



**Mary Porter AM MLA**  
**Labor Member for Ginninderra**



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*Deputy Speaker ACT Legislative Assembly  
 Chair of the Standing Committee on Planning, Public Works and Territory and Municipal Services  
 Deputy Chair of the Standing Committee on Climate Change, Environment and Water  
 Member of the Standing Committee on Education, Training and Youth Affairs*

14 February 2012

Ms Katy Gallagher MLA  
 Minister for Territory and Municipal Services  
 ACT Legislative Assembly  
 London Circuit  
 CANBERRA ACT 2601

13 FEB 2012

Dear Ms Gallagher

I am writing to you on behalf of *[redacted]* regarding traffic calming measures recently implemented along Spofforth Street, Holt.

*[redacted]* currently resides in Spofforth Street. He has informed me that since the installation of traffic calming measures in the street he has observed that traffic noise has increased due to vehicles decelerating and accelerating when approaching and moving away from the speed humps.

He also reports that traffic speeds along Spofforth Street appear to have changed very little as many large commercial vehicles maintain their speed when travelling over the speed bumps and motorcyclists travel around the speed bumps.

*[redacted]* has asked that the traffic calming measures along Spofforth Street be reviewed and that an increased police presence and mobile speed cameras be considered as an alternative to the current traffic measures.

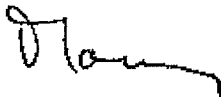
*[redacted]* has also informed me that although he lives in Spofforth Street, he received no correspondence from the Territory and Municipal Services Directorate (TaMSD) regarding traffic issues along Spofforth Street, prior to the implementation of the traffic calming measures. He would like to know why and how many residents responded to the letter drop carried out by TaMSD.

Additionally, *[redacted]* would like to know what information, as part of the consultation process, residents were provided with about possible future works.

Finally, ..... would appreciate some advice about the cost of installing the speed bumps along Spofforth Street.

I would appreciate if you could respond to ..... questions. I thank you for your time and consideration in this matter and I look forward to receiving a response.

Yours sincerely



Mary Porter AM MLA  
Member for Ginninderra

**COPY**



**Katy Gallagher MLA**

**CHIEF MINISTER**

**MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

**MINISTER FOR TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES**

**MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO**

Ms Mary Porter AM MLA  
Member for Ginninderra  
ACT Legislative Assembly  
London Circuit  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Ms Porter *Mary*

Thank you for your letter of 14 February 2012, on behalf of [redacted] about traffic calming measures recently installed on Spofforth Street, Holt.

Roads ACT will be undertaking a review of the effectiveness and impact of the traffic calming scheme in June 2012. The Belconnen Community Council will be invited to comment and the general public will be able to submit feedback via an on-line survey.

Sixty-two letters were delivered to all residences along Spofforth Street, as well as some residences on Messenger Street, Southern Cross Drive and Drake Brockman Drive in November 2010 (copy attached). As you can see from the letter, it was marked to the 'Householder' and it is possible that it was inadvertently treated as junk mail by [redacted]. Nineteen responses were received (21%) with nine respondents supportive of the proposal, three provided qualified support and one respondent rejected the proposal.

Objections received included cost, noise of cars driving over the speed cushions, too many speed cushions, may affect people exiting their driveway and impact on buses and the comfort of passengers. Each residence that received a consultation letter in November 2010 will be re-surveyed. These will be delivered by either Australian Post or Roads ACT staff directly.

Speed cushions provide continuous speed control to most vehicles using Spofforth Street, whereas increasing the deployment of mobile speed camera vans or patrols by the police is unlikely to be sufficient to moderate driver behaviour sufficiently to get the majority of drivers to not exceed the speed limit.

The cost of providing and installing the speed cushions was \$117,250 including GST.

Thank you for raising this matter with me. I trust that this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

*Katy Gallagher*

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Minister for Territory and Municipal Services

14 MAR 2012



**Mary Porter AM MLA**  
**Labor Member for Ginninderra**



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*Deputy Speaker ACT Legislative Assembly*  
*Chair of the Standing Committee on Planning, Public Works and Territory and Municipal Services*  
*Deputy Chair of the Standing Committee on Climate Change, Environment and Water*  
*Member of the Standing Committee on Education, Training and Youth Affairs*

7 February 2011

Ms Katy Gallagher  
Minister for Territory and Municipal Services; and  
Minister for Planning,  
ACT Legislative Assembly  
London Circuit  
CANBERRA ACT 2601



Dear Ms Gallagher, *Katy*

I am writing to you on behalf of: **Holt, regarding traffic issues.**

contacted my office recently and reported noticing that since the installation of speed humps of Spofforth Street, traffic has decreased significantly along the street and that the disruptive driving behaviours that was once an issue, has transferred across to Drake Brockman Drive, i.e. speeding and burnouts, etc. I have also had other reports of traffic detouring to Trickett Street and Beaurepaire Crescent.

However, after speaking to *[redacted]* I have also discovered that some traffic issues remain and are still causing noisy disturbances on the road, e.g. "revving up" between speed humps, trucks continually breaking, people pulling trailers creating noise as they negotiate the speed humps and motorbike riders driving around the speed humps to avoid them altogether.

*[redacted]* believe that Spofforth Street should not be dealt with in isolation and simply installing speed humps in this particular street is not solving the overall issues. *[redacted]* says she believes the increase in density in Holt and McGregor is creating the additional traffic on these suburban roads, thus increasing the problems they are experiencing. *[redacted]* asked that measures be put in place that will lead to an evenly balanced traffic flow along the streets mentioned, including Spofforth. They would like the speed humps removed if possible and the speed limit set at 60 ks as there are only houses on one side of the street.

In regards to monitoring speeding along Spofforth Street, And other nearby streets, *[redacted]* believes that these measures should be reviewed and that police presence and mobile speed cameras should be considered rather than the use of the existing speed humps.

I would appreciate it if you could respond to *[redacted]* s concerns. I thank you for your time and consideration in this matter and I look forward to receiving a response.

Yours sincerely  
*[Signature]*

Mary Porter AM MLA  
Member for Ginninderra



**COPY**

**Katy Gallagher MLA**

CHIEF MINISTER

MINISTER FOR HEALTH

MINISTER FOR TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES

MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

Ms Mary Porter AM MLA  
Member for Ginninderra  
ACT Legislative Assembly  
London Circuit  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Ms Porter *Mary*

Thank you for your representation of 7 February 2012, on behalf of *if Holt,*  
about the recently installed traffic calming devices on Spofforth Street in Holt.

In response to representations from the community and an increase in traffic as a result of the development in Macgregor, Roads ACT investigated the traffic conditions on Spofforth Street. Eighty-five percent of motorists travelled at or below 76 kilometres per hour and the installation of speed cushions was recommended to reduce this value to less than 50 kilometres per hour.

