



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Freedom of Information Disclosure Log Publication Coversheet

The following information is provided pursuant to section 28 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*.

Application Details	
Ref. No.	CMTEDDFOI 2025-417
Date of Application	15 November 2025
Date of Decision	28 January 2026
Processing time (in working days)	45
Fees	Waived
Decision on Access	Partial Release
Information Requested (summary)	I request access to all documents held by CMTEDD relating to the Monaro Rail Trail
Publication Details	
Original application	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Decision notice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Documents and schedule	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Decision made by Ombudsman	N/A
Additional information identified by Ombudsman	N/A
Decision made by ACAT	N/A
Additional information identified by ACAT	N/A

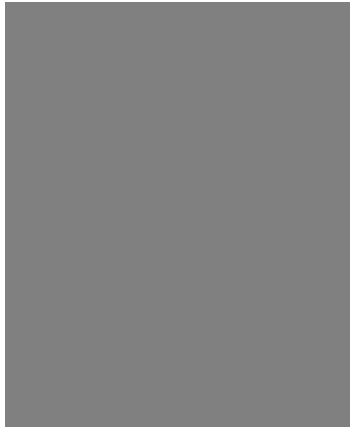
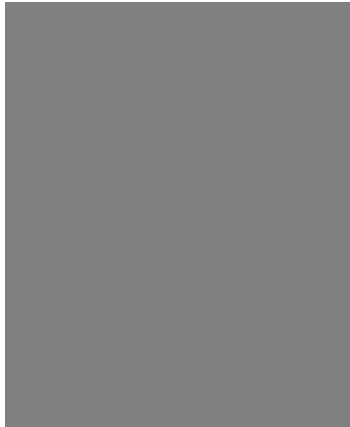
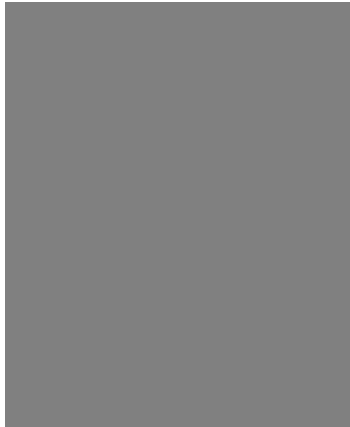
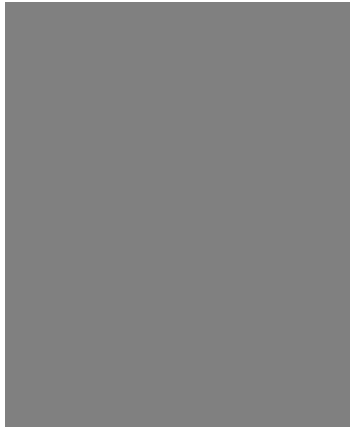
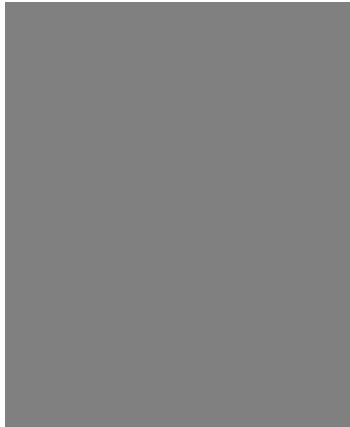
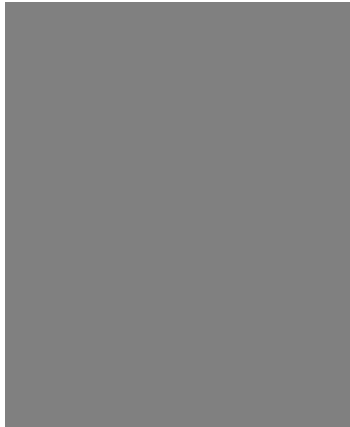
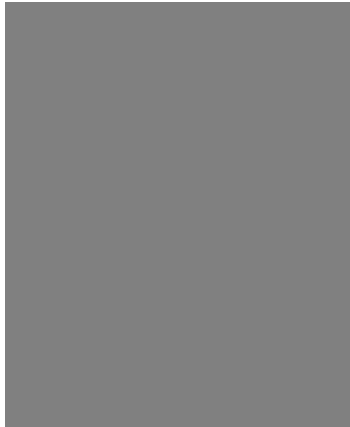
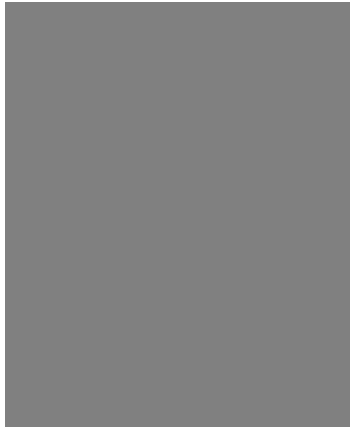
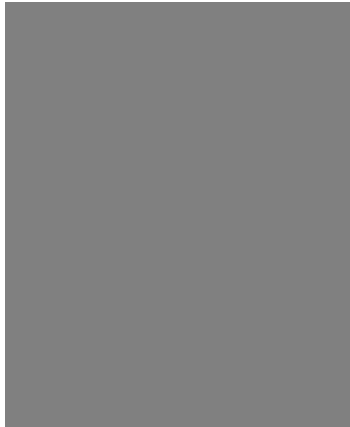
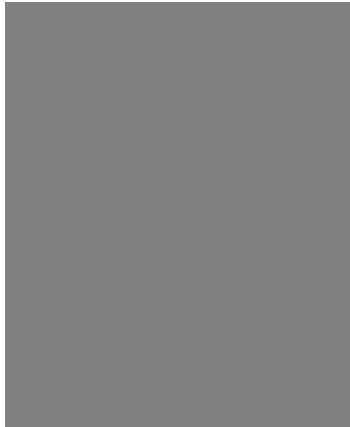
From: no-reply@act.gov.au
To: [CMTEDD FOI](#)
Subject: CMTEDDFOI 2025-417 - Freedom of Information request
Date: Saturday, 15 November 2025 3:56:40 PM

Caution: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Please find online enquiry details below. Please ensure this enquiry is responded to within fourteen working days.

Your details

All fields are optional, however an email address OR full postal address must be provided for us to process your request. An email address and telephone contact number will assist us to contact you quickly if we need to discuss your request.

Title: 
First Name: 
Last Name: 
Business/Organisation: 
Address: 
Suburb: 
Postcode: 
State/Territory: 
Phone/mobile: 
Email address: 

Request for information

(Please provide as much detail as possible, for example subject matter and relevant dates, and also provide details of documents that you are not interested in.)

I request access to all documents held by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD), including documents held by the Cross-Border Commissioner (ACT–NSW), Economic Development, Tourism, Events, and any Ministerial or Cabinet liaison units, relating to: 1. ACT–NSW Cross-Border Coordination (01/01/2015 – present) – Minutes, agendas, briefing notes, discussion papers, emails, memoranda and correspondence concerning coordination between the ACT Government and the NSW Government, Transport for NSW, and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council regarding: • the Monaro Rail Trail • cross-border active travel or cycling links • access to or use of the rail corridor near Hume/Gilmore • proposed ACT connections into any NSW rail trail infrastructure 2. Economic Development & Tourism Analysis – Any economic modelling, cost–benefit analysis, impact assessments, visitor economy assessments, investment proposals, or tourism strategy documents referencing: • the Monaro Rail Trail • potential ACT access points • projected cyclist/visitor numbers • Tuggeranong regional economic uplift • cycle tourism links into NSW 3. Regional Development & Strategic Planning – Any regional development strategies, long-term planning documents, internal assessments or

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2016 I want to access the following document/s (*required field):

evaluations that consider: • active travel connectivity between Tuggeranong and Hume • Monaro Highway corridor activation • tourism, recreation, or regional development projects connected to the Monaro Rail Trail 4. Ministerial Correspondence (ACT ↔ NSW) – All ministerial briefs, talking points, emails, letters, meeting notes, and correspondence exchanged between ACT Ministers (Chief Minister, Transport, Tourism, Economic Development) and NSW Ministers or their offices that mention or relate to: • the Monaro Rail Trail • access via Hume / Gilmore • cross-border cycling or trail development I request documents in electronic form where possible.

I do not seek access to: • duplicate copies of documents; • documents that have already been publicly released; • publicly accessible media statements or promotional materials; • routine administrative emails that do not contain substantive discussion (e.g., calendar invites, meeting room bookings); • personal information of private individuals (names, phone numbers, emails) except where belonging to ACT Government officials acting in their official capacity.

I do not want to access the following documents in relation to my request::

Thank you.
Freedom of Information Coordinator



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – NOTICE OF DECISION

I refer to your application under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (the Act), received by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD) on 17 November 2025. Specifically, you have sought access to the following information:

“I request access to all documents held by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD), including documents held by the Cross-Border Commissioner (ACT–NSW), Economic Development, Tourism, Events, and any Ministerial or Cabinet liaison units, relating to:

1. *ACT–NSW Cross-Border Coordination (01/01/2015 – present) – Minutes, agendas, briefing notes, discussion papers, emails, memoranda and correspondence concerning coordination between the ACT Government and the NSW Government, Transport for NSW, and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council regarding:*
 - *the Monaro Rail Trail*
 - *cross-border active travel or cycling links*
 - *access to or use of the rail corridor near Hume/Gilmore*
 - *proposed ACT connections into any NSW rail trail infrastructure*
2. *Economic Development & Tourism Analysis – Any economic modelling, cost–benefit analysis, impact assessments, visitor economy assessments, investment proposals, or tourism strategy documents referencing:*
 - *the Monaro Rail Trail*
 - *potential ACT access points*
 - *projected cyclist/visitor numbers*
 - *Tuggeranong regional economic uplift*
 - *cycle tourism links into NSW*
3. *Regional Development & Strategic Planning – Any regional development strategies, long-term planning documents, internal assessments or evaluations that consider:*
 - *active travel connectivity between Tuggeranong and Hume*
 - *Monaro Highway corridor activation*
 - *tourism, recreation, or regional development projects connected to the Monaro Rail Trail*
4. *Ministerial Correspondence (ACT ↔ NSW) – All ministerial briefs, talking points, emails, letters, meeting notes, and correspondence exchanged between ACT Ministers*

(Chief Minister, Transport, Tourism, Economic Development) and NSW Ministers or their offices that mention or relate to:

- *the Monaro Rail Trail*
- *access via Hume / Gilmore*
- *cross-border cycling or trail development I request documents in electronic form where possible."*

Authority

I am an Information Officer appointed by the CMTEDD Director-General under section 18 of the Act to deal with access applications made under Part 5 of the Act.

Timeframes

In accordance with section 40 of the Act, CMTEDD is required to provide a decision on your access application within 30 days.

As this matter required third party consultation, the decision due date was extended by 15 working days, in accordance with section 40(2) of the Act.

Therefore, a decision is due by **28 January 2026**.

Decision on access

Searches of CMTEDD records have identified 15 documents within the scope of your request.

I have decided to grant **full access** to eight documents.

I have decided to grant **partial access** to seven documents.

The records identified as relevant to your application are listed in the schedule enclosed at **Attachment A**. This provides a description of each document that falls within the scope of your request and the access decision for each of those documents.

Release of documents

The information being released to you is provided at **Attachment B**.

