

ACT Government Community & Industry Infrastructure Roundtable

Thursday 24 March 2011, 9:30 – 11:00 am

Hosted by Jon Stanhope MLA



Agenda

Welcome

Address by Chief Minister

Jon Stanhope MLA

Working Strategically to Deliver for Canberra

A presentation by the Chief Executive of the ACT Chief Minister's Department on the direction of the ACT Government Infrastructure Plan: 2011 – 2021.

Andrew Cappie-Wood

General Discussion

Community and Industry Representatives

Concluding Remarks and Next Steps

The ACT Government welcomes further discussion and feedback on the specific issues explored through this forum and on any other matters in relation to the Infrastructure Plan.

Jon Stanhope MLA

Attendees

1. ACT Government Officials

BURNS, Sara	Chief Minister's Office
CAPPIE-WOOD, Andrew	Chief Minister's Department
DAVOREN, Pam	Chief Minister's Department
SMITHIES, Megan	Department of Treasury
DAWES, David	Department of Land and Property Services
GREY, David	Procurement Solutions
LACEY, Glenn	ACT Planning and Land Authority

2. Community and Industry Representatives

BARRETT, Ross	Master Builders Association of the ACT
BLINKSELL, Mark	Communities@Work
CARTER, Catherine	Property Council of Australia – ACT Division
DUNDAS, Roslyn	ACT Council of Social Service (ACTCOSS)
FAULKS, Chris	Canberra Business Council
GARNER, Greg	Delphin Lend Lease
GLOVER, Kel	CHC Affordable Housing
HASKINS, John	Land Development Agency Board
LAMONT, David	University of Canberra
LESLIE, Malcolm	CIC
MILLER, John	Master Builders Association of the ACT
MORSCHER, Alan	Australian Institute of Architects (ACT Chapter)
MURPHY, Paul	Project Coordination (Australia) Pty Ltd
NOTARAS, Manny	Canberra CBD Limited
PETERS, Chris	ACT & Region Chamber of Commerce
STRIKA, Vesna	Engineers Australia (Canberra Division)
SERENA, Mick	ANU
SLAVICH, Ivan	TRANSACT
SLOAN, Craig	Regional Development Australia (ACT Branch)
VAN AALST, Robert	Regional Development Australia (ACT Branch)
WALES, Philip	University of Canberra
WELLSMORE, Michael	REIACT
WINNELL, Bob	Village Building Company

3. Apologies

BALZANELLI, Andrew	Jones Lang LaSalle
BYRON, Stephen	Canberra Airport
COLLINS, Stuart	HIA
DALY, Terry	Knight Frank
DOMAZET, Jure	Doma Group
FLANNERY, Steve	CB Richard Ellis
HINDMARSH, John	Hindmarsh
POWDERLY, Paul	Colliers International
SATTTLER, Kim	Unions ACT
SINCLAIR, Hamish	Planning Institute of Australia (ACT Division)
RAKE, Garry	National Capital Authority
RUNKO, John	Independent Property Group

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Minutes

Welcome

Presented by Chief Minister Jon Stanhope MLA

Governments across Australia are placing greater emphasis on strategic planning to meet future challenges as reflected in the COAG Review of Capital City Strategic Planning Systems¹.

The Territory delivered a record capital works program last year, worth over \$580 million, almost double the previous record delivered in 2008-09.

In this context, the potential impact of recent natural disasters around Australia on infrastructure development in the ACT needs to be explored. This is particularly relevant to maintaining industry capacity to continue to deliver the Territory's infrastructure priorities.

Working Strategically to Deliver for Canberra

Presented by Andrew Cappie-Wood, Chief Executive, Chief Minister's Department

The ACT Government Infrastructure Plan is a strategic document, with the flexibility to adapt as priorities emerge while also planning for development and growth in an appropriate way.

Since the release of the 2010 Plan: the Commonwealth has commenced a feasibility study into a high speed rail network along Australia's east coast; the Outcomes Report of the largest consultation undertaken in the history of the ACT, *Canberra 2030: Time to Talk*, has been released; and the Review of the ACT Public Service conducted by Dr Allan Hawke AC has been completed.

¹ The Council of Australian Governments has been asked to review capital city planning systems, to encourage strategic approaches in this area and share knowledge of best practice. The Council agreed to assess existing capital city planning systems against nine criteria to identify opportunities for improvement and ensure that these systems are better placed to meet future challenges. These criteria are available at the following: <http://www.coagreformcouncil.gov.au/agenda/cities.cfm>

General Discussion on the Development of the 2011 Infrastructure Plan

Issues raised at the Roundtable include:

1. Addressing site contamination and the implications of associated testing and reporting regulations on the efficiency of private sector development.
2. Opportunities identified in the Hawke Review to facilitate enhanced collaboration between the Government and industry.
3. Embedding a vision of the desired look and function of Canberra through the Infrastructure Plan.
4. Better integration of longer-term land use and public transport planning as vital to the development of an efficient infrastructure planning system.
5. The impact of demographic change on infrastructure development, particularly transport and land development.
6. Working with the Commonwealth, industry and community to develop and define collaborative priorities.
7. The contribution of the Commonwealth and private industry to infrastructure development in the ACT.
8. Feedback was sought on progress in areas discussed at previous roundtables - the outcomes of discussions at this and previous roundtables are being taken into account in the development of the 2011 Infrastructure Plan.

Key Discussion Points

Malcolm Leslie (CIC)

- The Government should provide feedback on progress in areas explored as part of the previous Roundtable given the good discussion that occurred and the many quality ideas that were generated.

David Lamont (University of Canberra)

- The need for greater clarity of Government priorities in terms of infrastructure development, which would assist industry in planning for, and delivering, projects.
- The need for a closer alignment between Government and agency infrastructure priorities was also raised.
- Encouraged the Government to implement the Hawke Review recommendations, particularly given the potential implications for land use and planning.

Paul Murphy (Project Coordination (Australia) Ltd)

- Raised the issue of risk profiling and noted a positive move to more 'hard dollar' projects where risk is moved away from the Territory.
- Noted significant issues around site contamination, the slow and stigmatised processes associated and the impact it has on infrastructure development.

John Miller (Master Builders Association of the ACT)

- Also raised issues around site contamination, noting that continuing stringent testing and reporting regulations could have a serious impact on infrastructure development in the Territory.
- Suggested a 'clearing house' to address the issue more efficiently.

Catherine Carter (Property Council of Australia – ACT Division)

- Suggested the Hawke Review is the key to achieving efficiency within the Government, and as a consequence, strengthening relationships with the community and industry.
- Suggested the Government 'road test' some of the recommendations by applying them in work with the private sector.

Bob Winnel (Village Building Company)

- It is necessary to develop a clear direction and picture of the potential physical structure of the city to create a useful Infrastructure Plan and to ensure a strategic focus as the city grows.
- Demographic change needs to be taken into account when determining how we want our future city to look, current planning and regulatory structures do not appear to adequately consider these changes.

Bob Winnel (Village Building Company)

- Suggested a closer integration of land use and public transport (for example the locations of health facilities, schools and other amenities) and that densification around transport corridors is key to strategic infrastructure planning.
- Suggested negative public opinion around development stems from the lack of progressive alternatives and the perception that development must result in urban densification or not occur at all.

Mick Serena (Australian National University)

- The ANU welcomes a more integrated approach to infrastructure planning, working with both the ACT Government and the NCA to plan for a city that is desirable and accessible to students.
- The review of the NCA provides an opportunity to collaborate more closely with the ACT Government and implement processes that enhance planning and development.
- Transport is a key infrastructure concern for the ANU. Opportunities exist for programs to be developed in partnership with ACTION to educate and encourage students to use the public transport system in Canberra.
- Investment in cycling lanes will facilitate sustainable transport use in the city, including appropriate maintenance and upgrades².
- Canberra needs to transition from a boutique city to a major capital city. This development would require a high level of leadership and vision on the part of the ACT Government.
- Applauded the ACT Government for the Hawke Review, in particular the recommendations around land use and planning, and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to engage in forums such as the Roundtable.

Ivan Slavich (TransACT)

- As a Government document, the Infrastructure Plan will focus on government projects but to better illustrate infrastructure development and investment across the Territory, consideration should be given to the role of the private sector and Commonwealth.
- The Commonwealth should be asked to engage more on infrastructure development in the Territory.

Chris Faulks (Canberra Business Council)

- Suggested the Infrastructure Plan adopt a broader focus which outlines not only ACT Government infrastructure, but also Commonwealth and private sector contributions to planning and development in this area.

² The ACT Government released a Review of the Cycling and Pedestrian Network on 28 March 2011 which can be found at:
http://www.tams.act.gov.au/move/cycling/trunkcycleandpedestrianinfrastructure/cycling_and_pedestrian_network_priority_infrastructure_for_capital_works_february_2011