Officers of Roads ACT consulted with the residents of Spofforth Street during the investigation and the majority of residents who responded were in favour of the treatment.

Notwithstanding the above, Roads ACT will undertake a review, commencing in June 2012, of the effectiveness and impact of the speed cushions along Spofforth Street. The review will include traffic surveys on Spofforth Street, Beaurepaire Crescent, Messenger Street and Trickett Street. The evaluation will also include obtaining feedback from residents. Depending on the outcome of this evaluation, further action may be taken on these streets.

Spofforth Street is a minor collector road in the hierarchy of ACT roads. Such roads primarily serve a property access function rather than a through traffic route between arterial roads. The 50 kilometres per hour default speed limit applies on minor collector roads in the ACT and as such the speed limit on Spofforth Street will remain at 50 kilometres per hour.

With regard to speed monitoring, I have asked ACT Policing to patrol these streets more frequently and I would encourage you to report any unruly behavior to ACT Policing on 13 14 44. This information can assist ACT Policing, particularly where you have observed a pattern or frequency of behavior. Spofforth Street and Drake Brockman Drive are also designated speed camera sites and I have requested the Traffic Camera office to increase the frequency of patrols.

It may be useful to note that removing the speed cushions, if this should be required, is relatively simple since they are only bolted to the pavement. They can be re-used elsewhere.

Thank you for raising these matters. I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Katy Gallagher MLA  
Minister for Territory and Municipal Services

24 FEB 2012

**Bourne, Sarah**

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**From:** Schembri, Karen on behalf of GALLAGHER  
**Sent:** Monday, 23 January 2012 11:31 AM  
**To:** Bourne, Sarah  
**Cc:** Smorhun, Vic  
**Subject:** FW: TAMS no response to feedback/complaint

Hi Sarah

For response please

Karen

**Karen Schembri | Office of the Chief Minister**  
t: 620 50840 | fx: 620 53030 | [karen.schembri@act.gov.au](mailto:karen.schembri@act.gov.au) | [www.chiefminister.act.gov.au](http://www.chiefminister.act.gov.au)

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**From:** i  
**Sent:** Monday, 23 January 2012 10:39 AM  
**To:** GALLAGHER  
**Subject:** TAMS no response to feedback/complaint

Ms Gallagher

I am writing to you in your capacity as Minister responsible for TAMS.

I live in Holt and posted a complaint about the endless set of humps installed on Spofforth Street in December.

I posted my complaint online on the 29th of December, mainly because I am hoping to ascertain the process by which the community may have them removed, as: lack of consultation and dissatisfaction seem to be the general sentiment locally. I waited over 10 working days for a response but did not receive one. I called Canberra Connect and a second "urgent request" for a response was sent.

I have still not received a response.

Is this acceptable for communication between a department and a member of the public?

Yours sincerely

**E-MAILED**  
A 2-17-12



**Katy Gallagher MLA**

CHIEF MINISTER

MINISTER FOR HEALTH

MINISTER FOR TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES

MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

Dear :

Thank you for your email of 23 January 2012 about the speed humps installed on Spofforth Street in Holt.

I am sorry that you did not receive a response to your initial complaint submitted through Canberra Connect on 29 December 2011. I understand that Roads ACT has now responded to your initial request for information. I appreciate the time and effort you have made in reporting this matter.

In response to representations from the community and the increase of traffic as a result of the development in Macgregor, Roads ACT investigated the traffic conditions on Spofforth Street. Eighty-five percent of motorists travel at or below 76 kilometres per hour. The most recent speed survey in November 2011 revealed a slight reduction to around 69 kilometres per hour.

I understand that officers of Roads ACT consulted with the residents of Spofforth Street and ACTION during the investigation and the majority of residents who responded were in favour of the treatment. This treatment is also in line with the Action Plan associated with the recently released ACT Road Safety Strategy 2011-20.

Roads ACT will undertake an evaluation of the effectiveness of the treatment commencing in June 2012, six months after the installation of the speed cushions. The evaluation will include an assessment of the effects of the treatment on the volume and speed of vehicles using Spofforth Street, Beaurepaire Crescent, Trickett Street and Messenger Street compared to pre-construction data. The evaluation will also include feedback from residents. Depending on the outcomes of this evaluation, further action may be taken on these streets. It may be useful to note that removing the speed cushions, if that was required, is relatively simple since they are only bolted to the pavement. They can be re-used elsewhere.

Thank you for raising this matter with me. I trust that this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Minister for Territory and Municipal Services

14 FEB 2012

lelates to  
201200102.

**Bruan, Nicole**

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**From:** Schembri, Karen on behalf of GALLAGHER  
**Sent:** Thursday, 19 January 2012 1:31 PM  
**To:** Bruan, Nicole  
**Subject:** FW: Municipal Issue in Holt, ACT  
**Attachments:** Municipal Issue in Holt.doc

Hi Nicole

Response to Andrew Leigh required

Karen

**Karen Schembri | Office of the Chief Minister**  
t: 620 50840 | fx: 620 53030 | [karen.schembri@act.gov.au](mailto:karen.schembri@act.gov.au) | [www.chiefminister.act.gov.au](http://www.chiefminister.act.gov.au)

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**From:** Terrell, Nick (A. Leigh, MP) [<mailto:Nick.Terrell@aph.gov.au>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 19 January 2012 12:52 PM  
**To:** GALLAGHER; Schembri, Karen  
**Subject:** FW: Municipal Issue in Holt, ACT

Hi Karen – by the sounds of it, you will have seen this attached letter already – it’s from : g complaining about speed bumps along Spofforth street. As he’s sent this to Andrew as well, we’ll let him know that Andrew has asked to be included in any correspondence from Roads ACT or the Chief Minister relating to his letter.

Thanks very much – Nick.

Nick Terrell

Electorate Advisor

The office of Dr Andrew Leigh MP  
Federal Member for Fraser  
Ph: 02 6247 4396  
Ph: 02 6247 4037  
Fax: 02 6247 3457

email: [nick.terrell@aph.gov.au](mailto:nick.terrell@aph.gov.au)

**From:** \

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**Sent:** Monday, 16 January 2012 4:31 PM

**To:** Leigh, Andrew (MP)

**Subject:** Municipal Issue in Holt, ACT

Dear Minister Leigh.

As you are the elected representative for this area, I thought it best to forward this letter on to you as well as Ms Gallagher. It is a voiced concern over a recent municipal decision to implement speed bumps and reroute traffic, directed towards Ms Gallagher for response.

It is possible that this issue will get more 'voice' if Ms Gallagher's response is not appropriate. I would be interested to hear your view also.