Statement of Reasons

In accordance with section 54(2) of the Act a statement of reasons outlining my decisions is below. In reaching my access decisions, I have taken the following into account:

- the Act
- the information that falls within the scope of your request
- the *Human Rights Act 2004*
- third party views
- information that is publicly available
- ACT Ombudsman FOI Guidelines

As a decision maker, I am required to determine whether the information within scope is in the public interest to release. To make this decision, I am required to:

- assess whether the information would be contrary to public interest to disclose as per **Schedule 1** of the Act.
- perform the public interest test as set out in section 17 of the Act by balancing the

factors favouring disclosure and factors favouring nondisclosure in **Schedule 2** of the Act.

Exemptions claimed

Schedule 1: Information taken to be contrary to the public interest.

My reasons for deciding not to grant access to the information or components of information found within documents are as follows:

- *No relevant sections identified.*

Public Interest Test

The Act has a presumption in favour of disclosure. As a decision maker I am required to decide where, on balance, public interest lies. As part of this process, I must consider factors favouring disclosure and nondisclosure.

In *Hogan v Hinch* (2011) 243 CLR 506, [31] French CJ stated that when ‘used in a statute, the term [public interest] derives its content from “the subject matter and the scope and purpose” of the enactment in which it appears’. Section 17(1) of the Act sets out the test, to be applied to determine whether disclosure of information would be contrary to the public interest. These factors are found in subsection 17(2) and Schedule 2 of the Act.

Schedule 2: Factors to be considered when deciding the public interest

Taking into consideration the information within scope of your request, I have identified that the following public interest factors are relevant to determine if release of the information contained within these documents is within the ‘public interest’.

Factors favouring disclosure (Section 2.1)

- *Section 2.1(a)(i) - promote open discussion of public affairs and enhance the government’s accountability.*
- *Section 2.1(a)(ii) - contribute to positive and informed debate on important issues or matters of public interest.*
- *Section 2.1(a)(viii) - reveal the reason for a government decision and any background or contextual information that informed the decision.*

I consider release of the information contained in these documents could reasonably promote open discussion and enhance the government’s accountability regarding the work undertaken for the Monaro rail trail project. I find the release of this information would reasonably contribute to government’s accountability, contribute to informed debate on matters of public interest while providing background on a government response.

I am satisfied that these factors favouring disclosure carry some weight. However, these factors are to be balanced against the factors favouring nondisclosure.

Factors favouring nondisclosure (Section 2.2)

- *Section 2.2(a)(ii) - prejudice the protection of an individual’s right to privacy or any other right under the Human Rights Act 2004.*

Having reviewed the information, I consider that the protection of an individual’s right to privacy, is a significant factor. Release of information concerning individuals working within the ACT Public Service is generally not considered to prejudice the protection of an individual’s right to privacy. However, mobile phone numbers which may be used for

work and home purposes, have been redacted as releasing them could reasonably be expected to prejudice an individual's right to privacy under the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Some information within your requested scope also includes personal information of third parties that would reasonably be expected to prejudice an individual's right to privacy under the *Human Rights Act 2004*. Where this information is not publicly available, this information has been redacted, as I consider that the release of this information could impact their right to privacy, this is mostly notably in the context of personal contact details and signatures. Considering the type of information to be withheld from release, I am satisfied that the factors in favour of release can still be met while protecting the personal information of the individuals involved.

Having applied the test outlined in section 17 of the Act and deciding that release of some information contained in the documents is not in the public interest to release, I have chosen to redact this specific information in accordance with section 50(2). Noting the pro-disclosure intent of the Act, I am satisfied that redacting only the information that I believe is not in the public interest to release will ensure that the intent of the Act is met and will provide you with access to the majority of the information held by CMTEDD within the scope of your request.

Charges

Processing charges are applicable for this request because the total number of pages to be released to you exceeds the charging threshold of 50 pages. However, the charges have been waived.

Online publishing – Disclosure Log

Under section 28 of the Act, CMTEDD maintains an online record of access applications called a [disclosure log](#).

Your original access application and my decision will be published on the CMTEDD disclosure log. Your personal contact details will not be published.

Ombudsman Review

My decision on your access request is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the Act. You have the right to seek Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is provided to you, or a longer period allowed by the Ombudsman.

We recommend using this form [Applying for an Ombudsman Review](#) to ensure you provide all of the required information. Alternatively, you may write to the Ombudsman at:

The ACT Ombudsman
GPO Box 442
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) Review

Under section 84 of the Act, if a decision is made under section 82(1) on an Ombudsman review, you may apply to the ACAT for review of the Ombudsman decision. Further information may be obtained from the ACAT at:

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal

GPO Box 370
Canberra City ACT 2601
Telephone: (02) 6207 1740
<http://www.acat.act.gov.au/>

Should you have any queries in relation to your request please contact the CMTEDD FOI Team by telephone on 6207 7754 or email CMTEDDFOI@act.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Handwritten signature of Emma Hotham, consisting of the letters 'EH' in a stylized, cursive font.

Emma Hotham
Information Officer
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

28 January 2026



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST SCHEDULE

WHAT ARE THE PARAMETERS OF THE REQUEST	Reference NO.
<p><i>"I request access to all documents held by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD), including documents held by the Cross-Border Commissioner (ACT–NSW), Economic Development, Tourism, Events, and any Ministerial or Cabinet liaison units, relating to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>ACT–NSW Cross-Border Coordination (01/01/2015 – present) – Minutes, agendas, briefing notes, discussion papers, emails, memoranda and correspondence concerning coordination between the ACT Government and the NSW Government, Transport for NSW, and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council regarding:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>the Monaro Rail Trail</i><i>cross-border active travel or cycling links</i><i>access to or use of the rail corridor near Hume/Gilmore</i><i>proposed ACT connections into any NSW rail trail infrastructure</i><i>Economic Development & Tourism Analysis – Any economic modelling, cost–benefit analysis, impact assessments, visitor economy assessments, investment proposals, or tourism strategy documents referencing:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>the Monaro Rail Trail</i><i>potential ACT access points</i><i>projected cyclist/visitor numbers</i><i>Tuggeranong regional economic uplift</i><i>cycle tourism links into NSW</i><i>Regional Development & Strategic Planning – Any regional development strategies, long-term planning documents, internal assessments or evaluations that consider:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>active travel connectivity between Tuggeranong and Hume</i><i>Monaro Highway corridor activation</i><i>tourism, recreation, or regional development projects connected to the Monaro Rail Trail</i><i>Ministerial Correspondence (ACT ↔ NSW) – All ministerial briefs, talking points, emails, letters, meeting notes, and correspondence exchanged between ACT Ministers (Chief Minister, Transport, Tourism, Economic Development) and NSW Ministers or their offices that mention or relate to:</i>	<p>CMTEDDFOI 2025-417</p>

- the Monaro Rail Trail
- access via Hume / Gilmore
- cross-border cycling or trail development I request documents in electronic form where possible.”

Ref No	Page number	Description	Date	Status	Reason for Exemption	Online Release Status
1	1-4	Email Correspondence: FW: URGENT CM MIN REPSONSE - Monaro Rail Trail DUE 11am 27 January pls	20 January 2021	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
2	5-6	Email Correspondence: RE: Monaro Rail Trail	2 April 2022	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
3	7-10	Email Correspondence: FW: Advice pls - Ministerial Correspondence - Barr - Clay MLA - Canberra Rail & the Monaro Rail Trail	3 April 2022	Full release		Yes
4	11-13	Email Correspondence: RE: Monaro Rail Trail briefing	21 May 2022	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
5	14-17	Email Correspondence: FW: Letter from CEO Peter Bascomb - Council position - Future use of the Cooma to Bombala Rail Corridor	16 November 2022	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
6	18-19	Email Correspondence: Re: Letter from CEO Peter Bascomb - Council position - Future use of the Cooma to Bombala Rail Corridor	16 November 2022	Full release		Yes
7	20-22	Email Correspondence: Correspondence from the Chief Minister	21 February 2022	Full release		Yes
8	23-26	Email Correspondence: FW: Ministerial Correspondence - Barr - Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council - Monaro Rail Trail	31 January 2022	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
9	27-28	Email Correspondence: Ministerial Correspondence - Barr - Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council - Monaro Rail Trail	27 January 2022	Full release		Yes
10	29-30	Email Correspondence: RE: Ministerial Correspondence - Barr - Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-	7 February 2022	Full release		Yes

		Palerang Regional Council - Monaro Rail Trail				
11	31-33	Email Correspondence: URGENT CM MIN REPSONSE - Monaro Rail Trail DUE 11am 27 January pls	20 January 2021	Partial Release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
12	34-50	Email Correspondence: RE: CM LOS for Monaro Rail Trail - Additional input from City Services	27 January 2021	Full release		Yes
13	51-53	Email Correspondence: Correspondence from the Chief Minister	27 January 2021	Full release		Yes
14	54-58	Email Correspondence: DLO Request - Input for CMTEDD (CM Stream) - Canberra Rail & the Monaro Rail Trail	4 April 2022	Partial release	Sch 2 s2.2 (a)(ii)	Yes
15	59	Email Correspondence: RE: QTON 171- CMTEDD-PCD - Monaro Rail Trail - Clay	4 August 2023	Full release		Yes
Total No of Docs						
15						

From: "MacLachlan, Judy" <Judy.MacLachlan@act.gov.au>
Sent: 20/01/2021 2:09 PM
To: "Comacchio, Teresa" <Teresa.Comacchio@act.gov.au>
Cc: "Kobus, Jonathan" <Jonathan.Kobus@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: URGENT CM MIN REPSONSE - Monaro Rail Trail DUE 11am 27 January pls
Attachments: scan_karen kennedy_2021-01-19-12-02-18.pdf, Monaro Rail Trail
Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Hi Teresa

Are you able to take this one please? I'll set up the workflow and put a letterhead template in the container and send you the wire link. Its **due to CMO no later than 11am Wed 27 Jan**

NB: There was an email that came to JK (and Kate) late last year from Martin Darcy at QBN-Palerang Regional Council (attached) seeking intros to ACTG Gov people for Monaro Rail Trails, but also advising that the NSW government did a feasibility reinstatement of the rail reinstatement and found that it was not viable. Just flagging in case it's relevant and worth a follow up with Mr Darcy and advice of same to CMO?

Thanks and regards
Judy

From: Kennedy, Karen <Karen.Kennedy@act.gov.au> **On Behalf Of** CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO
Sent: Wednesday, 20 January 2021 12:55 PM
To: CMTEDD MLO <CMTEDD.MLO@act.gov.au>
Cc: MacLachlan, Judy <Judy.MacLachlan@act.gov.au>; CMTEDD, Economic Development <ecodev@act.gov.au>; Hanns, Susan <Susan.Hanns@act.gov.au>; Kovacevic, Anita <Anita.Kovacevic@act.gov.au>
Subject: URGENT CM MIN REPSONSE - Monaro Rail Trail DUE 11am 27 January pls
Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Hi MLO Team,

Please allocate to [VisitCanberra](#) to prepare an urgent letter of support from the Chief Minister please.

Can the response please be here no later than **11am 27 January** so the Chief Minister can sign in time for Monaro Rail Trail to lodge their application for a grant.

Thanks
KK

Karen Kennedy | Directorate Liaison Officer - Economic Development
Office of the Chief Minister | Office of Minister Berry
Office of Minister Steel | Office of Minister Cheyne
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government
6205 4643 | [Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#) | EcoDevDLO@act.gov.au
ACT Legislative Assembly, 196 London Circuit Canberra City ACT 2601

From: Kennedy, Karen **On Behalf Of** CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO
Sent: Wednesday, 20 January 2021 10:06 AM

To: Kelly, Emma <Emma.Kelly@act.gov.au>
Subject: Monaro Rail Trail

OFFICIAL

Hi Emma,

Advice from VisitCanberra is below, just waiting for Events ACT but I don't think they meet with them.

