



SUBMISSION TO THE FY 2024 ACT BUDGET

THE VILLAGE OF HALL AND DISTRICT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

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The Village of Hall and District Progress Association (VHDPA) is an incorporated, not-for-profit community association which promotes the interests of Hall Village and District community members. The objects and purposes of the Association are to further the interest and welfare of the community of the Village of Hall and District, to protect and progress the amenity and heritage character of the Village of Hall and, to facilitate the recreational, educational, environmental, heritage, artistic, occupational and other interests of members and residents of Hall Village and District.

The VHDPA is the Australian Capital Territory's oldest community association and represents a community that appreciates the Ngambri-Ngunnawal, historic and natural heritage values of its surrounding environment.

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Over the last couple of years, two significant matters have been raised by the Progress Association with TCS Minister Steel on behalf of Hall residents and businesses. While Minister Steel has acknowledged these matters and they have been slated for action, it is clear that without allocation of the required funding, such projects have limited likelihood of implementation.

On this basis, the Village of Hall and District Progress Association requests that these two projects have the necessary funding allocated in the FY 2024 ACT Budget.

Storm Water Drainage in Hall Village

On 14 January 2022, the Progress Association wrote to TCS Minister Steel requesting urgent attention by the ACT government to undertake the assessment, design and completion of works on storm water infrastructure in Hall Village. On 11 July, following numerous correspondence with Minister Steel, a response was received from the Minister committing that TCCS would engage a suitably qualified consultant to undertake detailed analysis and provide mitigation options to improve storm water drainage in Hall.

A survey began in July 2022 but, in spite of information provided by the Progress Association, was limited to storm water drainage in the laneways of Hall. After detailed information was provided by affected residents to the assigned TCCS Project Manager, the scope of works of the consultant was varied to include identifying flooding hotspots for the entire Village, and to develop flood mitigation options to alleviate the identified flooding. As the initial scope of works was limited, the surveyor was not available before the end of 2022 to complete the survey and the required storm water infrastructure plan will not be completed until June 2023.

In order that the storm water drainage that has already waited 20 years not be further delayed, the Village of Hall and District Progress Association requests that the funding required for construction of comprehensive storm water drainage infrastructure is included in the FY 2024 ACT budget, pending the detailed design.

Cycle and Pedestrian Path from Gladstone Street Hall to Clarrie Hermes Drive Barton Highway

When the Centenary Trail was opened in 2013, no walking and cycle link was created between the One Tree Hill track head in Hall and the formed cycle path on Clarrie Hermes Drive, although the original Trail plan identified such a link. In 2019 following representations by the Village of Hall and District Progress Association, the ACT government had scraped a very rudimentary track from the Hall rugby field alongside Victoria Street to Clarrie Hermes Drive and had constructed a bridge across Halls Creek and a couple of metal crossings at gullies. In 2021, the Progress Association first requested a fully formed and sealed cycle and pedestrian path be constructed to replace the rudimentary track.

Following a further request to TCS Minister Steel in November 2022, Minister Steel advised that the proposed cycle and pedestrian path connection connecting Hall Village to the Barton Highway has been assessed and placed on the community path priority listing for future works, although has not been identified as an immediate priority.

In order to address the significant safety risk of cyclists on Victoria Street between Hall and the Barton Highway, contribute to the ACT government Active Travel strategy and complete a community path on the priority listing, the Village of Hall and District Progress Association requests that the funding required for construction of the Hall to Clarrie Hermes Drive fully formed and paved cycle and pedestrian path is included in the FY 2024 ACT budget.

CONCLUSION

Commitments cannot be realised without the allocation of sufficient funding to complete the projects in the ACT Budget.

The Village of Hall and District Progress Association requests that commitments already made by TCS Minister Steel are able to be realised by the allocation of sufficient funding in the FY 2024 Budget for implementation.