Kind regards

16 January 2012

Ms Katy Gallagher MLA

Chief Minister

Minister for Health & Territory and Municipal Services

Dear Minister Gallagher,

My name is [redacted], and I'm a resident of Macgregor, in west Belconnen here in the ACT. I have been here for almost 2 years, living in the new Brindabella development. I am writing to you today in regards to an implemented bureaucratic decision, which I feel may cause more of a safety concern than it is attempting to remove. I am referring to a new collection of speed bumps in Spofforth Street in Holt, which is aiming to reduce the number of vehicles speeding along that road.

Spofforth Street is what is considered by ACT Roads to be an access road, in that it has been providing a link from the western side of Macgregor to Drake Brockman Drive and on to William Hovell Drive, for as long as Macgregor has been a suburb. It is a stretch of road that is about 1.5km long and has houses on one side, set well back from the road, and the Belconnen Golf Course on the other, with a substantial easement to their boundary. Since the new development at Macgregor has been occupied, traffic has increased along this road, and comparatively I'm sure, so have the speeding offences. In the 2 years I have been in Macgregor, the speed limit has gone from 70km/h to 60 to 50, in what I have been told by an official at Capital Works with ACT Roads, is an attempt to reduce the number of speeding motorists.

Most recently, a decision has been made to install 13 sets of hardened plastic speed bumps along this road. It equates to about one every 100 meters. These speed bumps are apparently designed to slow traffic so that it complies with the speed limit. As a regular commuter, I can advise you that two things have happened as a result of these speed bumps.

1. Traffic has indeed been slowed, as in order to comfortably drive over one of these bumps, one must do so at 20km/h.
2. Traffic has relocated to other roads.

Both of these points are the desired affect of the speed bumps, according to the official I spoke with at ACT Roads. I need to elaborate however. If a speed trap van sits on Spofforth St now, they will notice not only a reduction in speeding vehicles, they will notice also a reduction in vehicles in general. This appears to be because no-one wants to crawl over a 20km/h rock like barrier on their way to and from work, on a daily basis. If they don't go over at this speed, and attempt to go over them at the designated road speed (50km/h), drivers risk damage to their steering systems in their vehicles and possible injury to passengers as well.

In reference to point 2, traffic has moved from the Spofforth St link, to other roads, including most significantly Beaurepaire Crescent in Holt. This road provides a similar link as Spofforth St, though is a little longer in distance. However now is far more efficient due to the speed bumps. I use this road now, not only because it's a nice run, but mainly because I feel unsafe on Southern Cross Drive due to the number of blind spots for on-turning vehicles and the significant amount of fatal accidents that have occurred here. I have noticed since the installation of the speed bumps on Spofforth St, Beaurepaire Crescent is seeing a huge increase in use. This is where I feel the major issue arises. Beaurepaire Crescent has houses on both sides of the road, has an oval, a children's playground, a community centre and the local IGA shopping centre, which are all passed on the way to Drake Brockman Drive. None of which are present on Spofforth St.

In addition to traffic matters, I'm sure residents of Beaurepaire Crescent will be disheartened with a decrease in property value, as busy roads are far less attractive in a property value sense. Also, residents of Spofforth St will either be cheering due to the reduction in vehicle numbers, or aggrieved at having to leave and return home each and every day to hit 7 or 8 speed bumps on their way to work and their driveways.

My focus at this point obviously is Beaurepaire Crescent; however traffic will continually look for other avoidance commutes, should some kind of speed/traffic reduction method be used on this road too. Having lived in Canberra for 15 years, I can tell that it appears to be the Canberra way.

From my conversation with the official at Capital Works within ACT Roads on Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> of January, the traffic flows will be surveyed in 6 months time to determine:

1. If speeding has been reduced on Spofforth St, and
2. The increase/decrease in vehicle numbers along other roads as result of the changed conditions.

The gentlemen told me that if traffic is found to be behaving the same as it was originally along Spofforth St, they will look at implementing the same system in these other areas. Now, without shouting for hands up in my neighbourhood, I can tell you that no-one, apart from some affected street side residents, will be in support of this even if it is in an attempt to curb speeding. Apart from being ridiculous (13 continual sets of speed bumps exist nowhere else in one street in the ACT, let alone far western Belconnen access roads), this decision was made without any greater road user consultation. They just appeared before Christmas and no one was available at ACT Roads to discuss this over this period – very convenient. I was informed that residents on Spofforth St were in favour, however many weren't, and I can tell you from chatting with neighbours and friends, that no-one thinks they should have been implemented over other possible options such as rolling smoothed cement speed humps, chicanes, round a bout's or even fewer of the dreaded plastic bumps.

The growing suburb of Macgregor will only increase the number of road users in this area, and as far as comparative figures go, I'd imagine speeding vehicles and accidents will likely increase also. Southern Cross Drive is the official arterial road to connect to Belconnen and Civic from Macgregor. However, as mentioned earlier, many drivers prefer a safer route, and one that doesn't afford traffic lights, bottlenecks and greater possibility of an accident.

I wish to know if these speed bumps can be removed and consultation with road users be undertaken in regards to other possible options. No one will argue with an attempt to slow drivers down. What do I need to do to make this happen? I am willing to arrange for a petition, which will inevitably show in favour of removal of the speed bumps, and I am also willing to bring light to this matter in a broader forum through local media such as the *Chronicle and Canberra Times*. In such a democratic society, surely Canberran's would love to hear how their taxes are being used.

I understand that this letter will be sent to ACT Roads, and probably the official I spoke with, for reply. However, I wanted to bring this matter to your attention, so that you are aware that an *accident is very imminent in this area as a result of traffic re-routing through the suburb of Holt*, due to the ridiculous number and style of speed bumps on Spofforth St. I have also sent a copy of this letter to Dr Andrew Leigh, Federal Member for Fraser, so that he is abreast of the issue.

I look forward to your reply at your earliest convenience.

Kind regards



**Andrew Barr MLA**

DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER

TREASURER

MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MINISTER FOR TOURISM, SPORT AND RECREATION

MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

**COPY**

Dr Andrew Leigh MP  
Member for Fraser  
8/1 Torrens Street  
BRADDON ACT 2612

Dear Dr Leigh *Andrew*

Thank you for your email of 19 January 2012 to the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services, Ms Katy Gallagher MLA, on behalf of your constituent, Mr [redacted], about speed cushions on Spofforth Street in Holt. I am responding as Ms Gallagher is currently on leave.

I have addressed [redacted]'s concerns and I attach a copy of my response to him for your information.

