

(DRAFT) SUBMISSIONS TO CITY SERVICES' BETTER SUBURBS PROGRAM

(As at 6 October 2017) The issues the Committee intends to include in its submission are:

1. Stormwater

The storm water infrastructure in Hall is aged and not working to sufficiently deal with rain water. It is in a state that whenever there is rainfall there is considerable pooling of water and the north(uphill)/south(downhill) laneways are considerably eroded. What we don't know is to what extent this is a maintenance issue or a debilitated infrastructure issue – or a combination of both.

The extent of pooling is directly relevant to the extent of rainfall. There are ad hoc and reactionary efforts made at various times as temporary measures in specific spots however it is clear that there is significantly larger underlying infrastructure issue.

It is submitted that this issue should be added to the agenda of the appropriate area. Both for an engineering or appropriate assessment and report and thereafter budget allocation for works.

Photos of flooded areas are available and many 'fix my street' notifications which we trust are accessible by City Services.

2. Construction and maintenance of footpaths and cycle paths

The Centenary Trail runs through Hall Village. At the intersection of Hall St and Hoskins Street is the end of the One Tree Hill off road section and has proven to be a very popular start/stop or return place for users of the trail and in particular mountain bikers. As such it attracts a lot of cars parked on verges along Hoskins and Hall Streets as there is no car park area at all at this point. Inappropriately and illegally parked cars at this spot is now way beyond a temporary issue and requires a permanent solution.

The Centenary Trail at the other end of Hall runs along Victoria Street from the intersection of Gladstone Street and the Barton Highway. Again, this has proven to be a popular stretch for users of the trail but also road bike and horse riders. Particularly as Hall is not part of the public transport network in Canberra at all, it is the main thoroughfare for not only all vehicular traffic but also bike and foot traffic. Construction of a visible trail/track/pathway along this stretch to provide for equestrian, foot and bike traffic would greatly enhance the usability and safety of this stretch which currently accommodates vehicles only.

3. Parks and public amenity & traffic management

The park verges on the southwest corner of Victoria St and Gladstone St remains an intensively used school student drop off / pick up area and bus interchange on school day mornings and afternoons. There is no infrastructure to support this use of the area at all. With the population increases in Murrumbateman the numbers and buses continue to grow.

This has been a perennial issue for years now stretching back to the closure of the Hall Primary School. It is fair to say that if the arrangements in their current form were attempted to be implemented today there would be outrage and incredulousness. It seems that NSW bus services transporting predominantly NSW students means that the situation is completely off the radar of what would be unacceptable at any other place in the ACT.

Some traffic studies have been conducted over the years and some amelioration measures have been implemented such as partial curbing and a refuge island. There remains no infrastructure against wet or harsh weather, nor a designated drop of/pick up area, nor a designated crossing. The area remains an unacceptable risk to life of the most vulnerable of road users being minor pedestrians.

Another perennial issue related to this 'hot spot' issue is the requirement for appropriate and relative measures to prohibit speeding vehicles on Victoria Street. Traffic to and from Hall is completely vehicular dependant with no measures for pedestrians or other vulnerable road users. There is a near critical need for a traffic plan encompassing speed control measures, equestrian, pedestrian and bike safety measures and parking solutions.

Committee of the Village of Hall & District Progress Association