capable of delivering the same or superior public transport services between Civic and Woden;
 - (g) travel times from Woden to Civic via a tram will be greater than current bus services;
 - (h) the potentially enormous capital and operating cost of Stage 2B will deprive funding to critical services such as police and justice, city services and health that are badly needed to sustain community safety and wellbeing; and
 - (i) Canberra's public deserves better accountability and transparency; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) curtail proceeding with any works contracts or infrastructure procurements for Stage 2B;
 - (b) prepare and provide a cost benefit assessment that:
 - (i) compares the proposed Stage 2B capital and recurring cost with an electric bus service option and other options to deliver passenger services between Woden and Civic;
 - (ii) omits estimates of land value uplift from the public transport route between Woden and Civic;
 - (iii) provides forward budget estimates of capital and recurring costs for each option;
 - (iv) depicts capital and operating cost differences between the options; and
 - (v) clearly articulates the public transport benefit from each option;
 - (c) prepare a business case for a public transport solution that offers the public faster travel times between Woden and Civic that equal or exceed current bus service times;
 - (d) provide the ACT public with a detailed report on the cost benefit study findings and forward budget projections; and
 - (e) report back to this Assembly by 30 November of this year on progress made with the cost benefit assessment and associated recommendations.

Mr Steel (Minister for Transport and City Services) moved the following amendment:
Omit all text after "That this Assembly", substitute:

- "(1) notes that:
- (a) the ACT Government published the business case for Light Rail Stage 1;

- (b) the ACT Government published the contract for Light Rail Stage 1 and a contract summary for Light Rail Stage 1;
 - (c) the ACT Government published a benefits realisation snapshot of Light Rail Stage 1 following its completion and operation which included land use benefits quantified at \$240m;
 - (d) the ACT Government published the business case for Light Rail Stage 2A and has committed to publish the business case for Light Rail Stage 2B, however the release of costing details prior to signing contracts will not be provided where it may negatively impact the ACT Government's ability to achieve value for money through the procurement;
 - (e) the ACT Government has committed to publish the contracts for Light Rail Stage 2A and Light Rail Stage 2B once the procurements have been finalised and contracts have been signed; and
 - (f) the ACT Government has committed to publish assessments of the realisation of benefits of Light Rail Stage 2A and Light Rail Stage 2B following the completion and after operations commence on each Stage;
- (2) further notes:
- (a) the *ACT Capital Framework* notes that projects require significant resources to undertake the front-end planning and due diligence work necessary to build a comprehensive Business Case;
 - (b) the ACT Government has stated that due to the complexity of the route through the National Capital area, the Stage 2B business case will be developed following National Capital Authority and Commonwealth Parliamentary approval processes, which includes the development of an environmental impact statement and early design which are necessary to confirm the scope of the project to inform analysis of the costs and benefits of the project; and
 - (c) the ACT Government has already signed a contract with AECOM to facilitate the design and planning approvals for the entirety of Stage 2; and
- (3) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) continue conducting economic analysis and public reporting for all future stages of light rail based on the *ACT Capital Framework* and informed by accepted national guidelines from Infrastructure Australia, which includes transport benefits and land use benefits;
 - (b) update the Assembly on the benefits realisation on Light Rail Stage 1 five years since operations commenced in April 2019, including benefits from land value changes;
 - (c) continue to build an integrated city-wide integrated public transport network, combining mass-transit light rail with rapid and suburban bus routes as outlined in the *ACT Transport Strategy*;
 - (d) continue to build Light Rail Stage 2 to Woden as part of the initial north-south spine of Canberra's integrated public transport system; and

- (e) continue to undertake the necessary planning and due diligence work to inform the development of the Light Rail Stage 2B business case.”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 15		NOES, 7
Ms Berry	Ms Orr	Mr Cain
Mr Braddock	Dr Paterson	Ms Castley
Ms Burch	Mr Pettersson	Mr Cocks
Ms Cheyne	Mr Rattenbury	Mr Hanson
Ms Clay	Mr Steel	Mrs Kikkert
Ms Davidson	Ms Stephen-Smith	Mr Milligan
Mr Davis	Ms Vassarotti	Mr Parton
Mr Gentleman		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes that:
 - (a) the ACT Government published the business case for Light Rail Stage 1;
 - (b) the ACT Government published the contract for Light Rail Stage 1 and a contract summary for Light Rail Stage 1;
 - (c) the ACT Government published a benefits realisation snapshot of Light Rail Stage 1 following its completion and operation which included land use benefits quantified at \$240m;
 - (d) the ACT Government published the business case for Light Rail Stage 2A and has committed to publish the business case for Light Rail Stage 2B, however the release of costing details prior to signing contracts will not be provided where it may negatively impact the ACT Government’s ability to achieve value for money through the procurement;
 - (e) the ACT Government has committed to publish the contracts for Light Rail Stage 2A and Light Rail Stage 2B once the procurements have been finalised and contracts have been signed; and
 - (f) the ACT Government has committed to publish assessments of the realisation of benefits of Light Rail Stage 2A and Light Rail Stage 2B following the completion and after operations commence on each Stage;
- (2) further notes:
 - (a) the *ACT Capital Framework* notes that projects require significant resources to undertake the front-end planning and due diligence work necessary to build a comprehensive Business Case;

