

# GREAT PUBLIC TRANSPORT FOR A LIVEABLE CANBERRA

## FAST, FREQUENT, RELIABLE BUSES THAT GET YOU WHERE YOU NEED TO GO

Canberra is a fast-growing, vibrant city and we need a great public transport system. But it's hard to use the bus if it doesn't go where you want to go, when you want to get there. The ACT Greens want public transport to be a genuine option for all Canberrans.

We also need to act on climate change. Transport emissions have risen and are now 62% of ACT emissions. That's because most of us drive most places – only 4% of journeys are by public transport. We must invest if we want to change that.

That's why we need Better Buses. Our buses should run frequently and on time. They should not get stuck in traffic. They should work for people travelling late at night and on weekends and for kids getting to school.

But Labor and the Liberals haven't got a proper public transport plan for Canberra.

The Liberals say they'll deliver better buses. But they won't make them any more frequent than the current system. And they will stop building Light Rail, so our buses will have to work extra hard to try to meet demand.

Labor holds the transport portfolio but they simply won't deliver. We have fewer buses today than we had in 1990, Labor won't tell us when they will build the two new depots they committed to and they won't hire enough drivers.

### THE ACT GREENS WILL:

- Run weekday suburban **buses every 20 minutes** between 6am – 8pm, from 2026
- Run weekend suburban buses every 30 minutes, from 2026
- Buy **100 more electric buses** to grow the fleet and cut emissions
- Build more bus lanes starting with Belconnen, Civic and Molonglo
- Make **bus stops better** with more shelters, seats, lights, paths and bike racks
- Extend Free public transport to kids, seniors and concession card holders

## MORE BUSES, MORE OFTEN

### **SUBURBAN BUSES EVERY 20 MINUTES ON WEEKDAYS FROM 6AM-TO 8PM**

Currently, Canberra's buses aren't frequent enough to rely on. We will run existing suburban buses every 20 minutes rather than every 30 minutes during weekdays. This will create a 'turn up and go' public transport system that you won't have to plan your day around. Monday to Friday from 6am to 8pm, no matter when you get to your bus stop, you'll know the next bus isn't far away.

### **BUSES EVERY 30 MINUTES ON WEEKENDS**

We will make weekend buses run every 30 minutes. Instead of waiting for a Saturday bus for an hour or a Sunday bus for two hours, the next bus will only ever be 30 minutes away.

### **100 MORE ELECTRIC BUSES AND HUNDREDS MORE DRIVERS**

To deliver on our plan we will need more buses and drivers. We will buy an additional 100 new electric buses on top of the 116 already ordered. This will mean our bus fleet keeps growing and all new buses are zero-emissions. It will reduce the ACT Government's emissions. It will slash transport emissions for the whole community as more people can catch the bus.

We will also hire and train 200 new drivers over the next four years. This increased capacity will help us improve bus frequency to every 20 minutes weekdays and every 30 minutes weekends from 2026.

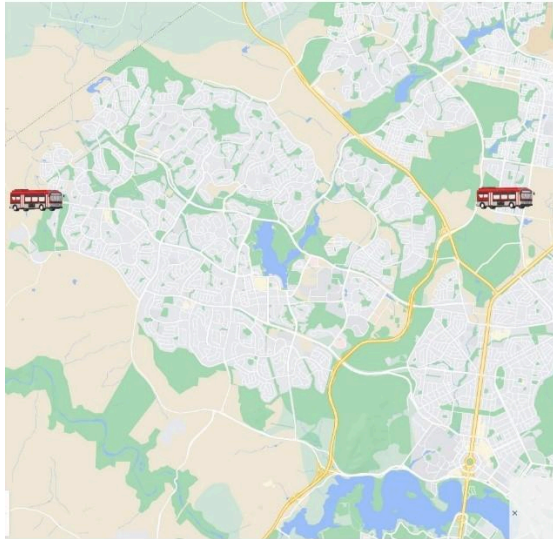
### **WHAT'S THE INVESTMENT?**

- \$100 million invested in 100 new electric buses
- \$50M per annum for 200+ FTE drivers including administration & overheads

### **TWO NEW BUS DEPOTS TO KEEP GROWING THE FLEET**

Our plan delivers fast improvements but we know our city is still growing so we need to think ahead. We must build more bus depots in order to improve bus frequency and add more suburban and school services.

