



ACT Government

2003-2004 BUDGET

CANBERRA SPATIAL PLAN

Planning Minister Simon Corbell announced today that the ACT Government has committed \$420,000 to start implementing the Canberra Spatial Plan once it is completed in late 2003.

“The Spatial Plan is a vital part of the Government’s commitment to a long-term strategic future for Canberra,” Mr Corbell said. “The funding in the 2003-2004 Budget will ensure that the Plan can be put into place without delay and does not simply sit on the shelf.”

Started last year, and due for completion later this year, the Spatial Plan will set out the what, where and when of land use for Canberra for the next 25-30 years. This will be a key document which sets the future directions for growth and development of our City into the future.

The Budget initiative provides \$420,000 to start the next detailed stage of planning work on some of the key directions which have already emerged from the Spatial Plan consultation process, including in the *Your Canberra, Your Say* consultation report, released last December.

“Already scenario models of future urban growth have been prepared and are being tested with the community, industry and government. A summit in coming months will be an important way of resolving many of the challenges. And in response to these key directions, once the Canberra Plan is finalised, \$420,000 will be used to advance the implementation through:

- Detailed assessment of areas for potential future urban development. This assessment will include estimates of potential dwelling yield, infrastructure requirements and costs, and environmental constraints;
- Infrastructure capacity/augmentation assessment within existing town centres; and
- Detailed consideration of a land use/transport strategy links for future urban development and areas such as Civic, the airport and employment corridors.

Mr Corbell said this sort of work was necessary to ensure that Canberra is built in a sustainable and strategic way. “This level of investigation determines the best possible use of land, the best possible way to facilitate the use of that land, and helps to identify future policy and construction priorities,” he said.

“Some of it is necessary work to be done in preparation for the land release program. Other parts of it are important to have in place to properly manage how people move around and get to and from the city’s central employment areas and the expanding Canberra International Airport.

“Ultimately, the city will benefit from the reduced infrastructure costs, improved sustainability through reduced transport costs and greenhouse gases and increased land sales revenue as a result of this detailed assessment work.

“This initiative is another example of the ACT Government investing in the future of our City through strategic and detailed planning with the community,” Mr Corbell concluded.
Statement ends.

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Media Release



