

Erindale a winner in budget splurge

By Peter Reynolds

■ TUGGERANONG

ERINDALE was a big winner out of the 2010-11 ACT Budget, with millions of dollars being poured into the area to improve planning and design, and transport.

A total of \$3.15 million will be invested into a new major bus station at the Erindale Centre, with facilities to be constructed including passenger stops and shelters, lightings, and bus priority measures near the shopping centre.

In addition to this, Erindale is included in a \$900,000 investment in park and ride facilities in Canberra next financial year, as well as \$250,000 for bike and ride facilities.

And with this major infrastructure being constructed in the area, a planning and design study has been funded to identify strategies for the direct development of Erindale.

Greens Member for Brindabella, Amanda Bresnan, who was a major driving force behind planning studies for both Erindale and the Tuggeranong Town Centre, said she was pleased the government had committed to their funding.

"Erindale is already a busy area; it is a hub for business and the community and is continuing to grow every year," she said.

"It is becoming a town centre of its own and we need to make sure we properly plan how the area is going to be developed into the future."

Ms Bresnan said the Greens intended to ask the government for a briefing on how the planning study would be run and would be seeking an assurance that local stakeholders would be involved in the process.

President of the Tuggeranong Com-



Tuggeranong Community Council president Darryl Johnston is supportive of the ACT Government's investment in Erindale in the 2010-11 budget.

munity Council, Darryl Johnston, said the planning study was necessary because there was a concern over traffic congestion in the area.

"We support the park and ride and

narrow street, and Ashley Drive and Erindale Drive are both single lane roads.

"However, there is the question on whether the roads will be able to cope with the extra traffic that these services will generate. McBride Street is a very

times here and we need to make sure

"Traffic is already congested at

that having these facilities isn't going to further hurt the flow of traffic in the area."

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