

SUBMISSION 4



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The Inquiry Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories
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Submission to inquiry into pay parking in the Parliamentary Zone

I work in Barton. I cycle to work (and have done in various cities for 24 years), and I often drive through the Parliamentary Zone at weekends.

In our current social setting, traffic will always increase to fill available carparking spaces and drivers will always complain about the lack of availability of parking. Existing circumstances encourage people to drive their single-occupant cars to work. When I came to work in Barton I found it extraordinary that people could simply park their cars for an unlimited time in huge free carparks and along the streets.

For a number of reasons (use of fuel and other resources, greenhouse gases, cost, amenity, safety etc) people should be encouraged into modes of transport other than cars. Parking by people working in Barton is a major contribution to the parking problems in the Parliamentary Zone.

I support any measures that will reduce the number of car parking spaces in the Parliamentary Zone and around the offices and buildings in Barton. At the very least, there should be less ground area covered by parking areas. Parking could be contained in multi-storey car parks constructed on some of the existing car parking areas. The Parliamentary Zone would be much more visually appealing if there were no parking allowed on the kerbsides.

A system of shuttle transport would be useful. A visitor to the Parliamentary Zone should not be inconvenienced in parking at an appropriate parking station and riding a frequent shuttle service around the zone.

The Parliamentary Zone and surrounding areas could be an excellent place to introduce the Bishop Austrans system, feeding people from parking stations and other transport terminals to and around the buildings and features in the area. In conjunction with a rationalisation of the roads in the area, this could be a major improvement and a great feature to advertise the accessibility of the national buildings in the Zone.

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