



Chris Steel MLA

Minister for Community Services and Facilities
Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Transport and City Services
Member for Murrumbidgee

Mr Tom Duncan
Clerk
ACT Legislative Assembly
London Circuit
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Duncan

Thank you for your letter of 21 March 2019 regarding petition No 6-19 lodged by Mrs Elizabeth Kikkert MLA regarding public transport services for the Australian National University (ANU).

The ACT Government launched an integrated public transport network of bus and light rail services on 29 April 2019. This new network makes it easier for more students to get around our city on buses and light rail, every day of the week.

The new network includes a range of frequent, direct public transport services for students and staff travelling to the Australian National University. This includes:

- Rapid 1 Light Rail from Gungahlin to the City, stopping at the City Interchange;
- Rapid 2 from Fraser to Fyshwick, stopping near ANU on Barry Drive, Rimmer Street and Marcus Clarke Street;
- Rapid 3 from Spence to Canberra International Airport, stopping near the ANU on Barry Drive, Rimmer Street and Marcus Clarke Street;
- Rapid 4 from Tuggeranong to Belconnen, stopping near the ANU on Barry Drive, Rimmer Street and Marcus Clarke Street;
- Rapid 5 from Lanyon to City West, stopping near the ANU at City West;
- Rapid 6 from Woden to City West via Narrabundah, stopping near the ANU at City West;
- Rapid 7 from Weston Creek to City West, stopping near the ANU at City West;
- Rapid 10 from Denman Prospect to City West, stopping near the ANU at City West;
- Route 50 from Watson to the City via Lyneham, stopping near the ANU on Boldrewood Street, Rimmer Street and Marcus Clarke Street;
- Route 53 from Dickson to the National Museum via Ainslie, stopping near the ANU at City West and along Liversidge Street; and
- Peak routes 180, 181 and 182 from southern Tuggeranong to City West, stopping near the ANU at City West.

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This means that there is a bus or light rail vehicle stopping near the ANU about every 30 seconds in peak times to get ANU staff, students and visitors to and from the campus. About 90% of students and other customers travelling to and from the ANU already used Rapid stops on the fringes of the campus, and the new network improves services to these stops, with simpler and more frequent services, seven days a week.

I am pleased to advise that during the first seven weeks of the new public transport, many more Canberrans are using public transport, including tertiary students. The table below shows a comparison of tertiary student patronage over the first seven weeks of the new network, and the same period in 2018, based on data recorded by the MyWay ticketing system:

	30 April to 17 June 2018	29 April to 16 June 2019	% change
Boardings Every time someone gets on a vehicle, including the changes made across bus/light rail to complete a journey	515,203	539,586	4.73% increase
Journeys A whole trip, which may include more than one boarding/change eg: home to work	411,597	422,856	2.74% increase

Given the success to date of the new public transport network, the Government has no plans to operate a bus service similar to the former route 3 in the future. However, Transport Canberra is continuing to work with the ANU to make sure that students know what services are available to them, including ANU operated shuttle services within the campus.

Thank you for raising this matter. I trust the information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Chris Steel MLA
 Minister for Transport and City Services

-3 JUL 2019