From: Lukas Sigut

To: <u>Committee, NCET (REPS)</u>

Subject: ACT light rail stage two through the Parliamentary Triangle committee submission

Date: Tuesday, 12 June 2018 7:35:27 PM

Dear Federal Government Committee Chair and Members,

I would like to make a submission to the enquiry on the ACT light rail stage two through the Parliamentary Triangle.

I am currently a resident and home owner in the Molonglo Valley region of the ACT. Although stage 1 or proposed stage 2 light rail routes will not directly benefit me on a regular basis, I give my full support to the project as proposed and I will outline my reasons below.

- 1. The development of light rail in the ACT is a significant infrastructure project that I am confident has undergone considerable and thorough consultation with the public and stakeholder groups.
- 2. The Parliamentary zone and Parliamentary precincts are sites of national significance that exemplify ACT and Australian leadership and integration. The light rail project not only realises WB Griffin's original masterplan for Canberra, it also provides an opportunity to further exemplify visibly these values through a permanent, modern, sustainable, and economically enriching infrastructure.
- 3. The light rail should not merely be seen as a new or additional mode of transportation, but as an opportunity to bring greater connectivity through the ACT and nationally by visibly and proudly bringing people to the heart of the capital. There is important positive symbolism I believe for showing different ways of connecting to the Parliamentary zone and Parliamentary precincts which are not dominated by cars.
- 4. The light rail project needs to be embraced by the Federal and ACT governments and given greater resources and visible support. This is a highly important infrastructure for a fast growing city. Other cities such as Sydney are trying to undo past mistakes of tearing up light rail by rebuilding it, and other cities such as Gold Coast and Newcastle are looking to the future and reaping benefits of light rail. This is in addition to trends worldwide by other cities to build light rail.
- 5. A true North to South light rail route that includes the Parliamentary triangle is essential for continued greater integration of all of Canberra and its residents to support government work efficiency and productivity.
- 6. The light rail as proposed also enables the continued development of ACT and Australia to be seen internationally as forward thinking and environmentally sustainable.
- 7. I am concerned about continued attempts that appear ideologically motivated by some political groups to de-rail (pun intended) the progress and benefits of the light rail project through statements that are misleading, lend themselves to fearmongering, and are blatant delaying tactics.

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Yours sincerely,

Lukas Sigut