



ACT Government
2005-2006 BUDGET

MEDIA RELEASE

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT FUNDING BOOST

Public transport services will be significantly improved with the announcement of \$ 7.26 million in the ACT Government's 2005-06 Budget towards real time passenger information and cycle network upgrades.

Planning Minister Simon Corbell said today that the funds demonstrate the Government's commitment toward implementing its *Sustainable Transport Plan*.

"The Government is committed to improving transport in the ACT, providing for a more environmental sustainable transport system over the next 25 years," he said.

"This funding will provide for a package of initiatives that help make public transport and cycle ways easy to use.

"The Belconnen to City dedicated busway will be provided with further funding of \$3 million in 2005-06 for preliminary assessment and design work.

Mr Corbell said another significant transport initiative funded under the plan is a \$6.76 million investment in real time passenger information at bus interchanges, bus stops and other locations throughout Canberra.

"Real time information uses a variety of technologies to track the location of buses and use this information to provide information on actual bus arrival times at interchanges and stops on electronic and LCD displays," he said. "The system will also interface with traffic lights, to allow priority to buses at intersections.

"This Government is committed to providing affordable, efficient, reliable transport options and an improved bus system coupled with real time information that will improve passenger knowledge and therefore encourage greater use.

"Cycling and walking will also become a more attractive transport option with funding of \$500,000 to improve and extend Canberra's cycle network.

"Construction of paths will occur on a priority basis on the most effective route to shops, schools, bus stops, recreational facilities and employment centres.

"This funding will result in an improved transport system working to achieve lower overall costs, lower greenhouse gas emissions, lower air pollution, reduced accidents and lower health costs."

Statement ends

