



**Griffith/Narrabundah
Community Association**

Calls for ACT Government to allocate money to established suburb repairs

30 May 2018

The Griffith Narrabundah Community Association is calling for the ACT Government to allocate some of the \$20 million for suburban maintenance from the 2018-19 budget to repairs in older suburbs.

Dr Leo Dobes, President of the Griffith Narrabundah Community Association said, "Over a number of years the amenities in the well-established suburbs has been allowed to degrade."

"We have footpaths in disrepair, street lighting that is broken and playgrounds that are falling apart."

A number of locals have reported these issues to the Government in the past twelve months only to have inadequate repairs made, or none at all. In Walker Crescent, Landsborough Street, Green Street, Caley Crescent and Bayley Street repairs are so inadequate that they have left the footpaths dangerous to pedestrians. Broken street lights have been reported on several occasions over a number of months but have yet to be fixed.

A resident in Narrabundah has told the association, "I have reported cracked and damaged footpaths five times over the past five years. The most that has happened has been ineffective angle grinding in some places and the painting of white arrows on footpaths and curbs. A much more effective response is needed to ensure the footpaths are safe for pedestrians. I don't understand why this cannot be done especially given the high rates we pay in this area. "

"We want a proportion of the money allocated in the 2018-19 budget for suburban maintenance assigned to resolving some of these issues," Dr Dobes said.

"Budget is often allocated to newer suburbs to get them up and running, but well-established neighbourhoods, like Griffith and Narrabundah, are often overlooked."

The Griffith Narrabundah Community Association wants the Minister for Transport and City Services Meegan Fitzharris to outline how the money will be allocated and how requests for maintenance will be prioritised.

"It is one thing to say the money will be spent across every suburb, but it is unclear how all of the issues, and areas, will be prioritised," Dr Dobes said today.

"We would love to hear from the Government about how they are going to get some of the basic amenities for Canberra's up to scratch before they focus on building more new suburbs."

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