

# OUR CANBERRA

## WODEN, WESTON CREEK & MOLONGLO EDITION

AUGUST 2016

**"HAVE  
YOUR  
SAY"**

### A NEW DOG PARK FOR WESTON CREEK & MOLONGLO



Plans are underway to identify a site in Weston Creek for a new fenced off-leash dog park.

The new park will add to Canberra's six existing dog parks in Belconnen, Tuggeranong, Yarralumla, Forde, Casey and O'Connor. \$320,000 was allocated in the 2016-17 ACT Budget to build a new dog park in Weston Creek.

Dog parks are popular as they can make exercising and socialising your dog easy

and enjoyable. Canberrans are invited to have their say on potential sites identified for the Weston Creek dog park.

Following community feedback, a suitable site will be selected with construction of the new dog park to commence in early 2017.



For more information and to provide feedback on the location of a preferred site visit [yoursay.act.gov.au](http://yoursay.act.gov.au)

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### SIGN UP TO BE PART OF GREEN BIN PILOT

Weston Creek residents are reminded to register their interest to be part of a new green bin pilot program starting in early 2017.

Households will be able to opt-in to the service for a one-off, cost-recovery deposit of \$50, with bins collected every fortnight. This ensures that only households who want a bin will get one. Concession card holders can get a bin without a deposit.

Details of the next suburbs to get green bins will be finalised soon.



Visit [act.gov.au/greenbins](http://act.gov.au/greenbins) to register your interest.



### DID YOU KNOW THAT ACT ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES HAVE CHANGED?

Electorate boundaries have changed for the October 2016 ACT Legislative Assembly election. For the first time the ACT will be divided into five electorates each returning five members. Make sure you know which electorate you are in.



For more information visit [elections.act.gov.au](http://elections.act.gov.au)



For more stories and information from across Canberra, visit [act.gov.au/ourcanberra](http://act.gov.au/ourcanberra) or follow us on social media.



## CANBERRA'S LIGHT RAIL NETWORK PLAN



Canberrans have provided their preferences for the next stage of light rail.

Following consultation in late 2015, Canberrans identified the Woden, Parliamentary Triangle, Airport and Belconnen corridors as their highest priorities for the next stages of the light rail network.

These corridors take advantage of key landmarks, cultural institutions, education services and increased tourism from international flights.

Work is being undertaken to provide a detailed analysis of these preferred corridors, before further announcements on the next steps in developing a city-wide light rail network.

 For more information visit [transport.act.gov.au](http://transport.act.gov.au)



## WAITING TIMES IMPROVE IN CANBERRA HOSPITAL'S EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT



Waiting times in Canberra Hospital's Emergency Department are improving.

Between March and June 2016, the average waiting time in the Canberra Hospital's ED improved by 14% and the average treatment time dropped by

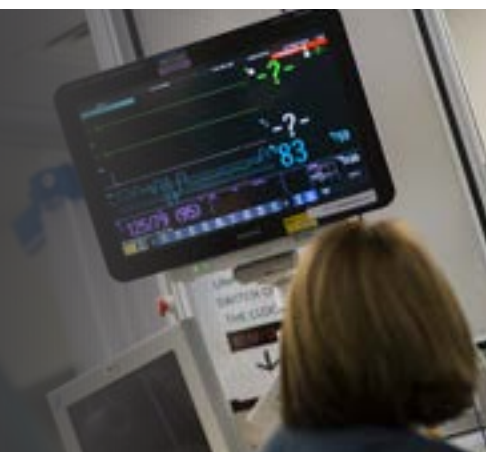
34 minutes when compared to the same time period last year.

Overall, the average waiting time has reduced to 57 minutes compared to 66 minutes in the same period in 2015.

The ACT Government has invested \$29 million over

the next four years for additional doctors and nurses to staff the Canberra Hospital ED in the 2016-17 ACT Budget.

The \$23m expansion of the Canberra Hospital ED is also moving quickly, which will increase the total number of treatment spaces in ED by 30%, from 54 to 75.



## ACT SCHOOLS GET THE 'FULL GONSKI'



You've probably heard of the 2011 Gonski Review of schools funding and you might be wondering what it means for your school.