- (b) the ACT Government has stated that due to the complexity of the route through the National Capital area, the Stage 2B business case will be developed following National Capital Authority and Commonwealth Parliamentary approval processes, which includes the development of an environmental impact statement and early design which are necessary to confirm the scope of the project to inform analysis of the costs and benefits of the project; and
 - (c) the ACT Government has already signed a contract with AECOM to facilitate the design and planning approvals for the entirety of Stage 2; and
- (3) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) continue conducting economic analysis and public reporting for all future stages of light rail based on the *ACT Capital Framework* and informed by accepted national guidelines from Infrastructure Australia, which includes transport benefits and land use benefits;
 - (b) update the Assembly on the benefits realisation on Light Rail Stage 1 five years since operations commenced in April 2019, including benefits from land value changes;
 - (c) continue to build an integrated city-wide integrated public transport network, combining mass-transit light rail with rapid and suburban bus routes as outlined in the *ACT Transport Strategy*;
 - (d) continue to build Light Rail Stage 2 to Woden as part of the initial north-south spine of Canberra’s integrated public transport system; and
 - (e) continue to undertake the necessary planning and due diligence work to inform the development of the Light Rail Stage 2B business case.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

23 LIGHTING IN PUBLIC SPACES

Mr Braddock, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes:
- (a) lighting in public places exists principally to meet the needs of people in the community, and it is essential to have the right light in the right place;
 - (b) thoughtful best practice lighting design of our public spaces and neighbourhoods can vastly improve their night-time amenity, allowing Canberrans to walk, ride, roll, skate or scoot comfortably and safely around our city at night;
 - (c) best practice lighting design is defined by the following standards:
 - (i) AS/NZS 1158.1.1:2022 Lighting for roads and public spaces, Part 1.1: Vehicular traffic (Category V) lighting—Performance and design requirements;
 - (ii) AS/NZS 1158.3.1:2020 Lighting for roads and public spaces, Part 3.1: Pedestrian area (Category P) lighting—Performance and design requirements; and
 - (iii) AS/NZS 4282:2019 Control of the obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting;

- (d) the Australasian Dark Sky Alliance (ADSA) describes best practice lighting design as:
 - (i) start with natural darkness. Only add light for specific and defined purposes;
 - (ii) use adaptive light controls. Manage light timing and intensity. Ensure light levels are aligned to the human occupancy of the space;
 - (iii) use the lowest intensity lighting appropriate for the task. Consider the reflectance of all infrastructure surfaces and reduce illumination accordingly for higher reflective surfaces. Consider the likely night-time activity of the space, and how this may change across an evening;
 - (iv) light only the object or area intended. Lights, and the surfaces they illuminate, should be arranged to minimise stray light heading to the sky, and shielded to avoid light spill. Reduce or eliminate any direct views of light sources;
 - (v) use reduced short-wavelength light sources with reduced or filtered blue, violet and ultra-violet wavelengths; and
 - (vi) use a suitably qualified lighting professional. Practitioners of exterior lighting should have attained recognition through a standardised assessment process from a professional organisation;
- (e) safety and perceptions of safety, especially for women and vulnerable Canberrans, are improved in the presence of best practice lighting design which reduces glare and enhances the visibility of unlit areas;
- (f) best practice lighting design enables social and community activity in the night-time economy, enhanced visitor appeal, as well as attracting astro-tourism to Canberra;
- (g) best practice lighting design can also reduce:
 - (i) light pollution or obtrusive light spilling into our homes;
 - (ii) the impacts of artificial light on wildlife in our city, for example on certain species of birds, insects and bats, which evolved with the absence of light at night; and
 - (iii) energy use and associated costs;
- (h) public space lighting infrastructure in the ACT predominately supports lighting our roads for vehicles, road related areas and urban centres, while parks and other recreational spaces generally have fewer public lights;
- (i) the ACT Government has announced significant investments in public realm lighting, including new lighting at Telopea Park, Garema Place, Lake Ginninderra and Yerrabi Pond, and \$1 million for further infill lighting and gaps in the community paths network;