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

Yours sincerely

Andrew Barr MLA  
Acting Minister for Territory and Municipal Services

03 FEB 2012



## Andrew Barr MLA

DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER

TREASURER

MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MINISTER FOR TOURISM, SPORT AND RECREATION

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MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

Dear

Thank you for your email of 16 January 2012 to the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services, Ms Katy Gallagher MLA, about the speed cushions on Spofforth Street in Holt. I am responding as Ms Gallagher is currently on leave.

I appreciate your views regarding the appropriateness of the speed cushions, the impact on surrounding streets and the perceived lack of consultation.

I understand that Spofforth Street is a minor collector road in the hierarchy of ACT roads. Such roads primarily serve a property access function rather than a through traffic route between arterial roads. The 50 kilometre per hour default speed limit applies on minor collector roads in the ACT and was introduced in 2003 when the ACT adopted the Australian Road Rules. Prior to 2003, the speed limit on Spofforth Street was 60 kilometres per hour. It has never been 70 kilometres per hour.

In response to representations from the community and the increase of traffic as a result of the development in Macgregor, Roads ACT investigated the traffic conditions on Spofforth Street. Eighty-five percent of motorists travel at or below 76 kilometres per hour. The most recent speed survey in November 2011 revealed a slight reduction to around 69 kilometres per hour.

I understand that officers of Roads ACT consulted with the residents of Spofforth Street and ACTION during the investigation and the majority of residents who responded were in favour of the treatment. This treatment is also in line with the Action Plan associated with the recently released ACT Road Safety Strategy 2011-20.

Roads ACT will undertake an evaluation of the effectiveness of the treatment commencing in June 2012, six months after the installation of the speed cushions. The evaluation will include an assessment of the effects of the treatment on the volume and speed of vehicles using Spofforth Street, Beaurepaire Crescent, Trickett Street and Messenger Street compared to pre-construction data. The evaluation will also include obtaining feedback from residents. Depending on the outcomes of this evaluation, further action may be taken on these streets. It may be useful to note that removing the speed cushions, if that was required, is relatively simple since they are only bolted to the pavement. They can be re-used elsewhere.

I am also pleased to advise that traffic lights will be provided at the Florey Drive and Southern Cross Drive intersection funded as part of the ACT Government's Capital Works program. These works will improve safety on Southern Cross Drive and will commence in March this year.

Thank you for raising these matters. I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Barr MLA  
Acting Minister for Territory and Municipal Services

03 FEB 2012

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**Mary Porter AM MLA**  
**Labor Member for Ginninderra**



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*Deputy Speaker ACT Legislative Assembly  
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Member of the Standing Committee on Education, Training and Youth Affairs*

14 February 2012

Ms Katy Gallagher MLA  
Minister for Territory and Municipal Services  
ACT Legislative Assembly  
London Circuit  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

15 FEB 2012

Dear Ms Gallagher *Katy*

I am writing to you on behalf of [redacted] regarding traffic calming measures recently implemented along Spofforth Street, Holt.

[redacted] reports that he has travelled from his home in Macgregor to his workplace at the Belconnen Magpies Golf Club (the golf club) each business day for the last 14 years; each time making use of Spofforth Street to get there.

[redacted] has advised me that since the implementation of traffic calming measures, the maximum speed that vehicles can reach along Spofforth Street is 20 kilometres per hour, far below the 50 kilometres per hour speed limit for the street. He believes that this has encouraged a number of motorists travelling to the golf club to make use of other roads rather than Spofforth Street and that these other roads are not designed to carry this increased traffic flow; specifically, [redacted] has mentioned Britten Jones Drive and other back streets in Holt.

[redacted] would like to know whether consideration has been given to what the impact of the traffic calming measures along Spofforth Street might have on surrounding streets; and if so, what was the conclusion.

I note that the Territory and Municipal Services Directorate did undertake consultation with residents of Spofforth Street to assist in determining the need for traffic calming measures and that this consultation revealed that many residents were very much in favour of the implementation of traffic calming measures.

I would appreciate if you could respond to [redacted] concerns. I thank you for your time and consideration in this matter and I look forward to receiving a response.

Yours sincerely  
*Mary Porter*  
Mary Porter AM MLA  
Member for Ginninderra



**Katy Gallagher MLA**

**CHIEF MINISTER  
MINISTER FOR HEALTH  
MINISTER FOR TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES**

MEMBER FOR MOLONGLIO

COPY

Ms Mary Porter AM MLA  
Member for Ginninderra  
ACT Legislative Assembly  
London Circuit  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Ms Porter *Mary*

Thank you for your letter of 14 February 2012, on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_, about traffic calming measures recently installed on Spofforth Street in Holt.

Officers of Roads ACT have driven along Spofforth Street on several occasions since the installation of the speed cushions and their assessment is that the speed of vehicles, between sets of cushions, will be somewhere between 40 and 50 kilometres per hour under normal driving conditions. The advisory speed limit at each set of cushions is 20 kilometres per hour.

Roads ACT will be reviewing the performance and impact of the scheme in June 2012, after people's driving habits have been assessed. The Belconnen Community Council will be invited to comment and the general public will be able to submit feedback through an on-line survey.

Consideration was given during the design of the scheme to the possibility that drivers would use alternative routes such as Beaufort Crescent and Trickett Street. Roads ACT anticipated that the traffic volumes on these streets might increase although they would still be less than the desirable maximum of 3,000 vehicles per day for these types of streets. However, the likely increase in traffic volumes was not determined, at that time.

I am advised that traffic volume and speed surveys were undertaken on these streets and Messenger Street in November 2011, prior to the placement of the cushions and follow-up surveys will be done in June as part of the review. Britten-Jones Drive was not considered to be a route that would attract drivers due to its inherent slow speed environment. Nonetheless, it will be included in the post construction traffic surveys.

Thank you for raising this matter with me. I trust that this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

*Katy Gallagher*

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Minister for Territory and Municipal Services  
- 8 MAR 2012



**Mary Porter AM MLA**  
**Labor Member for Ginninderra**



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*Deputy Speaker ACT Legislative Assembly  
Chair of the Standing Committee on Planning, Public Works and Territory and Municipal Services  
Deputy Chair of the Standing Committee on Climate Change, Environment and Water  
Member of the Standing Committee on Education, Training and Youth Affairs*

29 February 2012

**Ms Katy Gallagher MLA**  
**Minister for Territory and Municipal Services**  
**ACT Legislative Assembly**  
**London Circuit**  
**CANBERRA ACT 2601**



Dear Ms Gallagher *Katy*

I am writing to you on behalf of [redacted] regarding speed humps along Spofforth Street, Holt.

[redacted] reports that while some motorists have slowed down along Spofforth Street, many others, particularly motorcyclists and motorists in four-wheel-drive vehicles, are still not travelling at the speed limit. He is particularly concerned about the four-wheel-drives which he believes may veer off the road at a high speed if they hit the speed humps at an awkward angle.

