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3 July 2017

National Capital Authority
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Attention: Andrew Smith
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KINGS AND COMMONWEALTH AVENUE DRAFT DESIGN STRATEGY – PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The National Trust agrees that these two avenues are essential and critical elements in Canberra and are very significant planning and landscape elements that need conservation. The strategy should expand this significance and the heritage values should guide the strategy which is not always evident in the proposal.

The development of a design strategy is also supported.

The emphasis on landscape to these avenues is critical and a restoration of them is supported.

A wide median, pedestrian verge both sides heavily landscaped and central avenue of trees is considered important.

The concept of the development of city to lake (p17, p41) is not supported and at the most could consider the concepts (p5 or p11) subject to more detailed review.

The views to and from the avenues (p10 and p24) extend beyond the bridge to the approaches on each side and need to be protected. This will affect concepts such as that illustrated on p19.

We also do not support of neither the lowering Parkes Way nor the raising of London Circuit to Commonwealth Avenue and prefer to retain the open landscape within the clover leaf access roads and the important views to/from the lake and the Brindabellas.

Away from the lake and significant views, reinforcing the avenues as per p20 to 23 are supported. This also applies to the details for Kings Avenue as per p26 to 31 and Commonwealth Avenue p32 to 37 and also on p42 to 43.

The possible light rail across either bridge is of concern for its potential impact on the finely designed bridges, the views and the landscape. This will require much more consideration before implementation.

There is no sound data or argument for the total rearrangement of traffic movement and the potential flow on effects on heritage values of the whole Parliamentary Triangle and adjacent areas. This needs further research and evidence before further consideration.



We believe the strategy needs expansion, a review of some elements, a fuller definition and discussion on impacts on heritage values and a further opportunity for public review and comment.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Martin".

Eric Martin
Heritage Spokesperson

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