- From a VisitCanberra perspective, VisitCanberra has advised they met with members of Monaro Rail Trail team a while ago – probably 2018-19 – including Andrew Carter (mentioned in the letter). They presented their plans and advised at that time that it was going to Council for approval. There has been no further, more recent contact with VisitCanberra since then.
- Jonathan Kobus is currently on leave until 25 January, so they will double check with Jonathan when he is back to see if he can provide anything further.

Let me know if you need anything further and also did you want me to request a response for this corro?

Thanks
KK

From: Kennedy, Karen <Karen.Kennedy@act.gov.au> **On Behalf Of** CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO
Sent: Tuesday, 19 January 2021 12:25 PM
Subject: Monaro Rail Trail

OFFICIAL

Hi Judy and Anita,

Can I ask that you let me know if JK or Ross have meet with (or are going to meet with) Ken Lister regarding the proposed Monaro Rail Trail?

The attached letter mentions he is meeting with officials.

The CMO would like to know this ahead of requesting a response for this letter. If they have met what was the outcome of the meeting (Just a brief outline please).

Thanks
KK

Karen Kennedy | Directorate Liaison Officer - Economic Development
Office of the Chief Minister | Office of Minister Berry
Office of Minister Steel | Office of Minister Cheyne
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government
6205 4643 | [Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#) | EcoDevDLO@act.gov.au
ACT Legislative Assembly, 196 London Circuit Canberra City ACT 2601

From: Kennedy, Karen <karen.kennedy@act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 19 January 2021 12:03 PM
To: Kennedy, Karen <Karen.Kennedy@act.gov.au>
Subject: Your scan (Scan to My Email)



Monaro Rail Trail Inc.
Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Minister Andrew Barr, MLA
Chief Minister
Minister for Tourism and Special Events
barr@act.gov.au

Dear Chief Minister,

Re: Monaro Rail Trail

I am writing to you to provide information about the proposed Monaro Rail Trail, and to seek your support for an application to the NSW Government by Snowy Monaro Regional Council (SMRC) in association with Monaro Rail Trail Inc. (MRT), for funding under the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund to enable its construction.

This is a world class tourism initiative which converts the 213 km disused rail corridor from Tralee to Bombala into a recreational facility shared by cyclists, runners and walkers of all ages and abilities. We believe it will be the greatest recreational trail in Australia, even longer than the iconic Otago Rail Trail in New Zealand which is 150 km and the longest rail trail in Victoria which is 175 km.

The Monaro Rail Trail has potential to provide long-term economic stimulus to the ACT as well as towns and villages along the route. It aligns strategically with your Government's *CBR Cycle Tourism Strategy* which places Canberra as the symbolic trail head for cycle tourism initiatives across surrounding regions. I know you already appreciate the great benefits of cycling beyond economic benefits, such as physical and mental health wellbeing, heritage protection and environmental conservation.

SMRC is seeking funding to enable Stage 1 of 3 stages of the shared pathway to be commenced in July 2021 at a cost of approximately \$19 million. This comprises construction of a sealed section from Hume/Tralee to Michelago (41km), and other sections at Bredbo (11km), Cooma (8.5km), Nimmitabel (8.5km) and Bombala (25km). As demand grows and funding becomes available, these sections will be extended then linked to provide a continuous journey for recreational cycling and walking, and importantly signature annual cycling events.

I am pleased to advise that officers within your administration have agreed to meet with MRT representatives next week to be briefed on the project and discuss potential linkages between the ACT cycle network and the MRT. The above mentioned application for grant funding closes on 28th January 2021, and I know a letter of support from you would go some way towards achieving a positive outcome. I would be delighted to meet with you in the meantime, or at any time to provide you with a more detailed briefing.

Please don't hesitate to contact Andrew Carter on mobile Sch 2.2(a)(ii) or email Sch 2.2(a)(ii). Andrew Sch 2.2(a)(ii) has previously liaised with your officers in Visit Canberra and is happy to help with more information.

Yours sincerely,
Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Ken Lister
President MRT Inc.

Date

11 Jan 2021

From: "Martin Darcy" <Martin.Darcy@qprc.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: 16/12/2020 11:03 AM
To: "Kobus, Jonathan" <Jonathan.Kobus@act.gov.au>; "Starick, Kate" <Kate.Starick@act.gov.au>
Subject: Monaro Rail Trail

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Jonathan and Kate,
No doubt you are both busy and up to your armpits in Covid recovery strategy implementation :)

I have been asked by the Monaro Rail Trail Inc to make introductions to relevant people in ACT Govt who they can brief and consult with and no doubt seek support. Would you be comfortable with me making an e-introduction or can you provide a relevant delegate for them to speak to.

The Monaro Rail Trail is a proposed cycle trail from Canberra/Queanbeyan to Bombala via Royalla, Michaelago, Bredbo, Cooma Nimatabel and Bombala. You will be aware that the NSW government did a feasibility on the reinstatement of the rail and found that it was not viable. The Snowy Monaro Regional Council has formally supported the Rail Trail. There is a report going to QPRC tonight seeking in principle support for the Rail Trail so at this stage I cannot advise you of the outcome of that. Our Council was not supportive of the Molonglo Rail Trail for unrelated reasons.

I would be happy to brief you on QPRC position if required.

Regards

Martin Darcy
Service Manager - Business and Innovation

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

Tel: 02 6285 6571 **Mob:** [Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

Web: www.qprc.nsw.gov.au

Mail: PO Box 90 Queanbeyan NSW 2620



This message has been scanned for malware by Websense. www.websense.com

From: "Clapham, David" <David.Clapham@act.gov.au>
Sent: 02/04/2022 8:36 AM
To: "Andrew Carter" <Sch 2.2(a)(ii)>
Cc: "Ken Lister" <Sch 2.2(a)(ii)> "Mark Adams" <Mark.Adams@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au>; "Campbell, Morgan" <Morgan.Campbell@act.gov.au>; "Kobus, Jonathan" <Jonathan.Kobus@act.gov.au>; "Carmody, Sophie" <Sophie.Carmody@act.gov.au>; "Barbaro, Theresa" <Theresa.Barbaro@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Monaro Rail Trail

OFFICIAL

Dear Andrew

Thanks for reaching out. Yes, a briefing would be great, thank you. I've copied my EA Theresa who can find the best time in my diary, however it would be good to also have a representative from VisitCanberra – I've copied Morgan and Jonathan to nominate the best representative. Let's try to find a time that suits all..

Best

David

David Clapham | Executive Branch Manager
Better Regulation Taskforce | Economic and Regional Policy Branch | **Policy & Cabinet Division**
☎ 02 6205 7261 | **Chief Minister, Treasury & Economic Development Directorate** | ACT Government
Level 5, 220 London Circuit | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au

From: Andrew Carter <Sch 2.2(a)(ii)>
Sent: Wednesday, 30 March 2022 10:10 AM
To: Clapham, David <David.Clapham@act.gov.au>
Cc: Ken Lister <Sch 2.2(a)(ii)>; Mark Adams <Mark.Adams@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Monaro Rail Trail

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello David

MRT Inc would like to offer you a briefing on the proposed rail trail and some of the possibilities it has to offer ACT residents as well as how it may involve the ACT Government. Following from the Chief Minister's letter of support to the CEO of the two stakeholder Shires of Queanbeyan Palerang and Snowy Monaro we feel now would be an appropriate time to give you some background on the project.

We began these briefings with your predecessors a number of years ago but broke off while waiting for the report on the feasibility of returned rail services on the rail corridor. Now that the key stakeholders including the Chief Minister have shown visible support to the project, we would like to renew contact with your section. Perhaps you would like to nominate some possible times for a face-to-face meeting, Mondays and Wednesdays are good for me (but not Monday next week).

Regards

Andrew Carter

Andrew Carter
Steering Group member
Monaro Rail Trail Inc
1149 Old Bega Road Steeple Flat NSW



www.monarorailtrail.com.au

phone Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

From: "Clapham, David" <David.Clapham@act.gov.au>
Sent: 03/04/2022 7:42 AM
To: "Campbell, Morgan" <Morgan.Campbell@act.gov.au>; "Kobus, Jonathan" <Jonathan.Kobus@act.gov.au>
Cc: "Davies, Dean" <Dean.Davies@act.gov.au>; "Carmody, Sophie" <Sophie.Carmody@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Advice pls - Ministerial Correspondence - Barr - Clay MLA - Canberra Rail & the Monaro Rail Trail
Attachments: 220328 Clay to Barr re rail and monaro rail trail.pdf

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Dear Morgan and JK

Heads up that we will need some VC input into this Ministerial on the question of rail trails.

Happy to discuss, thanks

David

From: Hodshon, Gerard <Gerard.Hodshon@act.gov.au> **On Behalf Of** CMCD DLO
Sent: Friday, 1 April 2022 7:47 AM
To: Clapham, David <David.Clapham@act.gov.au>
Subject: Advice pls - Ministerial Correspondence - Barr - Clay MLA - Canberra Rail & the Monaro Rail Trail

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

DC are you ok with your team coordinating this response?

I will action on your advice.

Many thanks,
Gez

From: BARR Reception <BARR@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 31 March 2022 3:38 PM
To: CMCD DLO <CMCDDLO@act.gov.au>
Cc: ODonoghue, Yersheena <Yersheena.ODonoghue@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Letter from Jo Clay MLA to Chief Minister re Rail

Hi Gez and Louise

For CM response please – Yersheena has suggested David Clapham’s team take it with input from Climate Action.

Thanks
Iris

From: CLAY <CLAY@parliament.act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 29 March 2022 4:52 PM
To: BARR Reception <BARR@act.gov.au>
Subject: Letter from Jo Clay MLA to Chief Minister re Rail

Dear Barr Team,

Please see attached letter from Jo Clay MLA.

Kind Regards,

Office of Jo Clay MLA | ACT Greens Member for Ginninderra | ACT Greens Spokesperson for Transport, Planning, Parks and Conservation, Animal Welfare, Arts and Culture, Science, Circular Economy and Women

t: (02) 6205 0131 | e: Clay@parliament.act.gov.au

Follow Jo on [Facebook](#)

The Greens acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' relationship with the land and water, and their rights and obligations as Traditional Custodians must be respected. As sovereignty was never ceded, the Greens recognise that to become a truly reconciled nation, we must act to empower, listen to, and support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their families and communities.





JO CLAY MLA



(02) 6205 0131 | clay@parliament.act.gov.au | Member for Ginninderra

28 March 2022

Chief Minister Andrew Barr
Minister for Climate Action, Minister for Economic Development, Minister for Tourism
Via : Barr@act.gov.au

Dear Chief Minister,

I am writing to you in your role as the Chief Minister, Minister for Climate Action and Minister for Tourism to enquire about how you are working with interstate jurisdictions and local business to encourage freight and passenger rail transport between the ACT and NSW in order to cut our Scope 1 and Scope 3 emissions for the ACT.

Are you able to tell me what work is being done to facilitate access for the ACT to the rail corridor on the NSW side of the border, adjacent to the industrial suburb of Hume, in order to allow businesses there to access freight by rail and reduce their supply chain emissions? Are you also able to tell me if there is work being done to support Fyshwick businesses to access the section of rail within our borders, as an alternative to road transport for their interstate transport and freight needs?

I would also appreciate any information on work that is being undertaken to improve the commuter rail experience between the ACT and NSW and what work the ACT Government may be undertaking to support improvements to the rail network that connects the ACT with NSW. I would appreciate information on any support or advocacy by the ACT Government to improve journey times on this network.