In addition to the above, [redacted] has also expressed concern that driving over the speed humps regularly may cause damage to residents' vehicles. [redacted] has suggested that the amount of speed humps be reduced from 13 to five or alternative measures, such as chicanes or collapsible speed humps, be considered.

I would appreciate if you could respond to [redacted] concerns. I thank you for your time and consideration in this matter and I look forward to receiving a response.

Yours sincerely

**Mary Porter AM MLA**  
**Member for Ginninderra**



COPY

**Katy Gallagher MLA**

**CHIEF MINISTER**

**MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

**MINISTER FOR TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES**

**MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO**

Ms Mary Porter AM MLA  
Member for Ginninderra  
ACT Legislative Assembly  
London Circuit  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Ms Porter

Thank you for your representations of 29 February 2012, on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ about the speed humps along Spofforth Street, Holt.

I understand that rubber speed cushions were adopted as the most cost effective means to meet the primary project objective to reduce the speed of 85% of vehicles using Spofforth Street from a pre-installation 76 kilometres per hour to a speed no greater than the posted speed limit of 50 kilometres per hour.

The layout of the cushions considered the needs of ACTION buses and cyclists, with the cushions placed within each lane being 1.8 metres wide and the central cushions 2.2 metres wide. A minimum space of 0.6 metres is provided between cushions and 1.5 metres between the kerb and gutter and the cushions. This arrangement allows wide tracked vehicles such as buses to pass over the humps with minimal impact and the spaces allow motorbikes and cyclists to ride between the cushions.

Roads ACT will undertake a review of the effectiveness and impacts of the speed cushions along Spofforth Street, commencing in April 2012. The review will include traffic surveys on Spofforth Street, Beaurepaire Crescent, Messenger Street and Trickett Street. The evaluation will also include obtaining feedback from residents. Depending on the outcome of this evaluation, further action may be taken on these streets.

The speed cushions on Spofforth Street are made from rubber and should not damage properly maintained vehicles, if the advisory speed limit of 20 kilometres per hour is heeded. I understand that alternative measures such as chicanes may not be as effective at reducing the speed of vehicles if larger vehicles such as buses are catered for.

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

Yours sincerely

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Minister for Territory and Municipal Services  
26 MAR 2012

**Bourne, Sarah**

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**From:**  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 12 June 2012 1:36 PM  
**To:** Njora, Charles  
**Cc:** Bourne, Sarah; Boogs, Monika; Cronan, Patrick; Bailey, Andrew  
**Subject:** RE: Spofforth St Traffic Calming Measures [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Charles,

ACTP will provide input to TAMS on this one.

In the interim I have advised the Officers in Charge of Traffic Operations and Belconnen Police Station for action.

Regards



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**From:** Njora, Charles  
**Sent:** Friday, 8 June 2012 2:29 PM  
**To:** Boogs, Monika  
**Cc:** Hosking, Kim  
**Subject:** FW: Spofforth St Traffic Calming Measures  
**Importance:** High

Hi Monika,

Please see the email trail below. Definitely an urgent police matter.

Please advise

Charles

---

**From:**  
**Sent:** Thursday, 7 June 2012 1:45 PM  
**To:** PORTER  
**Subject:** RE: Spofforth St Traffic Calming Measures

Hi Mary,

I'm at a loss, and so are my neighbours.

This morning I saw another 4WD (silver and blue) on the goat track travelling towards Drake Brockman Drive at high speed. It was around 7:20am and extremely foggy with poor visibility. I am honestly so concerned that someone is going to be seriously injured as a result of these hoons!

What is your advice?

Thanks,

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**From:** PORTER [mailto:PORTER@Parliament.act.gov.au]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 6 June 2012 3:53 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** RE: Spofforth St Traffic Calming Measures

Dear :

Thank you for copying me into your email to Roads ACT. You have obviously witnessed a disturbing incident.

If you would like me to represent you in this matter to the Minister please let me know.

Kind regards,

Mary.

*Mary Porter* AM MLA.  
Member for Ginninderra

P: 02 6205 0100  
F: 02 6205 0040  
E: [porter@parliament.act.gov.au](mailto:porter@parliament.act.gov.au)  
w: <http://maryporter.net/>

Follow me on Twitter @ <http://twitter.com/MaryPorterMLA>



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**From:**  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 6 June 2012 1:54 PM  
**To:** PORTER  
**Subject:** Fwd: Spofforth St Traffic Calming Measures

FYI

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:**  
**Date:** 28 May 2012 9:12:40 AM AEST  
**To:** "[roads@act.gov.au](mailto:roads@act.gov.au)" <[roads@act.gov.au](mailto:roads@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Spofforth St Traffic Calming Measures

Dear Rifaat,

I would also like to bring your attention to an incident that occurred late yesterday afternoon on Spofforth St, directly in front of my house,

Two 4WDS were racing along my street, both headed in the direction of Drake-Brockman Drive. One vehicle on Spofforth St and the other racing parallel on the 'goat track'; running parallel to the Golf Course. My neighbours at number [redacted] witnessed these events. The maroon 4WD, mentioned in the email below, was the vehicle on the 'goat track'. He was travelling at a dangerous speed and drove into a flock of cockatoos who were eating the grass seeds. He subsequently hit, at least two of the cockatoos with his vehicle and failed to render assistance, both cockatoos died as a result of their injuries. The other cockatoos in the flock were extremely distressed, so distressed in fact when I contacted police to report the incident the female officer struggled to hear me over their cries. There are now two dead cockatoos at the front of my house and a trail of feathers along the track towards Drake Brockman Drive.

I wonder what the next incident will be... Perhaps it will be a pedestrian next time!

Thank you,

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

**From:**  
**Sent:** Saturday, 26 May 2012 7:08 PM  
**To:** [roads@act.gov.au](mailto:roads@act.gov.au)  
**Subject:** Spofforth St Traffic Calming Measures

Dear Rifaat,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback in relation to the Spofforth St Traffic Calming Measures.

Firstly I would like to mention that I live at number [redacted] Spofforth St just to put my feedback into context.

I have been concerned about the volume of traffic and the excessive speed many cars travel

along my street for many years. I commend Roads ACT for at least trying to address the issues of speed and volume of traffic.

Since the cushions were installed in late December 2011 there are a number of concerns that I still have in relation to traffic along Spofforth St.

The first being the extreme excessive speed many 4WD drive type vehicles travel over the cushions. Weekends are particularly bad and peak periods. They almost seem to be attempting to travel at the highest speed possible in an attempt to send a message that the cushions will not slow them down. Their arrogance is incredible.

