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Submission No. 7
(Inq into Bridging of Kings Ave.)

05/08/08 M.R.

Jon Stanhope MLA

CHIEF MINISTER

TREASURER MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, WATER AND CLIMATE CHANGE
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS

MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

The Hon Mark Butler MP
Chair, Parliamentary Standing Committee On Public Works
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear *Mark* Butler

I write to offer the ACT Government's support to the National Capital Authority's (NCA) submission to the Parliamentary Committee on Public Works for the proposed construction of a grade separated intersection at the junction of Parkes Way and Kings Avenue. I apologise for not forwarding this submission to you by the due date of 31 July 2008.

The proposed intersection works will facilitate the implementation of the NCA's Russell Masterplan and is a key initiative of the Griffin Legacy work. The construction of the overpass will:

- provide effective management of increased traffic volumes arising from recent and proposed expansion of Commonwealth office developments in Russell, Parkes and Barton at this intersection;
- significantly improve road safety at one of Canberra's most dangerous intersections;
- improve pedestrian and cycle access and safety between Russell and the lakeshore parklands; and
- offer economic and environmental benefits.

While improving the performance of this intersection, the ACT Government notes that this project does not address traffic problems on the surrounding roads of Constitution Avenue and Anzac Parade nor in the Russell precinct (particularly Sellheim Avenue). Traffic congestion on these roads will be generated by proposed office developments occupied by the Commonwealth. The ACT is concerned about the long term impact of these developments and urges your Committee to consider these issues when assessing the development proposal.

As you would be aware, the ACT Government and the NCA have signed a Memorandum of Understanding which requires the NCA to seek the agreement of the ACT prior to any works on the road system and to any proposed traffic management plans being implemented. The ACT Government will continue to work with the NCA as the project progresses to address project details of mutual interest.

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify the ACT Government's position in relation to this proposal.

Yours sincerely

Jon Stanhope MLA
Chief Minister

5 AUG 2008

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