We will build two new 100% electric bus depots in Mitchell and West Belconnen. This will let us grow our bus fleet and allow us to keep improving bus services. Our goal is for weekday buses to run every 15 minutes or less from 2030.



**WHAT'S THE INVESTMENT?**

- \$5M for early planning and design of bus depots at Mitchell & West Belconnen

**MORE BUS LANES STARTING WITH BELCONNEN AND MOLONGLO**

Canberra's most popular buses are stuck in peak hour traffic. But it doesn't have to be this way.

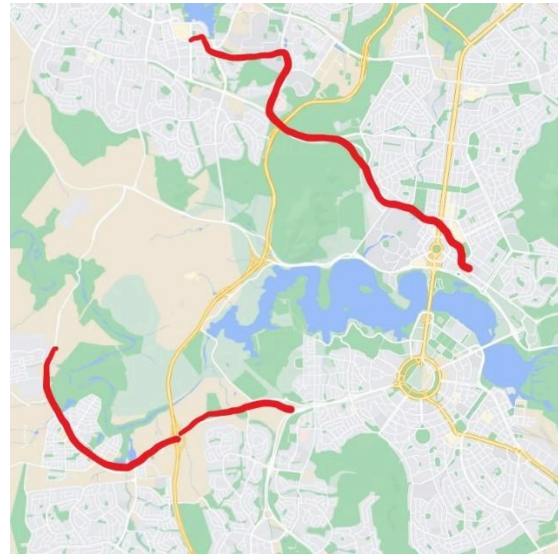
If we get our buses out of traffic, we can get more people on board. Our bus service will be efficient, frequent and reliable.

We will invest in more bus lanes starting with three of our biggest bottlenecks.

- Belconnen Town Centre to the City via UC, Northside Hospital (R2, R3 and R4)
- ANU to Constitution Avenue via City Bus Interchange and Legislative Assembly Stop

- Molonglo to Adelaide Avenue (R7 and R10)

These improvements will also feature separated bike infrastructure, rather than on-road cycle lanes, to keep all road users safe.



**BETTER BUS STOPS**

Canberra gets frosty mornings, hot summer days, wind, rain and more. We need high-quality bus shelters to ensure people are comfortable while waiting for their bus.

Bus shelters need protection from the elements and good lighting so people feel safe at night.

And it's hard to walk there without a footpath, or ride or roll to the bus stop if you can't park your wheels.

We will fix path connections, make kerb upgrades, and add more bus shelters, lighting, seating and bike racks.

## WHAT'S THE INVESTMENT?

- \$5M per annum, a fivefold increase on recent years

## LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS AND MORE SCHOOL SERVICES

Our plan to buy 100 electric buses will allow us to make all suburban services run every 20 minutes on weekdays. This will benefit people all over Canberra but there's local areas which need targeted improvements.

Once we've improved suburban services to every 20 minutes we will have some additional buses available to make targeted improvements where they're needed most.

This might include turning the 32 into a Rapid Bus running every 15 minutes, recognising it's the busiest route that isn't currently at Rapid frequency. More School Services to help more kids and parents choose public transport.

A full-sized local bus for Ginninderry, recognising the growing suburb needs a proper public transport service.

## FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORT FOR KIDS, CONCESSIONS AND SENIORS

Australia is in a cost of living crisis. Public transport should be easy to access and fares should be fair. Not only do we need to significantly improve our services, we need to make them free for those who need it most.

We already have a nation-leading progressive fare structure which gives free off-peak travel to concession card holders, free travel at all times to seniors over 70 and some of the cheapest public transport fares in the country, but we can do better.

We will extend free public transport to more people. We will make it free for pension and concession card holders regardless of the time of day. We will make it free for all under 18s, and allow school students to use their school card to tap on and off. We will give part-time tertiary students the same reduced fares that full-time students get, so you're not punished for working your way through your studies.

## WHAT'S THE INVESTMENT?

- \$6M per annum in fares not collected.

## LOOKING BEYOND 2028

Our growing city needs long term transport planning. This means planning a city-wide light rail and bus network that will serve this city long into the future.

Our plan will improve most weekday suburban services by 50%, with buses running every 20 minutes or faster, rather than every 30 minutes like they currently do. We will work to deliver weekday suburban buses every 15 minutes by no later than 2030.

By building two additional Northside depots we can continue to grow the bus fleet as our city grows.

Our goal is to ensure every Canberran has access to fast, reliable and accessible public transport, now and into the future.