I'd also like to enquire about any work the ACT Government is undertaking regarding the Monaro rail trail proposal, which would run adjacent to the ACT border and would be a significant cycle tourism draw to the territory and Canberra region, noting that this program has received support from the relevant local government areas within NSW?



JO CLAY MLA

10



(02) 6205 0131 | clay@parliament.act.gov.au | Member for Ginninderra

I look forward to receiving your responses. I am very excited to work further on our shared priorities of reducing our emissions, encouraging sustainable transport and developing the ACT as an important regional hub for tourism and business.

Your sincerely,

Jo Clay MLA.

From: "Clapham, David" <David.Clapham@act.gov.au>
Sent: 21/05/2022 6:49 AM
To: "Andrew Carter" <Sch 2.2(a)(ii)> "Davies, Dean" <Dean.Davies@act.gov.au>
Cc: "Kobus, Jonathan" <Jonathan.Kobus@act.gov.au>; "Lalor, Justin" <Justin.Lalor@act.gov.au>; "mark.adams@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au" <mark.adams@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au>; <Sch 2.2(a)(ii)>; "ryan.deebank@qprc.nsw.gov.au" <ryan.deebank@qprc.nsw.gov.au>; "Carmody, Sophie" <Sophie.Carmody@act.gov.au>; "Barbaro, Theresa" <Theresa.Barbaro@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Monaro Rail Trail briefing

OFFICIAL

Dear Andrew

Thank you for the presentation on the MRT, to me it sounds like a great project and great opportunity for cross-border collaboration on tourism infrastructure with great benefits for the region.

Yes let's re-engage after you have completed the Trail Development Plan. As I said, as you get to the stage of seeking funding, I am happy to assist in seeking ACT letters of support etc. If the project goes ahead then ensuring strong connections into the ACT's cycleways will be key, and I can assist in engaging with Transport Canberra and City Service to understand what's needed and the necessary steps to any additional investment on the ACT side.

I do think it is worth keeping the Cross-border Commissioner's Office informed as the project may be eligible for the cross-border infrastructure fund that Office runs.

Thanks again, talk to you soon

David

David Clapham | Executive Branch Manager
 Better Regulation Taskforce | Economic and Regional Policy Branch | **Policy & Cabinet Division**
 ☎ 02 6205 7261 | **Chief Minister, Treasury & Economic Development Directorate** | ACT Government
 Level 5, 220 London Circuit | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au

From: Andrew Carter <Sch 2.2(a)(ii)>
Sent: Thursday, 12 May 2022 3:34 PM
To: Davies, Dean <Dean.Davies@act.gov.au>
Cc: Clapham, David <David.Clapham@act.gov.au>; Kobus, Jonathan <Jonathan.Kobus@act.gov.au>; Lalor, Justin <Justin.Lalor@act.gov.au>; mark.adams@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au; <Sch 2.2(a)(ii)>; ryan.deebank@qprc.nsw.gov.au; Carmody, Sophie <Sophie.Carmody@act.gov.au>; Barbaro, Theresa <Theresa.Barbaro@act.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Monaro Rail Trail briefing

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Hello Dean
 and David
 Thank you
 for

yesterday's opportunity to inform you of progress with the Monaro Rail Trail. It is a large project that is going to take some effort to bring to fruition and the need to work across jurisdiction boundaries adds complexity.

We would like to come back to you for further discussion as the full benefits of the trail can only be achieved by successful integration of MRT and the Canberra cycleways that will provide Canberra and Queanbeyan

residents with easy access to the trail. I think it is fair to say that each of the three stakeholders, SMRC, QPRC and ACT depend on support and commitment from the other two for the project to proceed.

Perhaps the timing of the next discussion could be after formal approval of the Trail Development Plan which details possible route options for this northern end, particularly Queanbeyan to Hume. In the meantime, your support in promoting the MRT within the key cross border organizations of CRJO, the Office of the Cross Border Commissioner and the tourism groups would be greatly appreciated. The MRT can be promoted as a "shovel ready " infrastructure project with attractive benefits.

Thanks for your sincere interest yesterday.
regards
Andrew Carter
MRT Committee.

On Wed, May 11, 2022 at 3:58 PM Davies, Dean <Dean.Davies@act.gov.au> wrote:

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon all,

Thank you for meeting at 220 London Circuit today to present details on the proposed Monaro Rail Trail.

We gained an increased understanding of the project, and being able to do so face-to-face was greatly appreciated!

Confirming today's attendees:

ACT Government – Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Policy and Cabinet

- David Clapham, Executive Branch Manager, Economic and Regional Policy
- Dean Davies, Director, Planning, Infrastructure and Environment

Economic Development

- Jonathon Kobus, Executive Group Manager, Policy and Strategy
- Justin Lalor, Director, Event Development

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

- Ryan Deebank

Snowy Monaro Regional Council

- Mark Adams

Monaro Rail Trail

- Andrew Carter
- Carlo Botto
- Rick Moor

Happy to discuss,

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From: "Clapham, David" <David.Clapham@act.gov.au>
Sent: 16/11/2022 1:31 PM
To: "Kobus, Jonathan" <Jonathan.Kobus@act.gov.au>
Cc: "Barnett, Vanessa" <Vanessa.Barnett@act.gov.au>; "Davies, Dean" <Dean.Davies@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Letter from CEO Peter Bascomb - Council position - Future use of the Cooma to Bombala Rail Corridor
Attachments: 2022 11 16 - Letter to ACT Government - Future use of the Cooma to Bombala Rail Corridor.pdf
Categories: FOR REPLY

OFFICIAL

JK – Please see attached letter from Snowy Monaro Council in relation to their intent to begin discussions on the potential lease of the rail corridor to facilitate a rail trail.

No urgent action– keen for your view on whether we should pass to the CM?

From: Jemima Trigg <Jemima.Trigg@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 16 November 2022 1:26 PM
To: Clapham, David <David.Clapham@act.gov.au>
Cc: Davies, Dean <Dean.Davies@act.gov.au>; 'Ryan Deebank' <Ryan.Deebank@qprc.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Letter from CEO Peter Bascomb - Council position - Future use of the Cooma to Bombala Rail Corridor

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Good afternoon
David

Please find attached a letter from CEO Peter Bascomb.
This letter acknowledges the council resolution of item 9.4.3: Council position - Future use of the Cooma to Bombala Rail Corridor, from our 20 October 2022 Council Meeting.

Kinds regards
Jem

Jemima Trigg
Executive Assistant (Communications)



PO Box 714
COOMA NSW 2630

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Phone 1300 345 345
Fax (02) 6456 3337
snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au

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Enquiries: Mark Adams

Our Ref: 22/118053

16 November 2022

 David Clapham
 Executive Branch Manager
 Economic and Regional Policy
 ACT Government

 By email: david.clapham@act.gov.au
dean.davies@act.gov.au

Dear Mr Clapham

Council position - Future use of the Cooma to Bombala Rail Corridor

I am writing to keep you informed of progress on the potential development of the Monaro Rail Trail. In recent months Council has been considering the views of two community groups – Cooma Monaro Railway (CMR) and Monaro Rail Trail Incorporated (MRT Inc) in relation to their aspirations for the disused rail corridor between Queanbeyan and Bombala. Council recognises that it does not own or control the rail corridor at present. However if a rail trail is to be developed within the corridor in the future, Council would be required to assume responsibility for this project and subsequent related lease of the corridor.

In Item 9.4.3 of the business paper for its meeting on 20 October 2022, Council considered its position in regard to the future use of the rail corridor. Council made the following resolution:

That Council

- A. Support the continued planning for the Monaro Rail Trail from Queanbeyan to Cooma, and Bombala to Jincumbilly, including finalising the business case and potential lease discussions with TfNSW for those sections (noting this is not a resolution to apply for funding to construct the rail trail or enter a lease, but to commence discussion);
- B. Provide a written undertaking to Cooma Monaro Railway (CMR) that Council will agree to vary any future rail trail lease between Bombala and Jincumbilly (at no cost to CMR) to enable reinstatement of the rail line (at no cost to Council) should Stage 4 funding of the CMR Operational Business Plan (Version 2.3.2 August 2022) be received, and subject to Stages 2 and 3 of that Plan (ie Cooma to Nimmitabel) having been constructed prior to this;
- C. Not undertake to fund the cost of relocating the MRT if point B (above) eventuates;
- D. Resolve to continue to work with all parties on continuing investigations of potential shared use arrangements, costings, feasibility evaluations, etc along the rail corridor between Cooma and Bombala;
- E. Inform state agencies (TfNSW, DRNSW) and federal and state members of Council's adopted position on this matter.

As a result of this resolution, Council will be approaching TfNSW with a view to beginning discussions regarding the potential lease of the rail corridor for a rail trail. As per part A of the resolution, the focus of the initial lease discussions from Council's point of view would be for the Queanbeyan to Cooma and Bombala to Jincumbilly sections of the rail corridor.

Council will continue to keep you updated on progress of the Monaro Rail Trail and any opportunities for ACT government cooperation, contribution or assistance to the project.

If you have any questions in relation to this letter, please contact Council's Coordinator Economic Development, Mark Adams, on 0428 540 930 or mark.adams@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au

Yours faithfully

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)



Peter Bascomb

Chief Executive Officer

cc: Ryan Deebank, QPRC

From: "Kobus, Jonathan"
Sent: 16/11/2022 5:09 PM
To: "Clapham, David" <David.Clapham@act.gov.au>
Cc: "Barnett, Vanessa" <Vanessa.Barnett@act.gov.au>; "Davies, Dean" <Dean.Davies@act.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Letter from CEO Peter Bascomb - Council position - Future use of the Cooma to Bombala Rail Corridor
Categories: FOR REPLY

Thanks David . Positive progress without necessarily leading to anything actually happening. Worth passing on to CMO for awareness though. Perhaps a discussion point at a future CRJO meeting too.

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From: Clapham, David <David.Clapham@act.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 1:31 pm
To: Kobus, Jonathan <Jonathan.Kobus@act.gov.au>
Cc: Barnett, Vanessa <Vanessa.Barnett@act.gov.au>; Davies, Dean <Dean.Davies@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Letter from CEO Peter Bascomb - Council position - Future use of the Cooma to Bombala Rail Corridor

OFFICIAL

JK – Please see attached letter from Snowy Monaro Council in relation to their intent to begin discussions on the potential lease of the rail corridor to facilitate a rail trail.

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From: Jemima Trigg <Jemima.Trigg@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 16 November 2022 1:26 PM
To: Clapham, David <David.Clapham@act.gov.au>
Cc: Davies, Dean <Dean.Davies@act.gov.au>; 'Ryan Deebank' <Ryan.Deebank@qprc.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Letter from CEO Peter Bascomb - Council position - Future use of the Cooma to Bombala Rail Corridor

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Good afternoon
David

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This letter acknowledges the council resolution of item 9.4.3: Council position - Future use of the Cooma to Bombala Rail Corridor, from our 20 October 2022 Council Meeting.

Kinds regards
Jem

Jemima Trigg
Executive Assistant (Communications)



PO Box 714
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From: "BARR Reception" <BARR@act.gov.au>
Sent: 21/02/2022 2:57 PM
To: "peter.bascomb@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au" <peter.bascomb@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au>;
"peter.tegart@qprc.nsw.gov.au" <peter.tegart@qprc.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Correspondence from the Chief Minister
Attachments: Response - Barr to Bascomb and Tegar.PDF

Good Afternoon

Please see attached a letter from the ACT Chief Minister.