The second concern is the increased noise, particularly early in the morning and on weekends, from people taking a 'short cut' to the Green Waste Recycler/Canberra Sand & Gravel. People with trailers and utes with a tray of tools etc. hit the cushions at speed and the noise as a result wakes up the entire street!!! One of the worst offenders is the garbage truck who frequents our street very early in the morning and hits the cushions at an incredible speed. The sound as a result is like 'a bomb going off'.

The fourth concern is the amount of green waste that ends up in the middle of the road from those who refuse to tie their load down sufficiently. They bounce over the cushions and frequently lose their loads which end up in the middle of the road and are a traffic hazard to other drivers and the residents who are seen over the weekend dragging green waste onto the side of the road. It is not uncommon for us to remove green waste AT LEAST once per weekend.

The fifth concern is the danger to the large number of pedestrians who walk/run along the 'goat track' on the golf course side of Spofforth St. There are a high number of users who use the track at all times of the day and night with an increased number over the weekend. Some 'moronic' drivers are taking extreme measures to continue using Spofforth St but avoid the cushions. Two four wheel drives in particular regularly use the 'goat track' as an alternative to the road to avoid the cushions. I have witnessed at least 2 near misses with pedestrians. I have contacted the police but unfortunately I was not able to get a registration number. One vehicle was a maroon 4WD hilux with black NSW number plates and P plates and the second was a white older model Hilux with a young male driver and female passenger. I was again not able to get the registration as they were travelling at speed. These 2 vehicles are not the only culprits! The other 'moronic' drivers who are avoiding the cushions, while still using Spofforth St, drive with two wheels on the nature strip and two wheels on the road so they miss the cushions. They do this in both directions and you can easily see the evidence where the grass no longer grows and tyre marks are now highly visible.

The sixth concern is the amount of 'burn outs' that occur at all hours. I was pretty sure that every speed cushion had burn out marks but today I thought I would confirm. After specifically checking each cushion along Spofforth St today, I can confirm that there are multiple burn out marks at each and EVERY cushion!

The seventh concern, although minor in relation to the other six concerns, are the comments that my neighbours and I have been hearing frequently about the value of our properties. Comments such as 'Good luck if you ever want to sell your house!' or 'I'd never buy a house on your street!' among others.

I have also contacted the police about another individual who travels along our street and beeps their car horn at each and every cushion. They often start at around 2am and the latest so far has been at 5:40am. Needless to say the beeping wakes the entire street up and causes extreme frustration and anger at such an act of stupidity!!!

I guess, we are fed up! We were fed up with the speed and volume of traffic but the issues we are having are far, far worse than before the cushions were installed. The speed van that was often on the street was a welcome addition but once again had little impact.

As a parent of two small children under four I have huge concerns about their safety when they out the front of our property. We are excessively cautious when we are walking to our letter box or the car or in the garden as we are terrified that someone is going to cause our family irreversible harm. I don't know what the answer is but perhaps the speed camera van can return, as I have not seen it since December last year, or an increase in Police presence to

enforce the speed limit and penalise these extreme drivers.  
I challenge you to come and visit our street and see what we have to put up with on a daily basis. I will happily provide you and your team with morning or afternoon tea so you can witness my concerns in action!  
I am more than happy to be contacted by phone or email to further discuss the concerns raised above.  
Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback.

Sent from my iPad

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COMPLETED

**Katy Gallagher MLA**

CHIEF MINISTER

MINISTER FOR HEALTH

MINISTER FOR TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES

COPY

MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

Ms Mary Porter AM MLA  
Member for Ginninderra  
ACT Legislative Assembly  
London Circuit  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Ms Porter

Thank you for your email of 6 June 2012, on behalf of

about traffic calming measures

Roads ACT received Ms emails dated 26 and 28 May 2012 and acknowledged that her feedback on the traffic calming measures on Spofforth Street would be considered in the current evaluation of these measures.

I am advised that a check of police records has indicated that only one report has been made to police regarding these issues, which was made in March 2012. Your constituent's concerns have been forwarded to the Officer-In-Charge Traffic Operations, ACT Policing for attention.

In community policing, members of the public play a vital role in working with police through the provision of timely information. Police act on all reports they receive from the community in relation to dangerous driving. Reports of traffic violations should include the date, time and place of the incident and details of the offending vehicle. Details of other vehicles whose drivers may be able to offer corroborating information can also greatly assist police investigations. Witnesses to offences are encouraged to assist by providing written statements in support of any prosecution.

If reports provided to the police about such offences do not contain such information it is difficult for police to take any further action. Additionally, timely provision of accurate information not only assists in the identification and prosecution of offenders; it also helps to identify problems and trouble areas.

Incidents requiring police attendance should be reported on 131444. Other information which may be of use to police can be reported to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

I encourage your constituent to make use of these avenues. All contact with the community is recorded and forms part of the intelligence process that identifies problems and directs the targeting of patrols.

Thank you for raising these matters with me. I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katy Gallagher".

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Minister for Territory and Municipal Services

05 JUL 2012

**Bourne, Sarah**

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**From:** Schembri, Karen on behalf of GALLAGHER  
**Sent:** Monday, 24 September 2012 10:52 AM  
**To:** Bourne, Sarah  
**Cc:** Smorhun, Vic  
**Subject:** FW: Road Calming Measures - Holt

Sarah

Response from DG please

**Karen Schembri** | Office of the Chief Minister  
t: 620 50840 | fx: 620 53030 | [karen.schembri@act.gov.au](mailto:karen.schembri@act.gov.au) | [www.chiefminister.act.gov.au](http://www.chiefminister.act.gov.au)

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**From:**  
**Sent:** Monday, 24 September 2012 9:36 AM  
**To:** GALLAGHER  
**Subject:** Road Calming Measures - Holt

Dear Chief Minister

I am writing to comment on "traffic calming" measures installed by your Department at Spofforth Street, Holt.

We live on [redacted] it, Holt. The measures taken on Spofforth Street (although there are probably too many speed bumps in total) certainly seem to be effective in reducing speeding, irresponsible road use and in reducing the volume of traffic on Spofforth Street.

Unfortunately, they seem to have merely re-located some of the problems to Messenger Street, Beaurepaire Crescent and other Holt streets. We now see an escalated pattern of idiots doing burn-outs and donuts on Messenger Street - particularly in the intersections and during any spell of rain. Recently:

- one such offender very narrowly missed taking out one of my neighbours, as the driver appeared to lose control halfway through a donut; and
- we have had a car missing the turn into Lindrum Crescent because of excessive speed, veering across the road, slamming into the gutter and colliding with a large gum tree on our nature strip (I firmly believe that the car would have ended up in our lounge room, if it hadn't hit the storm drain and thus been diverted into the gum tree).

