



Chris Steel MLA

Minister for Transport and City Services

Minister for Skills

Special Minister of State

Member for Murrumbidgee

Ms Amanda Reynolds

info@reid.northcanberra.org.au

Dear Ms Reynolds

Thank you for your email about the Age Friendly Suburbs project in Reid. I am responding as this issue falls within my portfolio of responsibilities.

The ACT Government is committed to supporting and enabling an urban environment that is accessible and inclusive of people at all stages of their lives, particularly in areas where a large proportion of residents are aged over 55 years. An age friendly city encourages people of all ages to take part in community activities. It helps ensure everyone is treated with respect, regardless of their age, and supports people in finding and connecting to the services and assistance they need.

The current Age Friendly Suburbs project 2021-2025 will deliver improvements in the suburbs of Reid, Scullin, O'Connor and Chifley. These improvements may include new and upgraded paths, refuge islands, upgraded kerb ramps, new pedestrian crossings and/ or speed reduction measures. In early 2022, priority areas for improvements will be compiled by Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) for each suburb from previous community feedback collated from Fix My Street requests, the Community Path Priority List, and from an assessment of the path network in each suburb.

Stakeholders and the broader community will then be invited to rank priority areas within each suburb as well as provide feedback on what additional improvements would assist older residents to be active in their suburb. TCCS will seek direct input from the Committee of the Reid Resident's Association during this consultation period.

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I note your concerns raised about the pedestrian connection across Coranderrk Street and more specifically your concerns for those with limited mobility. This is the type of issue which the project seeks to resolve and to improve for our community. I have passed these concerns on to the project team within TCCS responsible for delivering the project.

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

Yours sincerely



Chris Steel MLA
Minister for Transport and City Services
14 February 2022

cc Emma Davidson MLA

Labor to expand age friendly suburbs for older Canberrans

A re-elected ACT Labor Government will support local jobs by expanding the successful age friendly suburbs program to improve path networks and promote accessibility for older Canberrans.

Over the last four years, ACT Labor has delivered upgrades in 12 Canberra suburbs that are home to a larger number of older Canberrans.

These improvements included completing missing path connections, installing crossings, ramps and refuge islands.

If re-elected, ACT Labor will expand this program in additional suburbs over the next four years with a \$2 million investment in Reid, Chifley, Scullin and O'Connor.

Today is International Day for Older Persons, and ACT Labor has a strong track record on delivering for older Canberrans.

In Government, we lowered the age of eligibility to 60 for the ACT seniors card and, after extensive community consultation, we delivered our aged friendly city plan.

The plan addresses important issues and solutions to barriers that older Canberrans face, such as elder abuse, transport, active travel, dementia friendly spaces, utilities concessions and community participation.

We also introduced and passed an Australian first - a specific criminal offence for elder abuse by individuals and institutions.

We invested in the Older Persons Legal Service (OPALS) so that older Canberrans can get free legal advice where and when they need it.

In addition to this, ACT Labor will also re-commit to fully implementing our aged friendly city plan. We will ensure older Canberrans are able to participate, are valued and are well represented in our community.

ACT Labor values the contribution of older Canberrans. We are the only party with a genuine plan to address the issues facing older Canberrans and we will continue to deliver that plan.

All quotes attributable to Labor's spokesperson for Older Canberrans Gordon Ramsay MLA

Statement ends

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