Kind regards

Iris Eggar

Office of Andrew Barr MLA

Chief Minister

Treasurer

Minister for Climate Action

Minister for Economic Development

Minister for Tourism

Member for Kurrajong





Andrew Barr MLA

Chief Minister

Treasurer

Minister for Climate Action

Minister for Economic Development

Minister for Tourism

Member for Kurrajong

Mr Peter Bascomb
Chief Executive Officer
Snowy Monaro Regional Council
PO Box 714
COOMA NSW 2630

Mr Peter Tegart
Chief Executive Officer
Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
PO Box 90
QUEANBEYAN NSW 2620

Dear Mr Bascomb and Mr Tegart

Thank you for your letter of 21 January 2022 about the Monaro Rail Trail (MRT) project. I am pleased that the Snowy Monaro Regional Council (SMRC) and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council (QPRC) are working cooperatively on the preparation of a Trail Development Plan.

As you are aware, the ACT Government's interest in cycling and cycle tourism extends to a regional context, including the opportunities and benefits of regional cycle touring routes and a potential rail trail. The ACT Government is also currently undertaking an active travel plan for the ACT, and connections with any eventual MRT will be considered as part of this effort.

To progress further discussions between the ACT Government, SMRC and QPRC on the project, I have asked that David Clapham, Executive Branch Manager, Economic and Regional Policy (Policy and Cabinet), contact SMRC's Coordinator of Economic Development regarding a project briefing.

Policy and Cabinet will also be able to facilitate the involvement of other relevant ACT Government stakeholders as required, including those that have previously engaged with Monaro Rail Trail Inc.

I look forward to receiving further updates as project planning continues.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Barr MLA

Chief Minister

21 February 2022



Andrew Barr MLA

Chief Minister

Treasurer

Minister for Climate Action

Minister for Economic Development

Minister for Tourism

Member for Kurrajong

Mr Peter Bascomb
Chief Executive Officer
Snowy Monaro Regional Council
PO Box 714
COOMA NSW 2630

Mr Peter Tegart
Chief Executive Officer
Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
PO Box 90
QUEANBEYAN NSW 2620

Dear Mr Bascomb and Mr Tegart

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Policy and Cabinet will also be able to facilitate the involvement of other relevant ACT Government stakeholders as required, including those that have previously engaged with Monaro Rail Trail Inc.

I look forward to receiving further updates as project planning continues.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister

From: "CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO"
Sent: 31/01/2022 1:32 PM
To: "MacLachlan, Judy" <Judy.MacLachlan@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Ministerial Correspondence - Barr - Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council - Monaro Rail Trail
Attachments: Letter from SMRC and QPRC to Chief Minister Andrew Barr ACT Government - MRT.pdf

Hi Judy,

CMO requested that we liaise with David Clapham and his team as they have provided previous briefings on this topic.

They also advised that TCCS may have some interest in the matter, so I will contact the TCCS DLO to confirm if they have any input.

Thank you.

Regards
Kellie

From: Bradley, Kellie **On Behalf Of** CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO
Sent: Thursday, 27 January 2022 4:41 PM
To: CMTEDD MLO <CMTEDD.MLO@act.gov.au>
Cc: Rolfe, Vivienne <Vivienne.Rolfe@act.gov.au>
Subject: Ministerial Correspondence - Barr - Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council - Monaro Rail Trail

Hi MLO team,

Can you please create a Trim file for this Ministerial correspondence and action as per the below advice?

Responding Minister: Chief Minister
Assign to: ED, Visit Canberra – Vivienne Rolfe
Due back to CMO: 10 February 2022

Additional notes:

*If this correspondence needs to be redirected or input is required from another Directorate, please advise the ED DLO ASAP so that this can be requested via DLO channels.

Thank you.

Regards
Kellie

From: BARR Reception <BARR@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 27 January 2022 4:25 PM
To: CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO <EcoDevDLO@act.gov.au>
Cc: ODonoghue, Yersheena <Yersheena.ODonoghue@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: REDIRECTION - Monaro Rail Trail - Joint letter from Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council.

Hi Kellie

For you 😊

Yersheena - FYI

Thanks

Iris

From: Jemima Trigg <Jemima.Trigg@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 24 January 2022 1:10 PM

To: BARR Reception <BARR@act.gov.au>

Subject: Monaro Rail Trail - Joint letter from Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council.

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Good afternoon team

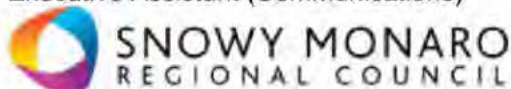
Please find attached a letter from CEO's Peter Bascomb and Peter Tegart to Chief Minister Andrew Barr regarding the Monaro Rail Trail. The attached is a joint letter from Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council.

Kind regards

Jem

Jemima Trigg

Executive Assistant (Communications)



PO Box 714
COOMA NSW 2630

Direct (02) 6451 1336
Phone 1300 345 345
Fax (02) 6456 3337

snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au

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Our Ref 21/65507

21 January 2022

Andrew Barr
Chief Minister
ACT Government

Via email: barr@act.gov.au

Dear Chief Minister

Request for collaboration - Monaro Rail Trail project

In 2020 Snowy Monaro Regional Council commissioned a feasibility study for the Monaro Rail Trail (MRT) based on the concept of converting the rail corridor between Queanbeyan and Bombala into a bike track (gravel and/or sealed).

The feasibility study estimated that the MRT would conservatively add \$25m annually to the local economy along the route.

In addition, the study considered that the MRT has the potential to become a nationally and perhaps even internationally significant rail trail, similar to the Otago Central Rail Trail in New Zealand.

This is primarily due to the unique features the track would possess, such as proximity to a capital city with international access, landscapes seen nowhere else in Australia, and former rail infrastructure of significant interest and heritage value.

Snowy Monaro Regional Council (SMRC) and Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council (QPRC) are working together on the preparation of a Trail Development Plan for the first stage of the MRT.

As the rail corridor forms the basis of the border between the ACT and NSW for part of its length, the ACT Government also has opportunities to support and/or facilitate the development of the MRT. As you are aware the ACT has a strong cycling culture and cycle tourism is growing. The MRT would provide a further dimension to the cycling and tourism opportunities available to the ACT community.

Both SMRC and QPRC are seeking to engage with the ACT Government during the preparation of the Trail Development Plan and would appreciate your support in this endeavour.

As a first step, our Councils are seeking a contact(s) in the ACT government with whom we can engage to discuss further detailed aspects of the project.

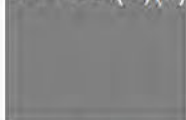
If this approach is acceptable, please arrange for the relevant person in the ACT Government to contact SMRC's Coordinator Economic Development, Mark Adams on 02 6451 1579 or mark.adams@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au, who can coordinate a more detailed project briefing involving relevant stakeholders.

We understand that a local community group known as Monaro Rail Trail (MRT) Inc, who are strong advocates for the project, have previously been in touch with you.

They have provided SMRC with a letter of support from you for the project. Both Councils are working with MRT Inc on the preparation of the Trail Development Plan and look forward to engaging with your government directly on this project in the future.

Yours faithfully

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)



Peter Bascomb

Chief Executive Officer

Snowy Monaro Regional Council

Sch 2.2(a)(ii)



Peter Tegart

Chief Executive Officer

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

From: "Bradley, Kellie" <Kellie.Bradley@act.gov.au> on behalf of "CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO" <EcoDevDLO@act.gov.au>
Sent: 27/01/2022 4:40 PM
To: "CMTEDD MLO" <CMTEDD.MLO@act.gov.au>
Cc: "Rolfe, Vivienne" <Vivienne.Rolfe@act.gov.au>
Subject: Ministerial Correspondence - Barr - Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council - Monaro Rail Trail
Attachments: Letter from SMRC and QPRC to Chief Minister Andrew Barr ACT Government - MRT.pdf
Categories: Lily

Hi MLO team,

Can you please create a Trim file for this Ministerial correspondence and action as per the below advice?

Responding Minister: Chief Minister
Assign to: ED, Visit Canberra – Vivienne Rolfe
Due back to CMO: 10 February 2022

Additional notes:

*If this correspondence needs to be redirected or input is required from another Directorate, please advise the ED DLO ASAP so that this can be requested via DLO channels.

Thank you.

Regards
Kellie

From: BARR Reception <BARR@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 27 January 2022 4:25 PM
To: CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO <EcoDevDLO@act.gov.au>
Cc: ODonoghue, Yersheena <Yersheena.ODonoghue@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: REDIRECTION - Monaro Rail Trail - Joint letter from Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council.

Hi Kellie

For you 😊

Yersheena - FYI

Thanks
Iris

From: Jemima Trigg <Jemima.Trigg@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 24 January 2022 1:10 PM
To: BARR Reception <BARR@act.gov.au>
Subject: Monaro Rail Trail - Joint letter from Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council.

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Good afternoon team

Please find attached a letter from CEO's Peter Bascomb and Peter Tegart to Chief Minister Andrew Barr regarding the Monaro Rail Trail. The attached is a joint letter from Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council.

Kind regards
Jem

Jemima Trigg
Executive Assistant (Communications)



PO Box 714
COOMA NSW 2630

Direct (02) 6451 1336
Phone 1300 345 345
Fax (02) 6456 3337
snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au

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From: "Bradley, Kellie" <Kellie.Bradley@act.gov.au> on behalf of "CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO" <EcoDevDLO@act.gov.au>
Sent: 07/02/2022 1:09 PM
To: "CMTEDD MLO" <CMTEDD.MLO@act.gov.au>
Cc: "MacLachlan, Judy" <Judy.MacLachlan@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Ministerial Correspondence - Barr - Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council - Monaro Rail Trail
Categories: Kaye

Hi MLO team,

Can you please update the CMO due date to **15 February 2022** for CMTEDD2022/285.

Judy, TCCS input is delayed but I'm hoping to receive something this week.

Thank you.

Regards
Kellie

From: Bradley, Kellie **On Behalf Of** CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO
Sent: Thursday, 27 January 2022 4:41 PM
To: CMTEDD MLO <CMTEDD.MLO@act.gov.au>
Cc: Rolfe, Vivienne <Vivienne.Rolfe@act.gov.au>
Subject: Ministerial Correspondence - Barr - Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council - Monaro Rail Trail

Hi MLO team,

Can you please create a Trim file for this Ministerial correspondence and action as per the below advice?

Responding Minister: Chief Minister
Assign to: ED, Visit Canberra – Vivienne Rolfe
Due back to CMO: **10 February 2022**

Additional notes:

*If this correspondence needs to be redirected or input is required from another Directorate, please advise the ED DLO ASAP so that this can be requested via DLO channels.

Thank you.

Regards
Kellie

From: BARR Reception <BARR@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 27 January 2022 4:25 PM
To: CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO <EcoDevDLO@act.gov.au>
Cc: ODonoghue, Yersheena <Yersheena.ODonoghue@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: REDIRECTION - Monaro Rail Trail - Joint letter from Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council.

Hi Kellie

For you 😊

Yersheena - FYI

Thanks
Iris

From: Jemima Trigg <Jemima.Trigg@snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 24 January 2022 1:10 PM

To: BARR Reception <BARR@act.gov.au>

Subject: Monaro Rail Trail - Joint letter from Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon team

Please find attached a letter from CEO's Peter Bascomb and Peter Tegart to Chief Minister Andrew Barr regarding the Monaro Rail Trail. The attached is a joint letter from Snowy Monaro Regional Council and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council.