I believe that installation of speed bumps (especially if your Department plans to reduce the number on

Spofforth Street and there are spars available) at the intersections on Messenger Street, or even a coarser gravel finish on the intersection of Mesenger/Lindrum and Messenger/Higgerson, would eliminate a lot of these incidents.

While strongly supportive of such initiatives, I believe that we don't need quite as many speed bumps in Spofforth Street - having seen chicanes in other cities, I think these are preferable to bumps depending upon cost factors (I have seen very large planters, for example, used to economically create chicanes).

I very much look forward to hearing form you on this issue.

Yours sincerely



**ACT**  
Government

Territory and Municipal Services

**E-MAILED**  
5/10/12

Dear

I refer to your email of 24 September 2012 to the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services regarding the traffic calming measures on Spofforth Street, Holt. The ACT Government is currently in a caretaker period leading up to the Legislative Assembly elections on 20 October 2012 and the Minister has asked me to reply on her behalf.

Following the evaluation of the Spofforth Street traffic calming measures, the ACT Government has decided to investigate the need for additional traffic calming measures on Messenger Street, Beaurepaire Crescent and Trickett Street to address the community's feedback. This study will include consultation with residents of these streets. Speed cushions may be one of the options considered to reduce speeds as they provide continuous all-day speed control to most vehicles using the street. However, no specific traffic calming measures have been proposed for these streets at this stage.

Roads ACT advises that traffic calming devices such as speed cushions will not be effective at deterring the anti-social behaviour of some drivers in your neighbourhood. Burnouts and donuts tend to be done at a slow speed and can be comfortably done in between speed cushions and even if a multitude of closely-spaced devices were installed the perpetrators will simply move from one street to another.

The above activity is a driver behaviour issue that is best addressed by enforcement by ACT Policing. I would encourage you to report such activities to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 together with, if possible, the registration of the vehicle/s involved. This information can assist ACT Policing, particularly where you have observed a pattern or frequency of behaviour. If immediate police assistance is required I would encourage you to call 131 444. ACT Policing has the power to impound the vehicle/vehicles involved and these reports can be made anonymously.

Yours sincerely

Sue Morrell  
Deputy Director-General

5 October 2012

**Bruan, Nicole**

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**From:** Vikneson, Jayanthy  
**Sent:** Friday, 30 November 2012 12:13 PM  
**To:** Gombar-Millynn, Helen  
**Cc:** Shoukrallah, Rifaat; Quinlan, David  
**Subject:** Spofforth St evaluation - concept plan  
**Attachments:** Modifications Dec 2012.pdf

Hi Helen,

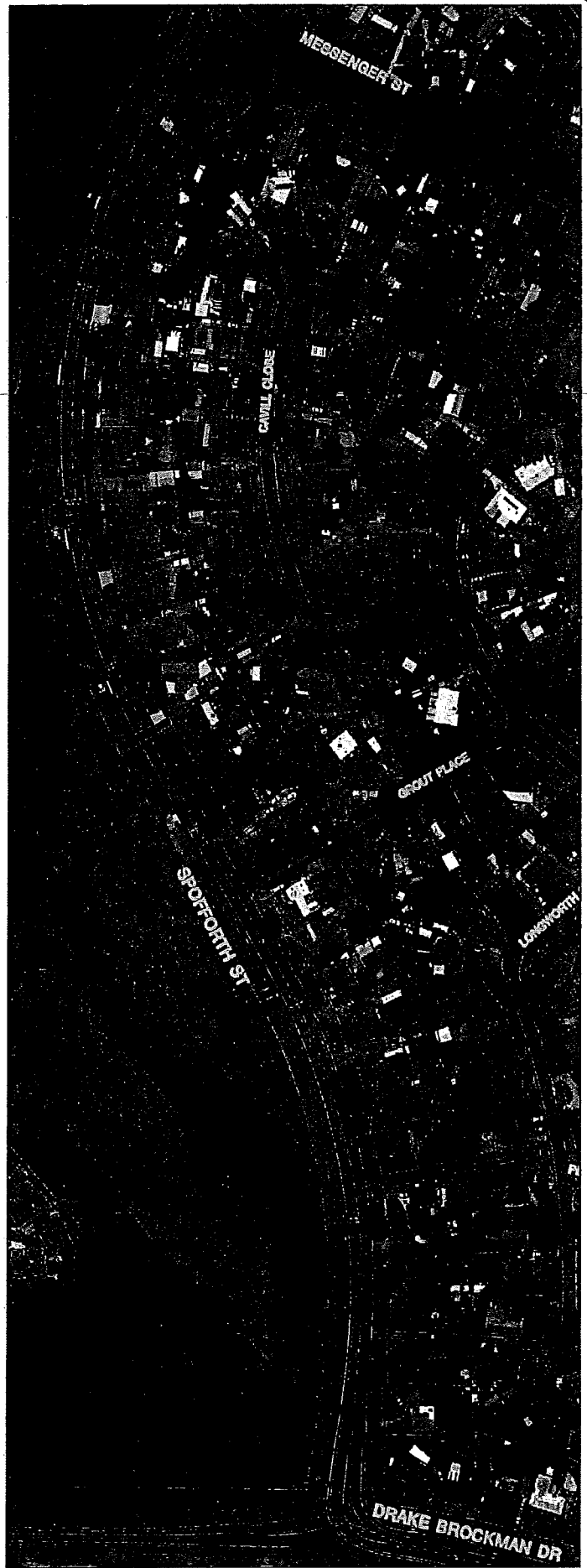
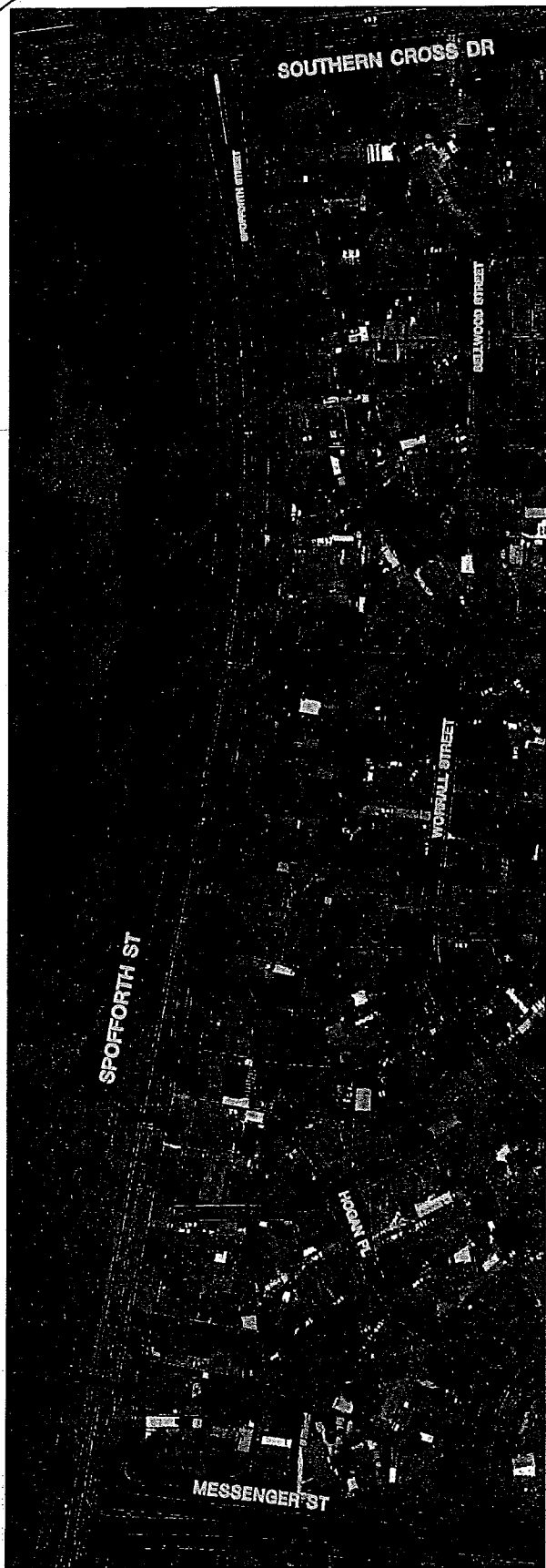
As discussed attached is the 'Concept plan - modifications to the Spofforth Street traffic calming scheme' for upload onto the TAMS website.


