



Village of Hall and District Progress Association Inc
VHDPA Inc.
PO Box 43
Hall ACT 2618

26/06/2024

Dear Mr Robert Yallop AM,

Thank you for your correspondence on behalf of the Progress Association, seeking the position of the ACT Greens on matters in relation to Hall Village. As your local member, it is my pleasure to respond on behalf of the ACT Greens. I look forward to seeing the next issue of the *Rural Fringe* newsletter.

The Greens support continuing government consultation with the VHDPA on all matters concerning Village of Hall and surrounds. To the Greens, the VHDPA serves a valuable role in supporting and advocating for the community of Hall.

As a part of our *By and For the Suburbs* package announced this week, the Greens have proposed a \$40 million budget for reinvestment in the suburbs of Canberra, with each suburb to be allocated a share of the funds based on their size, and projects for the expenditure to be selected democratically by the residents of that suburb. Hall is no exception. Under the Greens' Plan, Hall would receive an allocation of \$100,000 twice during the next term of government, and we would ask the VHDPA to facilitate community discussions for deciding how this money should be spent. The only constraints on projects would be those that are already in place to protect planning integrity, the environment, and the heritage values of the ACT.

The ACT Greens are committed to upholding the heritage values of the Hall Village Precinct, and have since the precinct was placed on the ACT Heritage register in 2001. This includes our support for its intrinsic features of a 'rural village' urban landscape character, its landscape setting buffered from other

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urban areas of Canberra, and the natural and Aboriginal heritage values of the surrounding area.

The Greens are very comfortable with continuing the current 'peppercorn lease' arrangements with the VHDPA over the former Hall School site and the Hall Pavilion. We believe that the VHDPA is managing these facilities well, and will support your continuing custodianship of these locations into the future.

The Greens continue to support the conduct of storm water rectification works, noting that these would be rightly subject to engagement with community stakeholders, directorate advice on technical needs, and must respect the heritage values of the Village.

We agree that Hall would be improved through better active travel connections, including the provision of a sealed cycling and walking path along Victoria Street, an improvement that the Government has already endorsed for future work, albeit with no fixed timeline. This is one of the missing links in Canberra's cycling infrastructure that the Greens are keen to see addressed. Jo Clay will have announcements regarding active travel in the near future.

The Greens recognise that residents of Hall are concerned about traffic management at the intersection of Gladstone Street and the Barton Highway. We would welcome the conducting of a road safety assessment, or in the alternative, the direct implementation of any improvements that the government may have already identified are needed at this location.

The Greens would also support the installation of a bush tucker garden and all-abilities playground equipment on Gladstone Street, be it through our *By and For the Suburbs* package as a community chosen project, or otherwise through district-level planning decisions of the government. The Greens see having playground equipment in Hall as important, particularly given the distance to major playground locations in Gungahlin and Belconnen.

I would once again like to thank you and the VHDPA for your letter, and I look forward to engaging with you further into the future.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'AB' followed by a long, horizontal, wavy line that extends to the right.

Andrew Braddock for the ACT Greens