Kind regards
Jem

Jemima Trigg

Executive Assistant (Communications)



**SNOWY MONARO
REGIONAL COUNCIL**

PO Box 714
COOMA NSW 2630

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Phone 1300 345 345
Fax (02) 6456 3337

snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au

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From: "Kennedy, Karen" <Karen.Kennedy@act.gov.au> on behalf of "CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO" <EcoDevDLO@act.gov.au>
Sent: 20/01/2021 12:55 PM
To: "CMTEDD MLO" <CMTEDD.MLO@act.gov.au>
Cc: "MacLachlan, Judy" <Judy.MacLachlan@act.gov.au>; "CMTEDD, Economic Development" <ecodev@act.gov.au>; "Hanns, Susan" <Susan.Hanns@act.gov.au>; "Kovacevic, Anita" <Anita.Kovacevic@act.gov.au>
Subject: URGENT CM MIN REPSONSE - Monaro Rail Trail DUE 11am 27 January pls
Attachments: scan_karen kennedy_2021-01-19-12-02-18.pdf
Importance: High
Categories: Dan

OFFICIAL

Hi MLO Team,

Please allocate to [VisitCanberra](#) to prepare an urgent letter of support from the Chief Minister please.

Can the response please be here no later than **11am 27 January** so the Chief Minister can sign in time for Monaro Rail Trail to lodge their application for a grant.

Thanks
 KK

Karen Kennedy | Directorate Liaison Officer - Economic Development
Office of the Chief Minister | Office of Minister Berry
Office of Minister Steel | Office of Minister Cheyne
 Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government
 6205 4643 | [Sch 2 2\(a\)\(ii\)](#) | EcoDevDLO@act.gov.au
 ACT Legislative Assembly, 196 London Circuit Canberra City ACT 2601

From: Kennedy, Karen **On Behalf Of** CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO
Sent: Wednesday, 20 January 2021 10:06 AM
To: Kelly, Emma <Emma.Kelly@act.gov.au>
Subject: Monaro Rail Trail

OFFICIAL

Hi Emma,

Advice from VisitCanberra is below, just waiting for Events ACT but I don't think they meet with them.

- From a VisitCanberra perspective, VisitCanberra has advised they met with members of Monaro Rail Trail team a while ago – probably 2018-19 – including Andrew Carter (mentioned in the letter). They presented their plans and advised at that time that it was going to Council for approval. There has been no further, more recent contact with VisitCanberra since then.
- Jonathan Kobus is currently on leave until 25 January, so they will double check with Jonathan when he is back to see if he can provide anything further.

Let me know if you need anything further and also did you want me to request a response for this corro?

Thanks
KK

From: Kennedy, Karen <Karen.Kennedy@act.gov.au> **On Behalf Of** CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO
Sent: Tuesday, 19 January 2021 12:25 PM
Subject: Monaro Rail Trail

OFFICIAL

Hi Judy and Anita,

Can I ask that you let me know if JK or Ross have meet with (or are going to meet with) Ken Lister regarding the proposed Monaro Rail Trail?

The attached letter mentions he is meeting with officials.

The CMO would like to know this ahead of requesting a response for this letter. If they have met what was the outcome of the meeting (Just a brief outline please).

Thanks
KK

Karen Kennedy | Directorate Liaison Officer - Economic Development
Office of the Chief Minister | Office of Minister Berry
Office of Minister Steel | Office of Minister Cheyne
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government
6205 4643 | [Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#) | EcoDevDLO@act.gov.au
ACT Legislative Assembly, 196 London Circuit Canberra City ACT 2601

From: Kennedy, Karen <karen.kennedy@act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 19 January 2021 12:03 PM
To: Kennedy, Karen <Karen.Kennedy@act.gov.au>
Subject: Your scan (Scan to My Email)



Monaro Rail Trail Inc.
Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Minister Andrew Barr, MLA
Chief Minister
Minister for Tourism and Special Events
barr@act.gov.au

Dear Chief Minister,

Re: Monaro Rail Trail

I am writing to you to provide information about the proposed Monaro Rail Trail, and to seek your support for an application to the NSW Government by Snowy Monaro Regional Council (SMRC) in association with Monaro Rail Trail Inc. (MRT), for funding under the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund to enable its construction.

This is a world class tourism initiative which converts the 213 km disused rail corridor from Tralee to Bombala into a recreational facility shared by cyclists, runners and walkers of all ages and abilities. We believe it will be the greatest recreational trail in Australia, even longer than the iconic Otago Rail Trail in New Zealand which is 150 km and the longest rail trail in Victoria which is 175 km.

The Monaro Rail Trail has potential to provide long-term economic stimulus to the ACT as well as towns and villages along the route. It aligns strategically with your Government's *CBR Cycle Tourism Strategy* which places Canberra as the symbolic trail head for cycle tourism initiatives across surrounding regions. I know you already appreciate the great benefits of cycling beyond economic benefits, such as physical and mental health wellbeing, heritage protection and environmental conservation.

SMRC is seeking funding to enable Stage 1 of 3 stages of the shared pathway to be commenced in July 2021 at a cost of approximately \$19 million. This comprises construction of a sealed section from Hume/Tralee to Michelago (41km), and other sections at Bredbo (11km), Cooma (8.5km), Nimmitabel (8.5km) and Bombala (25km). As demand grows and funding becomes available, these sections will be extended then linked to provide a continuous journey for recreational cycling and walking, and importantly signature annual cycling events.

I am pleased to advise that officers within your administration have agreed to meet with MRT representatives next week to be briefed on the project and discuss potential linkages between the ACT cycle network and the MRT. The above mentioned application for grant funding closes on 28th January 2021, and I know a letter of support from you would go some way towards achieving a positive outcome. I would be delighted to meet with you in the meantime, or at any time to provide you with a more detailed briefing.

Please don't hesitate to contact Andrew Carter on mobile Sch 2.2(a)(ii) or email Sch 2.2(a)(ii). Andrew Sch 2.2(a)(ii) has previously liaised with your officers in Visit Canberra and is happy to help with more information.

Yours sincerely,
Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Ken Lister
President MRT Inc.

Date

11 Jan 2021

From: "Haraldson, Greg" <Greg.Haraldson@act.gov.au>
Sent: 21/01/2021 3:45 PM
To: "Comacchio, Teresa" <Teresa.Comacchio@act.gov.au>
Cc: "MacLachlan, Judy" <Judy.MacLachlan@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: CM LOS for Monaro Rail Trail - Additional input from City Services
Attachments: FW: Meeting notes: Monaro Rail Trail - Fay Steward discussion with TCCS 19 Jan 2021

OFFICIAL

Hi Teresa (& thanks Judy)

I understand you are working on a response to the Monaro Rail Trail association, as they seek in-principle support for their proposal.

The email attached provides the key background as I have been in touch with CMTEDD Economic and Regional Policy (Megan Edwards & David Clapham) on this.

Basically, TCCS met with the group on Tuesday for a high-level discussion on possible interaction with our local cycle network near Tuggeranong and more technical aspects (like what the surface would be made of). You may wish to note this in the response (i.e. I understand you have also met with Transport Canberra and City Services officials).

The association asked if I could follow-up with CMTEDD on their letter as they are hoping to attach a letter of in-principle support from the Chief Minister to access NSW Government funding.

Please let me know if you need any support in drafting the response.

Regards

Greg Haraldson

Divisional Executive Officer & Business Manager

City Services | Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate | ACT Government

Phone: 02 6205 6037 | Email greg.haraldson@act.gov.au

Level 2, 480 Northbourne Avenue, Dickson 2602 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au



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From: MacLachlan, Judy <Judy.MacLachlan@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 21 January 2021 3:34 PM
To: Comacchio, Teresa <Teresa.Comacchio@act.gov.au>
Cc: Haraldson, Greg <Greg.Haraldson@act.gov.au>
Subject: CM LOS for Monaro Rail Trail - Additional input from City Services

OFFICIAL

Hi Teresa

Please see snip of chat with Greg Haraldson from TCCS. He will be emailing you.

Thanks - Judy



Judy MacLachlan | Executive Assistant to Jonathan Kobus, Executive Branch Manager, VisitCanberra

T: 02 6205 0657 E: judy.maclachlan@act.gov.au

VISITCANBERRA | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

Canberra Nara Centre, 3 Constitution Ave, Canberra City 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

visitcanberra.com.au

Note: I work part-time, Monday-Thursday



From: "Haraldson, Greg"
Sent: 20/01/2021 6:43 AM
To: "Edwards, Megan" <Megan.Edwards@act.gov.au>
Cc: "TCCS_Ministerial" <TCCS.Ministerial@act.gov.au>; "Clapham, David" <David.Clapham@act.gov.au>; "Marshall, Ken" <Ken.Marshall@act.gov.au>; "Rogers, Hayley" <Hayley.Rogers@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Meeting notes: Monaro Rail Trail - Fay Steward discussion with TCCS 19 Jan 2021
Attachments: ACT Government Power Point 19 January 2020.pptx

OFFICIAL

Hi Hayley

Welcome back, I hope you've had a nice summer.

A couple of weeks ago I let David know that we were meeting with proponents of the Monaro Rail Trail. We met the Association yesterday with notes below. The discussion was mainly around technical aspects of the proposal – pavements types, maintenance and how it would interact with the ACT active travel network.

One of the actions out of the meeting was for me to **follow-up with CMTEDD** on a letter that the Association recently wrote to the Chief Minister seeking in-principle support for the project.

They were keen for a response ASAP as they are lodging an application for funding to the NSW Government (I assume through Department of Regional NSW in Dept of Planning, Industry and Environment) which is **due on 28 January**.

Would you or one of your team be able to **track down the letter** and advise if a response by next week was feasible? I understand previously there may have been some hesitation to support this project as there was a chance that the rail line would be revived for connection through to the southeast of NSW.

I'm on leave today but happy to discuss tomorrow when you are back on deck.

Regards

Greg Haraldson
 Divisional Executive Officer & Business Manager
 City Services | Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate | ACT Government
 Phone: 02 6205 6037 | Email greg.haraldson@act.gov.au
 Level 2, 480 Northbourne Avenue, Dickson 2602 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au



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From: Haraldson, Greg
Sent: Tuesday, 19 January 2021 3:48 PM
To: Fraser, Shelly <Shelly.Fraser@act.gov.au>; Davidson, Geoffrey <Geoffrey.Davidson@act.gov.au>; Maher, Colin <Colin.Maher@act.gov.au>; **Sch 2.2(a)(ii)**; Choden, Kencho <Kencho.Choden@act.gov.au>; DeBeckker, Wim <Wim.DeBeckker@act.gov.au>; Marshall, Ken <Ken.Marshall@act.gov.au>

Cc: Greig, Nathan <Nathan.Greig@act.gov.au>; Earl, Owen <Owen.Earl@act.gov.au>

Subject: Meeting notes: Monaro Rail Trail - Fay Steward discussion with TCCS 19 Jan 2021

OFFICIAL

Dear All

Thanks for coming along to the meeting in Dickson today to hear about the Monaro Rail Trail (MRT) proposal from Fay Steward, Andrew Carter and Ken Lister.

Attendees from TCCS included:

- Ken Marshall, a/Executive Group Manager, City Operations
- Shelly Fraser, a/Executive Branch Manager, Roads ACT
- Geoffrey Davidson, Executive Branch Manager, Development Coordination
- Kencho Choden, Infrastructure Delivery Branch
- Colin Maher, Active Travel
- Wim DeBekker, Active Travel
- Greg Haraldson, City Services Division Executive Officer

Owen Earl (Infrastructure Planning) and Nathan Greig (Infrastructure Delivery) were apologies.

