

INVESTING IN MOUNTAIN BIKING

MORE TRAILS, MORE FUN

Whether you're a local, visitor or competitive rider, Canberra is a great place for mountain biking, and this exciting sport has brought as much as \$30 million a year into the Territory in recent years.

But to stay attractive as a biking destination we need more investment in more trails, and in the volunteer groups who help to build and maintain them.

With a major international mountain biking event coming to the region in October 2025, the Greens say now is the perfect time to invest \$1.2 million in Canberra's trail network, and the passionate people who do the work to look after it.

THE ACT GREENS WILL:

- ▲ Invest \$800,000 in building additional trails at Stromlo Forest Park, as a start to delivering the Master Plan
- ▲ Support local community groups with \$400,000 over four years continue their work building and maintaining trails across the ACT
- ▲ Recognise and capitalise on the opportunity offered by Sea Otter 2025 coming to Mogo Trails next October.



HEALTHY, OUTDOOR FUN IN CANBERRA

SUPPORTING TRAIL-BUILDING ACROSS THE ACT

Canberra has an enviable network of trails at Mount Stromlo, Bruce Ridge, Majura Pines, Cotter Pines, Kowen Forest, the Zoo Pines and more.

Mountain biking motivates a huge range of people to get outdoors across the bush capital, for fun and fitness, and the great diversity of local trails means shredders of any ability can have a go.

Spending time in nature is good for mental wellbeing, and can lead to greater concern and care for the local environment.

Community trail groups work hard building and maintaining trails for recreational use by locals and visitors to Canberra, and sometimes need to contract professional trail builders - and their machinery - for big jobs like re-routing trails that have eroded, and to facilitate habitat recovery in bushland trail networks like those at Bruce Ridge and Blue Range.

The Greens will invest \$400,000 to support the work of community groups to maintain and further enhance the trails as recreational assets and as tourist drawcards.

NEW TRAILS FOR MOUNT STROMLO

Stromlo Forest Park is the jewel in the crown of mountain biking in the ACT, the host of national and international competitions, and the Greens are proud to have helped secure government commitments to increased maintenance over recent years.

But with many other mountain biking hotspots emerging along the east coast, the ACT trails need further investment to remain attractive to tourists and locals.

The <u>UC Stromlo Forest Park Tracks and Trails Master Plan</u> was developed in consultation with the mountain biking community, who now want to see it delivered.

The Greens commit to delivering the Master Plan, starting with \$800,000 in funding for new trails to be rolled out as quickly as possible, ahead of the Sea Otter Australia event in October 2025.

Billed as 'the World's Largest Cycling Festival', Sea Otter will be coming to Australia for the first time, bringing a large number of tourists, including international visitors, to the NSW South Coast town of Mogo.

The ACT Government is already working with Destination NSW to try to ensure that the ACT is on the map for mountain bikers in the area who will want to make a full experience of their trip. As such, it is a perfect time to invest in new trails for Mount Stromlo

The Greens will invest in new trails at Mount Stromlo to maintain first class

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Authorised by Pat Dollard for the ACT Greens



facilities for the growing number of local riders, to maintain Canberra's appeal as a mountain biking destination and keep tourism dollars flowing into the local economy, and to reduce overuse of the existing trails - in turn reducing the maintenance burden.

WHAT'S THE INVESTMENT?

- \$100,000 each year over four years to support community-led trail-building and maintenance.
- \$800,000 for immediate investment in new trails at Stromlo Forest Park, as a start to delivering the Master Plan.