



Submission No. 4
(Bridging of Kings Ave.)

The Secretary of the Committee
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Secretary

Bridging of Kings Avenue over Parkes Way at the Russell Roundabout, Canberra, ACT

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above mentioned works and the National Capital Authority (NCA) submission.

While the proposed work would result in an improvement to the existing intersection of Parkes Way and Kings Avenue, it does not meet all the stated objectives and therefore should not be approved in its current configuration.

In the NCA submission, in the section 'Need for the works', a stated aim for the project is to "separate local and through traffic" (refer point 39). The proposed solution does not however meet this objective in relation to significant volumes of through traffic. That is:

- traffic travelling from Parkes Way (direction south-east) to Kings Avenue (dir. south-west); and
- traffic travelling from Kings Avenue (dir. north-east) to Morshead Drive (dir. south-east).

The proposed design would also appear to have a significant adverse impact on through traffic travelling from Kings Ave. (dir. north-east) to Parkes Way (dir. north-west).

I believe that these issues could be addressed through an alternative design solution such as the 'two bridge' design as per Option 1 (refer point 65), described in 'The Technical Solution' section of the NCA submission as similar to the Commonwealth Avenue / Parkes Way intersection. This solution would, in my opinion, be conducive to good traffic flow yet has been dismissed in favour of a single bridge design (where many traffic movements are controlled by traffic signals). While referring to traffic studies and analysis, no details of these are provided in the NCA submission for consideration by the committee.

A design solution that includes grade separation of all through traffic movements would, I believe, have a positive impact on traffic management in the Parliamentary Triangle, including the reduction of through traffic on King Edward Terrace, identified as a significant issue in the NCA Draft Amendment 53: Albert Hall Precinct.

While supporting the bridging of Kings Avenue over Parkes Way, I believe that the proposal, in its current design configuration, does not meet all objectives of the project and therefore should not be approved. Further information and alternative design solutions should be provided to the committee for consideration.

Yours faithfully

Chris Erett
11 July 2008