TUGGERANONG
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MEDIA RELEASE

TCC pushes for rail network in the ACT

The Tuggeranong Community Council (TCC) has joined the long campaign for an improved public transport system in the ACT.

In a motion passed at its recent meeting members called for the construction of a rail based mass public transport system linking Tuggeranong with other major town centres in the ACT and Queanbeyan by 2030.

TCC Vice President, Colin Petrie, said Canberra can not rely on buses alone for its future public transport needs as the Canberra-Queanbeyan region is expected to grow substantially over the next 20-years.

Mr Petrie said according to the Property Council of Australia Canberra-Queanbeyan's current population is about 398,000, which is anticipated to increase by about 100,000 by 2030 to almost half a million.

He said Canberra is currently growing at nearly four times the rate it did in 2005.

"Canberra must begin planning now for a mass public transport system otherwise we will face gridlock on our major link roads. As the national capital it should be leading the way in public transport and an example to the rest of the nation," Mr Petrie said.

"Canberra can look to the examples of many cities of similar size in Europe and North America that have successfully delivered a well patronised mass public transport system," he added.

Mr Petrie said the ACT Government must look at the project as an investment for the future and not as a cost.

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