As discussed, the key actions from the meeting were:

- Shelly Fraser is the Executive Branch Manager of Roads ACT and can provide contacts within Roads ACT for some high-level advice on pavement maintenance considerations and costs: Shelly.Fraser@act.gov.au
- Information on access points near Monaro Hwy cycle feasibility study via Kencho to provide to consultants GHD: Kencho.Choden@act.gov.au
- Colin and Wim to consider connections from ACT active travel network including the Canberra Centenary Trail and Bicentennial National Trail
- Greg Haraldson to follow-up correspondence with Chief Minister from Fay Steward, noting that the MRT proponents are seeking to lodge a submission for funding by 28 January

The presentation is attached to this email.

Regards

Greg Haraldson

Divisional Executive Officer & Business Manager

City Services | Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate | ACT Government

Phone: 02 6205 6037 | Email greg.haraldson@act.gov.au

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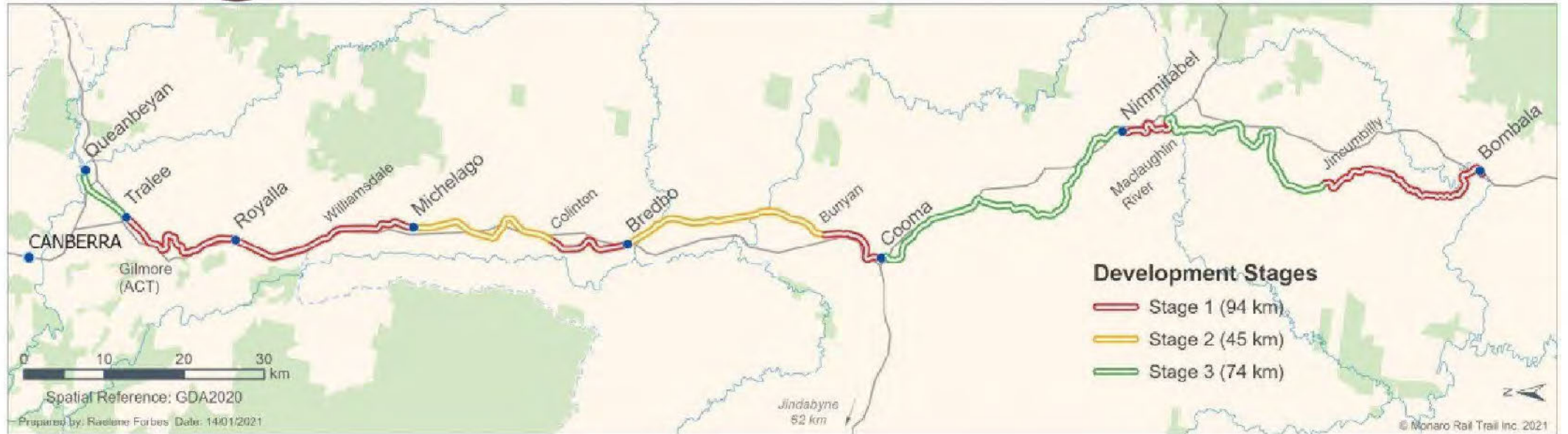
ACT
Government

Transport Canberra and
City Services

Presentation January 19 2021



Proposed Development





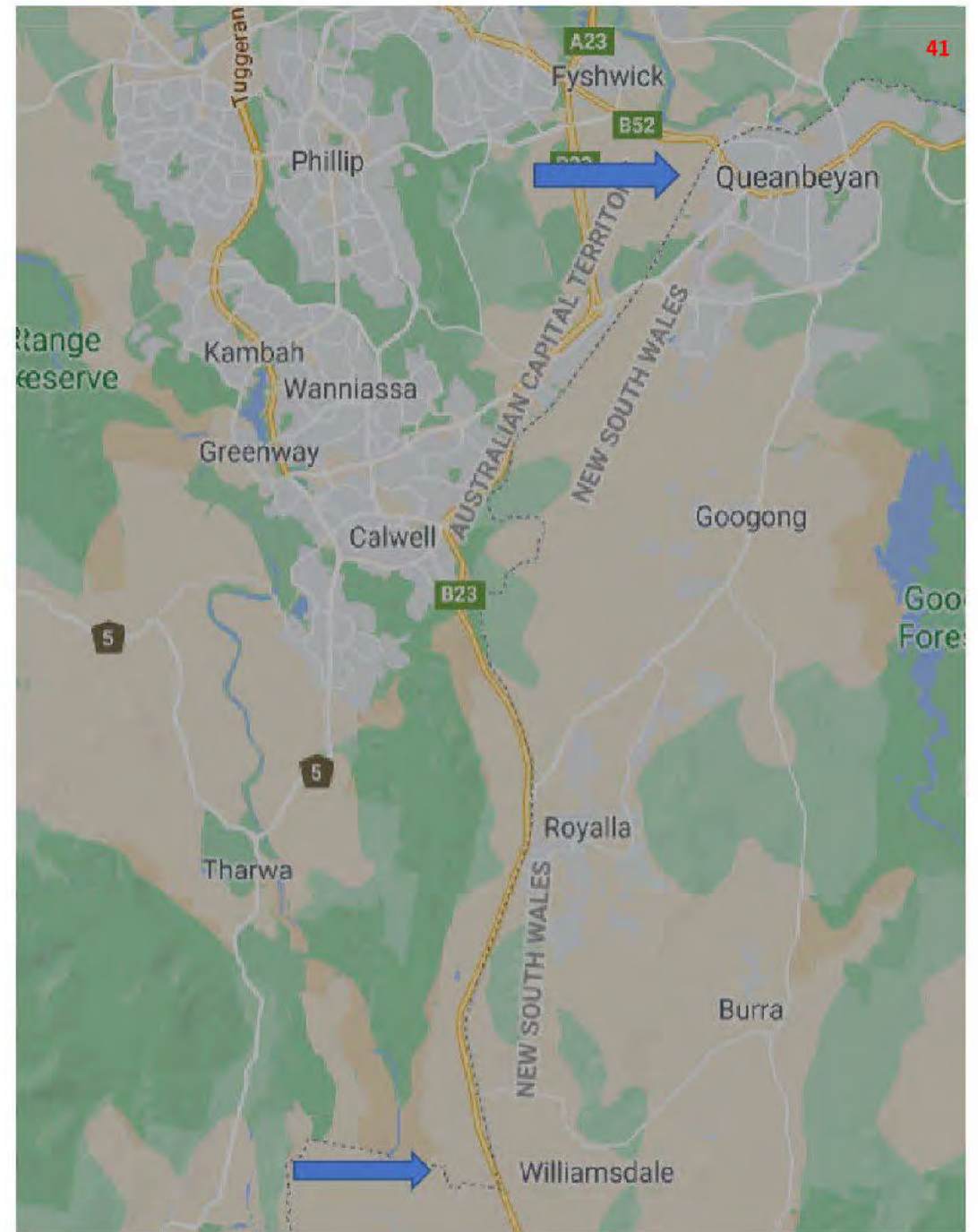
MONARO RAIL TRAIL Inc

- Incorporated Association NSW 2015
- Constitution allows registration with ACNC
- Committee of community representatives
- Steering Group and Consultants – highly qualified & experienced professionals
- Members are individuals, families, businesses, associations



The ACT border and the rail corridor - Queanbeyan to Williamsdale

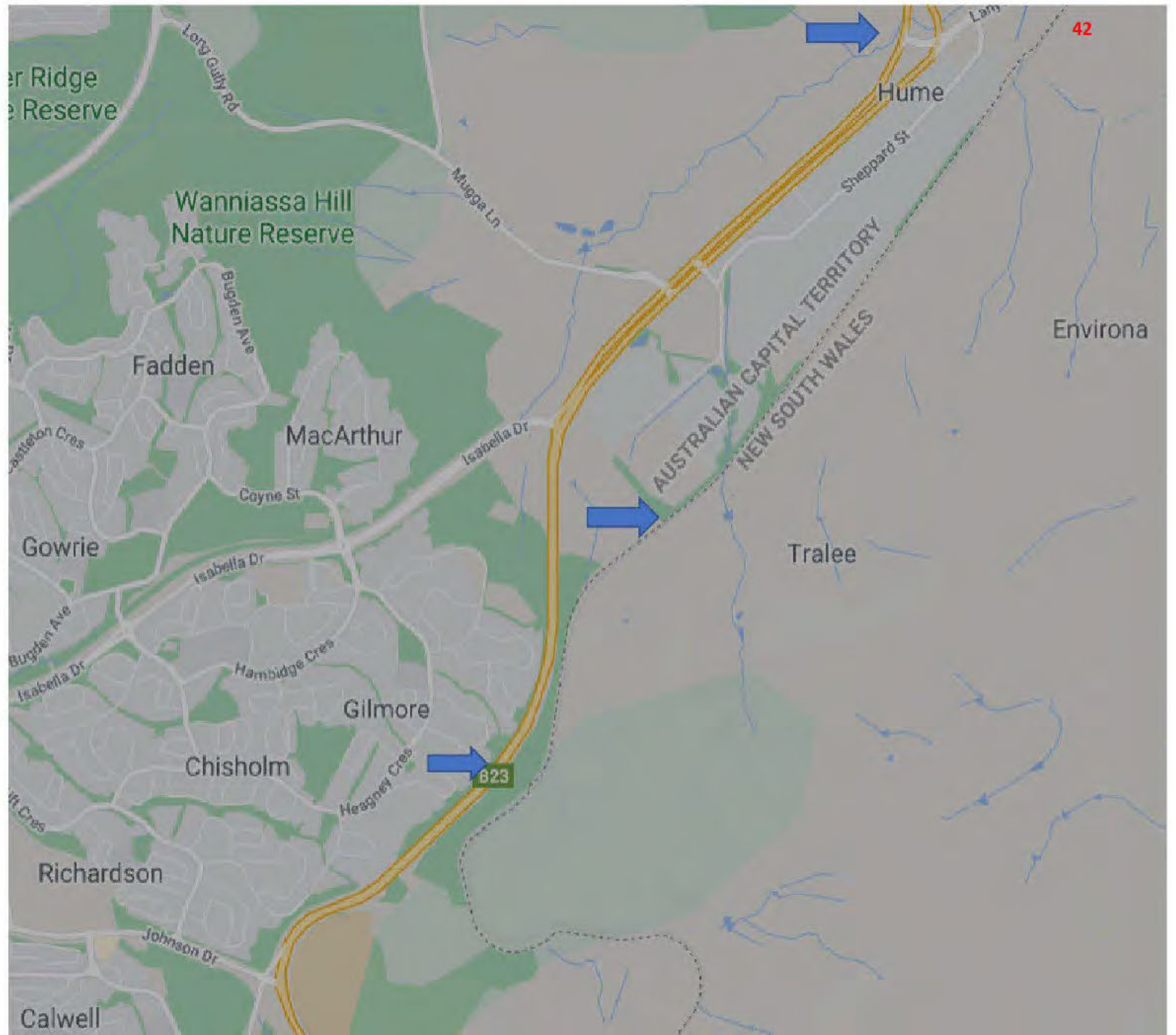
Distance approx. 35km





Integration of ACT cycle ways with the MRT – Hume the focal point.

**Monaro Highway & Lanyon Drive
Isabella Drive
Heagney Crescent**





Rail trails are used by

- Cyclists, runners, walkers, lifestyle scooters and others.
- For safe off road commuting, recreation, charity rides, school excursions.





Benefits of rail trails

- New tourism activity in new places and new times of the year
- Economic growth & diversity
- Business & employment growth opportunities
- Healthy communities – physical & mental.
- Heritage preservation.