- (j) Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) rules for the charge for the use of electricity by streetlights removes the incentive to utilise smart controls in our streetlight network; and
 - (k) our night skies, including those of Namadgi National Park and Mt Stromlo, are precious natural assets that should be protected from increasing light pollution from the lights of Canberra; and
- (2) calls on the Government to:
- (a) commence updates in this parliamentary term to the municipal infrastructure standard for public lighting and collaborate with leading lighting experts and academics including ADSA and the Conservation Council, as well as other stakeholders, to ensure that lighting meets the needs of women and vulnerable people engaging in active travel;
 - (b) develop the municipal infrastructure standards to:
 - (i) adopt best practice lighting design choices, including the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia Street Lighting Smart Controls' *Model Public Lighting Strategy 2020*; and
 - (ii) apply the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water's *National Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife 2023*, to consider and reduce impacts on biodiversity from the use of artificial lighting including the use of dark spots or corridors, dimmable or motion sensor-based lighting, and time-based cut offs;
 - (c) make best practice lighting choices when adding new lights or replacing/upgrading existing lighting, to ensure our city is continually improving the quality of lighting, the health of the night environment and conservation of the night sky;
 - (d) consider and undertake practical measures to improve lighting in Canberra's public spaces including:
 - (i) a dark spot study of priority public spaces that support active travel and recreation;
 - (ii) continuing to increase investment in the Streetlight Infill Program;
 - (iii) delivering warmer lighting (suggested at or under 3000 Kelvin) in residential roads, parks, and pathways;
 - (iv) investigating a variety of public lighting fittings for all public realm upgrades that are mindful of heritage value, public safety and decoration;
 - (v) minimising the impact of night lighting on plants and animals when adding new lights or replacing/upgrading existing lighting;
 - (vi) assessing the appropriateness of lighting in trees so as to minimise any detrimental impact on trees, and where unavoidable, ensuring that any lighting in trees is necessary and purposeful;

- (vii) dimming or turning off unnecessary public lighting (for example sport ground lighting) in off peak periods to reduce the impact of light pollution;
- (viii) becoming an Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia Street Lighting and Smart Controls Program partner;
- (ix) writing to the AEMC in support of industry as they work to ensure that smart street lighting controls are recognised as valid metering points and can be utilised;
- (x) promoting best practice façade and awning lighting to help boost our night-time economy; and
- (xi) identifying spaces suitable for dark sky place designation by the International Dark Sky Association, to encourage astro-tourism and star gazing; and

(e) report to the Assembly on progress by the last sitting day of March 2024.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

Suspension of sitting: The Speaker, at 4.08 pm, suspended the sitting and announced that the Chair would be resumed at the ringing of the bells.

Resumption of sitting: The bells having been rung, the Speaker resumed the Chair at 5 pm.

24 APPROPRIATION BILL 2023-2024

Mr Barr (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate money for the purposes of the Territory for the financial year beginning on 1 July 2023, and for other purposes.

Papers: Mr Barr presented the following papers:

Explanatory statement to the Bill, incorporating a compatibility statement, pursuant to section 37 of the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Budget 2023-2024—Financial Management Act, pursuant to section 10—

Budget Outlook.

Budget Statements—

A—ACT Electoral Commission | ACT Executive | ACT Integrity Commission | Auditor-General | Office of the Legislative Assembly.

B—Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate, together with associated agencies.

C—ACT Health Directorate | Canberra Health Services | ACT Local Hospital Network.

D—Justice and Community Safety Directorate | Legal Aid Commission (ACT) | Public Trustee and Guardian for the ACT.

E—Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | City Renewal Authority | Suburban Land Agency.

F—Education Directorate.

G—Community Services Directorate | Housing ACT.

H—Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate | Transport Canberra Operations | Cemeteries and Crematoria Authority.

I—Major Projects Canberra.

Indicative Land Release Program—2023-24 to 2027-28.

Financial Management Act, pursuant to subsection 62(1)—Statements of Intent—2023-2024—

Building and Construction Industry Training Fund Authority, dated 14, 16 and 23 June 2022.

ACT Long Service Leave Authority, undated.

Title read by Clerk.

Mr Barr moved—That this Bill be agreed to in principle.

Debate adjourned (Mr Hanson) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

25 APPROPRIATION (OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY) BILL 2023-2024

Mr Barr (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate money for expenditure in relation to the Office of the Legislative Assembly and officers of the Assembly for the financial year beginning on 1 July 2023, and for other purposes.

Papers: Mr Barr presented the following papers:

Explanatory statement to the Bill, incorporating a compatibility statement, pursuant to section 37 of the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Budget 2023-2024—Financial Management Act, pursuant to section 20AC—Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2023-2024—Departures from Recommended Appropriations—Statement of Reasons, dated 27 June 2023.

Title read by Clerk.

Mr Barr moved—That this Bill be agreed to in principle.

Debate adjourned (Mr Hanson) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

26 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) moved—That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the Assembly, at 5.29 pm, adjourned until tomorrow at 10 am.

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE: All Members were present at some time during the sitting, except Ms Lawder* and Ms Lee*.

*on leave.

Tom Duncan
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly