



Australian Government
National Capital Authority

NATIONAL CAPITAL AUTHORITY

Authority Meeting A2021/4(a)

28 September 2021

Public Record

*I endorse this Public Record of the
Authority meeting held on 28 September 2021*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Dennis Richardson', written over a dotted line.

Mr Dennis Richardson, Interim Chair of the National Capital Authority

This document is a public record of the National Capital Authority meeting held on 28 September 2021. As some matters discussed at Authority meetings are personal, privileged and/or confidential, this record follows but does not represent the formal minutes of the meeting.

Administration and Governance

The following Authority Members attended the meeting: Mr Terry Weber (Chair, part), Mr Dennis Richardson (Interim Chair, part), Ms Jenny Smithson, Mr James Willson and Ms Sally Barnes (Chief Executive).

This meeting was an additional Authority meeting to enable the timely consideration of the ACT government's proposal to raise London Circuit. In line with COVID-19 restrictions, the Authority meeting was conducted on-line.

The Authority and NCA officers discussed the NCA's situation under the lockdown noting staff were managing the situation reasonably well, with productivity generally remaining high.

The Authority attended to relevant administrative and governance matters including confirming the meeting agenda, and disclosing and managing conflicts of interest.

Draft NCA Annual Report 2020-21

The Authority received and discussed a paper outlining the background, key points and next steps in the production of the NCA 2020-21 Annual Report, including the Annual Report's audience and use, key service providers for its production, and timelines.

Protective Security Policy Framework (PSPF) Annual Report

The Authority received and discussed the NCA's 2020-21 annual PSPF assessment report including aspects of physical security and the NCA's top security risks. The Authority suggested some amendments and agreed the report be finalised.

Presentation – Raising London Circuit

(Mr Weber left the meeting for this item, with Mr Richardson in the Chair.)

The Authority received a presentation on the Raising London Circuit project from ACT Government officials from the Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate, the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, Major Projects Canberra (MPC), the City Planning Authority and MPC's advisers from an infrastructure consulting firm.

The presentation covered:

- the background, details and rationale of the project, and its relationship with the Light Rail Stage 2 project
- the proposed removal of the southwest and northwest clover leaves as part of the City Plan to develop the area and improve connectivity and promote active travel to areas south of the city centre and facilitate future development on these sites
- proposed landscape and design elements
- a concurrent works approval application for part-time traffic signals on the Coranderrk Street/Parkes Way roundabout
- the establishment of a disruption taskforce
- land use licences
- next steps and proposed timeline
- the proposed engagement (consultation) schedule and details

The Authority discussed a range of issues with the presenters including:

- the NCA's approval role and specific interest, including in ensuring the exemplary design and quality of nearby developments and possible activation opportunities in and around Vernon Circle
- the status of the project in relation to Light Rail Stage 2— determined to be a viable standalone project, but also an enabling project for Light Rail Stage 2
- the impact of development of the area on the environment and heritage values, especially the Parliament House Vista – it was confirmed that the project itself and related and subsequent developments in the area are subject to NCA and EPBC Act approvals and controls
- safety and road traffic arrangements and their impact, during and after construction, and also following construction and operation of Light Rail in the area
- the required clarity, accessibility and transparency of the respective roles of the parties, the proposal itself and its relationship with Light Rail Stage 2, along with supporting details and information, for the consultation processes
- the interest of, inter alia, the Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories in the project itself as well as related developments.

The Authority discussed and confirmed its position and next steps, including with respect to having the NCA closely involved with this and related developments in the redesigned clover leaf areas and the primacy of achieving exemplary design and quality outcomes.

Other Business

The Authority noted its next meeting is scheduled for 19 October 2021.