Similarly, please upload the Flinders Way plan (sent previously) as 'Concept plan - modifications to the Flinders Way traffic calming scheme.'


Thanks!

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Regards,  
Jayanthy



RELOCATED CUSHION 

RETAINED CUSHION 

**Vikneson, Jayanthy**

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**From:** David Lavin (Canberra) [david.lavin@cardno.com.au]  
**Sent:** Friday, 23 November 2012 12:03 PM  
**To:** Vikneson, Jayanthy  
**Subject:** FW: Costs for the two projects  
**Attachments:** RE: drawings for Spofforth Street and Flinders Way speed cushion relocations [Filed 02 Nov 2012 09:13]

Jayanthy,

Estimated construction costs as discussed – these are engineering estimates; as such they may be subject to change once the Contractor completes his pricing exercise. Please refer to the attached e-mail for a response to John regarding the estimated costs.

Regards,

David

David Lavin  
SENIOR ROADS ENGINEER  
CARDNO



Phone +61 2 6112 4515 Fax +61 2 6112 4599 Mobile 0423 759 857  
Address Level 2, 14 Wormald Street, Symonston ACT 2609 Australia  
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Email [david.lavin@cardno.com.au](mailto:david.lavin@cardno.com.au) Web [www.cardno.com](http://www.cardno.com)

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**From:** Tracey Adhikari (Canberra)  
**Sent:** Friday, 26 October 2012 12:31 PM  
**To:** [john.taylor@act.gov.au](mailto:john.taylor@act.gov.au)  
**Cc:** David Lavin (Canberra)  
**Subject:** Costs for the two projects

Hi John,

The costs for the two sites are as follows

Spofforth Street       \$  
Flinders Way            \$

This is an estimated cost, including the contractor's mark up, contingency of 15%, plus 10% GST.

Could you please return any comments to us by middle of next week, in order to achieve completion of construction by mid-December.

Regards,

Tracey Adhikari  
PROJECT ENGINEER  
CARDNO



Phone +61 2 6112 4537 Fax +61 2 6112 4599  
Address Level 2, 14 Wormald Street, Symonston ACT 2609 Australia  
Postal P.O. Box 7217, CPBC ACT 2610  
Email [tracey.adhikari@cardno.com.au](mailto:tracey.adhikari@cardno.com.au) Web [www.cardno.com](http://www.cardno.com)

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**Vikneson, Jayanthy**

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**From:** David Lavin (Canberra) [david.lavin@cardno.com.au]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 20 November 2012 11:22 PM  
**To:** Dave D  
**Cc:** Vikneson, Jayanthy  
**Subject:** Re: ACT Streets Improvement Programme: Post Implementation Modifications to Flinders Way and Spofforth Street

**Attachments:** 110012-008-1004-Flinders Way-2.pdf; 110012-008-1005-Flinders Way-2.pdf; 110012-008-1006-Flinders Way-2.pdf; 110012-008-1007-Spofforth Street-2.pdf; 110012-008-1008-Spofforth Street-2.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dave,

Further to previous conversations, can you provide a quotation to undertake the following works (you should note that the works will need to be completed by Christmas): –

Flinders Way

- Monaro Crescent – Remove one of the existing cushions, re-space as shown on Drg. No. YN110012-008-1004. Make good the pavement where cushions have been removed.
- Flinders Way (North east of Hayes Crescent) – Remove existing cushions and associated signs as per Drg. No. YN110012-008-1005
- Flinders Way (North east of La Perouse Street) – Remove one of the existing cushions, re-space as shown on Drg. No. YN110012-008-1005. Make good the pavement where cushions have been removed.
- Flinders Way (South of Murray Crescent) – Remove one of the existing cushions, re-space as shown on Drg. No. YN110012-008-1006. Make good the pavement where cushions have been removed.
- Murray Crescent (East of Flinders Way - westbound) – Remove one of the existing cushions, re-space as shown on Drg. No. YN110012-008-1006. Relocate associated traffic signs as required. Make good the pavement where cushions have been removed.
- Murray Crescent (East of Flinders Way - eastbound) – Remove existing cushions and associated traffic signs as per Drg. No. YN110012-008-1006.
- Service checks and location (as required)
- Approval for TTM plans
- Site set-up and TTM
- Liaison and co-ordination with TCA (or similar approved)
- Letter drop to residents in advance of the works
- WAE (Cardno can provide a quotation for this if required)

Spofforth Street

- Spofforth Street – Remove one set of the existing cushions and re-space as shown on Drg. No. YN110012-008-1007. Relocate associated traffic signs as required. Make good the pavement where cushions have been removed.
- Spofforth Street – Remove one set of the existing cushions and re-space as shown on Drg. No. YN110012-008-1008. Relocate associated traffic signs as required. Make good the pavement where cushions have been removed.
- Service checks and location (as required)
- Approval for TTM plans
- Site set-up and TTM
- Liaison and co-ordination with TCA (or similar approved)
- Letter drop to residents in advance of the works
- WAE (Cardno can provide a quotation for this if required)

The attached drawings will be submitted for TCD approval in the next day or two.

Regards,

David