The real need for a rail trail



The index of disadvantage

Canberra	10	Michelago	10	Bredbo	7	Cooma	3	Nimmitabel	3	Bombala	2
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Source ABS census 2016 Housing and Population



MONARO RAIL TRAIL – why now?



- The MRT Vision is compatible with all levels of planning at NSW State, Regional and Local level
- Brings regional economic growth through diversified tourism and building business opportunities



A Feasibility Study 2019

- The MRT has the potential to be world class
 - The unique and varying landscape
 - Rail history
 - The large Canberra/ Queanbeyan population base
 - Village and towns separated by a day of riding
- Each year 69,000 users will complete the ride
- They will spend up to \$25M each year



Funding

- Construction – Estimated \$55M to \$62.4M
- Maintenance - Estimated \$400K

Income sources: sale of railsteel, grants, donations, business sponsorship, voluntary work from community groups





Next Steps

- Secure funding through grants
- Work with councils for detailed planning and design
- Work with NSW Govt on tenure arrangements
- Work with NSW and ACT govts to integrate MRT with local cycleways
- Continue engagement with community and stakeholders



Australia's Greatest Rail Trail – it's up to us!



From: "BARR Reception" <BARR@act.gov.au>
Sent: 27/01/2021 5:07 PM
To: "regionalsw.business@dpc.nsw.gov.au" <regionalsw.business@dpc.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Correspondence from the Chief Minister
Attachments: Letter from Chief Minister to BLER Fund Assessment Panel.pdf

Good Afternoon

Please see attached a letter from the ACT Chief Minister.

Kind regards

Iris Eagar

Office of Andrew Barr MLA

Chief Minister

Treasurer

Minister for Climate Action

Minister for Economic Development

Minister for Tourism

Member for Kurrajong



**Andrew Barr MLA**

Chief Minister

Treasurer

Minister for Climate Action

Minister for Economic Development

Minister for Tourism

Member for Kurrajong

Assessment Panel

Bushfire Local Economic Recovery (BLER) Fund

NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet

regionalsw.business@dpc.nsw.gov.au

Dear BLER Fund Assessment Panel

I am pleased to provide this letter in support of the Snowy Monaro Regional Council's submission to the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery (BLER) Fund for development of the Monaro Rail Trail.

The Monaro Rail Trail is an opportunity to attract visitors to regional NSW to enjoy a recreational trail for cycling, walking and running. The ACT Government launched the *CBR Cycle Tourism Strategy* in 2018. The positioning framework of this strategy is based on the broader regional context, which includes rail trail and touring routes.

Representatives from Monaro Rail Trail Inc have met with officials from VisitCanberra and Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS). There may be future opportunities to link the ACT network of bike paths with the Monaro Rail Trail and these discussions will continue in the future.

Thank you for considering the Snowy Monaro Regional Council's application to the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund. I wish them every success in this project.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Barr".

Andrew Barr MLA

Chief Minister

27 JAN 2021

**Andrew Barr MLA**

Chief Minister

Treasurer

Minister for Climate Action

Minister for Economic Development

Minister for Tourism

Member for Kurrajong

Selection Panel

Bushfire Local Economic Recovery (BLER) Fund

NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet

regionalnsw.business@dpc.nsw.gov.au

Dear BLER Fund Selection Panel

It is a pleasure to provide this letter in support of the Snowy Monaro Regional Council's submission to the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery (BLER) Fund for development of the Monaro Rail Trail.

The Monaro Rail Trail is an opportunity to attract visitors to regional NSW to enjoy a recreational trail for cycling, walking and running. The ACT Government launched the *CBR Cycle Tourism Strategy* in 2018. The positioning framework of this strategy is based on the broader regional context, which includes rail trail and touring routes.

Representatives from Monaro Rail Trail Inc have met with officials from VisitCanberra and Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS). There may be future opportunities to link the ACT network of bike paths with the Monaro Rail Trail and these discussions will continue in future.

Thank you for considering the Snowy Monaro Regional Council's application to the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund and I wish them every success in this project.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Barr MLA

Chief Minister

From: "Bradley, Kellie" <Kellie.Bradley@act.gov.au> on behalf of "CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO" <EcoDevDLO@act.gov.au>
Sent: 04/04/2022 3:27 PM
To: "CMTEDD MLO" <CMTEDD.MLO@act.gov.au>
Cc: "Mudd, Ngaire" <Ngaire.Mudd@act.gov.au>
Subject: DLO Request - Input for CMTEDD (CM Stream) - Canberra Rail & the Monaro Rail Trail
Attachments: 220328 Clay to Barr re rail and monaro rail trail.pdf

Hi MLO team

Can you please create a DLO Request Trim container for this and add the input template.

Assign to: ED, Visit Canberra – Ngaire Mudd

Due back to MO: 12 April 2022

Additional notes: PCD are preparing the Ministerial response to the attached letter and have requested input from Visit Canberra. Please prepare some dot points on the Canberra Rail & the Monaro Rail Trail matter.

Thank you.

Regards
Kellie

From: Hodshon, Gerard <Gerard.Hodshon@act.gov.au> **On Behalf Of** CMCD DLO
Sent: Monday, 4 April 2022 3:15 PM
To: CMTEDD MLO <CMTEDD.MLO@act.gov.au>
Cc: CMTEDD, Policy and Cabinet Coordination <CMTEDDPolicyandCabinetCoordination@act.gov.au>; Carmody, Sophie <Sophie.Carmody@act.gov.au>; CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO <EcoDevDLO@act.gov.au>; TCCS_DLO <TCCS.DLO@act.gov.au>
Subject: Ministerial Correspondence - Barr - Clay MLA - Canberra Rail & the Monaro Rail Trail

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi MLO team,

Can you please create a Trim file for this Ministerial correspondence and action as per the below advice?

Responding Minister: Chief Minister

Assign to: PCD – David Clapham

Due back to CMO: 26 April 2022 (extra time to account for Easter break)

Additional notes:

ED and TCCS DLO's can I seek input from your respective directorates on the matters Ms Clay raises. Can you aim for 14 April 2022 or earlier please.

Many thanks,
Gez

Gerard Hodshon (Gez) | CM Directorate Liaison Officer

Office of the Chief Minister | ACT Government

Phone: [Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](tel:0262012222) | Email: CMCDDLO@act.gov.au

ACT Legislative Assembly | GPO Box 158 CANBERRA ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au

From: Clapham, David <David.Clapham@act.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, 3 April 2022 7:39 AM
To: CMCD DLO <CMCDDLO@act.gov.au>
Cc: Carmody, Sophie <Sophie.Carmody@act.gov.au>; Davies, Dean <Dean.Davies@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Advice pls - Ministerial Correspondence - Barr - Clay MLA - Canberra Rail & the Monaro Rail Trail

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Thanks Gez, yes we can coordinate. Will require input from VisitCanberra and TCCS.

From: Hodshon, Gerard <Gerard.Hodshon@act.gov.au> **On Behalf Of** CMCD DLO
Sent: Friday, 1 April 2022 7:47 AM
To: Clapham, David <David.Clapham@act.gov.au>
Subject: Advice pls - Ministerial Correspondence - Barr - Clay MLA - Canberra Rail & the Monaro Rail Trail

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

DC are you ok with your team coordinating this response?

I will action on your advice.

Many thanks,
Gez

From: BARR Reception <BARR@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 31 March 2022 3:38 PM
To: CMCD DLO <CMCDDLO@act.gov.au>
Cc: ODonoghue, Yersheena <Yersheena.ODonoghue@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Letter from Jo Clay MLA to Chief Minister re Rail

Hi Gez and Louise

For CM response please – Yersheena has suggested David Clapham’s team take it with input from Climate Action.

Thanks
Iris

From: CLAY <CLAY@parliament.act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 29 March 2022 4:52 PM
To: BARR Reception <BARR@act.gov.au>
Subject: Letter from Jo Clay MLA to Chief Minister re Rail

Dear Barr Team,

Please see attached letter from Jo Clay MLA.

Kind Regards,

Office of Jo Clay MLA | ACT Greens Member for Ginninderra | ACT Greens Spokesperson for Transport, Planning, Parks and Conservation, Animal Welfare, Arts and Culture, Science, Circular Economy and Women
t: (02) 6205 0131 | e: Clay@parliament.act.gov.au
Follow Jo on [Facebook](#)

The Greens acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' relationship with the land and water, and their rights and obligations as Traditional Custodians must be respected. As sovereignty was never ceded, the Greens recognise that to become a truly reconciled nation, we must act to empower, listen to, and support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their families and communities.





JO CLAY MLA

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(02) 6205 0131 | clay@parliament.act.gov.au | Member for Ginninderra

28 March 2022

Chief Minister Andrew Barr
Minister for Climate Action, Minister for Economic Development, Minister for Tourism
Via : Barr@act.gov.au

Dear Chief Minister,

I am writing to you in your role as the Chief Minister, Minister for Climate Action and Minister for Tourism to enquire about how you are working with interstate jurisdictions and local business to encourage freight and passenger rail transport between the ACT and NSW in order to cut our Scope 1 and Scope 3 emissions for the ACT.

Are you able to tell me what work is being done to facilitate access for the ACT to the rail corridor on the NSW side of the border, adjacent to the industrial suburb of Hume, in order to allow businesses there to access freight by rail and reduce their supply chain emissions? Are you also able to tell me if there is work being done to support Fyshwick businesses to access the section of rail within our borders, as an alternative to road transport for their interstate transport and freight needs?

I would also appreciate any information on work that is being undertaken to improve the commuter rail experience between the ACT and NSW and what work the ACT Government may be undertaking to support improvements to the rail network that connects the ACT with NSW. I would appreciate information on any support or advocacy by the ACT Government to improve journey times on this network.

I'd also like to enquire about any work the ACT Government is undertaking regarding the Monaro rail trail proposal, which would run adjacent to the ACT border and would be a significant cycle tourism draw to the territory and Canberra region, noting that this program has received support from the relevant local government areas within NSW?



JO CLAY MLA

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(02) 6205 0131 | clay@parliament.act.gov.au | Member for Ginninderra

I look forward to receiving your responses. I am very excited to work further on our shared priorities of reducing our emissions, encouraging sustainable transport and developing the ACT as an important regional hub for tourism and business.

Your sincerely,

Jo Clay MLA.

From: "Kobus, Jonathan"
Sent: 04/08/2023 5:59 PM
To: "Clapham, David" <David.Clapham@act.gov.au>
Cc: "Barnett, Vanessa" <Vanessa.Barnett@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: QTON 171 - CMTEDD-PCD - Monaro Rail Trail - Clay

Hi David

That is accurate . No edits from me. I have not heard from them since then.
JK

-----Original Message-----

From: Clapham, David <David.Clapham@act.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 4 August 2023 5:56 PM
To: Kobus, Jonathan <Jonathan.Kobus@act.gov.au>
Cc: Barnett, Vanessa <Vanessa.Barnett@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: QTON 171 - CMTEDD-PCD - Monaro Rail Trail - Clay

OFFICIAL

Now with actual response...

-----Original Message-----

From: Clapham, David
Sent: Friday, 4 August 2023 5:55 PM
To: Kobus, Jonathan <Jonathan.Kobus@act.gov.au>
Cc: Barnett, Vanessa <Vanessa.Barnett@act.gov.au>
Subject: QTON 171 - CMTEDD-PCD - Monaro Rail Trail - Clay

OFFICIAL

JK - appreciate your review of my response to this QTON on the Monaro Rail Trail.

Thanks

David

-----< HPE Content Manager record Information >-----

Record Number : CM23/83091
Title : QTON 171 - CMTEDD-PCD - Monaro Rail Trail - Clay