A key principle behind Gonski is that schools are funded on the basis of students' needs. In Canberra there's been an increase in funding for schools.

ACT's public schools are implementing a new needs-based funding model called the Student Resource Allocation Program. This program recognises that all students have different needs and therefore require different types of support to thrive in our school system.

 For more information visit [education.act.gov.au](http://education.act.gov.au)



## IMPROVING SCHOOLS IN WODEN, WESTON AND MOLONGLO

Woden, Weston & Molonglo's 7130 school students are supported by 509 teachers at some of the best public schools in Australia. The 2016-17 ACT Budget includes \$41.5 million to continue to improve facilities and administration for schools across the ACT.

A few of the local improvements include:

- > Upgrades to the teaching spaces at The Woden School
- > A new food technology facility at Alfred Deakin High School

Teachers in the region will also have access to science, technology, engineering and mathematics scholarships to ensure they're equipped with the right skills to meet our growing digital economy.

 For more information visit [education.act.gov.au](http://education.act.gov.au)



## NEW FITNESS STATION AT EDDISON PARK



It's now easier than ever to get and stay fit with a new fitness station installed at Eddison Park.

There's a variety of exercise equipment including chest press, seated rower, leg raise, dip bars and pull up machine. The fitness station forms part of the ACT Government's commitment to encouraging Canberrans to make healthy choices and lead active lifestyles.

 Search for more outdoor fitness opportunities near you at [act.gov.au/outdoorfitness](http://act.gov.au/outdoorfitness)

## NEW ERA FOR CONNECTING KEY LOCAL SERVICES FOR CANBERRA



A new era of integrated transport has begun in the ACT with the establishment of Transport Canberra. Transport Canberra brings together all of Canberra's public transport services including buses, light rail and active travel under one umbrella.

The agency is currently working to progress the introduction of a new integrated ticketing system for buses and light rail which will provide a seamless travel experience for customers.


Transport Canberra is part of the new Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate which will manage and deliver the essential services Canberrans rely on each day, including public libraries, recycling and waste services and road management.

 For more information visit [tccs.act.gov.au](http://tccs.act.gov.au)



## YOUR WEEKDAY BUS TIMETABLE CHANGES MONDAY 29 AUGUST 2016

Your new weekday bus timetable starts Monday 29 August. Changes include the new Weston Line – an all day service linking Woden, Cooleman Court and the City, the introduction of services into Coombs, improved services for the North Weston Park & Ride, a new direct service for residents of Crace to the City and Parliamentary Triangle and new direct peak services to the City, Woden and Tuggeranong for residents in Florey and Latham.

 To find out more visit [transport.act.gov.au](http://transport.act.gov.au) or call 13 17 10.

## FIRST STAGE OF LIGHT RAIL UNDERWAY

Construction has started on the first stage of the light rail network. The route will be constructed in stages and will be completed in late 2018.

The ACT Government estimates the cost for light rail will be approximately \$710 million and makes up less than one percent of the ACT budget. A capital contribution of \$375m will be made towards the project from 2018/19, funded from the sale of assets such as ACTTAB, ageing public housing office accommodation. The Australian Government has contributed \$67 million toward the project.





## INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS CLOSE TO TAKE OFF

Canberrans are now better connected to the rest of the world with direct flights from Canberra to Singapore and Wellington, New Zealand starting next month.

The new route dubbed the 'capital express', will offer four services a week to both cities on a Boeing 777-200.

In addition to international flights, travellers can now access Uber services from Canberra Airport. The service will provide more choice in travel options and reduce waiting times for transport in peak periods.

 For more information visit [canberraairport.com.au](http://canberraairport.com.au)

## VEHICLE INSPECTIONS MOVING TO HUME

Vehicle inspections will move from Dickson to Hume from February 2017.

Moving the Vehicle Inspection Station to Hume will deliver convenience for those needing the service, with Canberrans able to book and pay

for inspections online. The new station will also accommodate a broader range of vehicles to be inspected, ensuring greater compliance with standards and improved safety for all motorists.

The new state-of-the-art facility will be located off Couranga Crescent in Hume.

 For more information visit [act.gov.au/accessCBR](http://act.gov.au/accessCBR)



## VISITOR IMPROVEMENTS AT THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM

A number of upgrades at the National Arboretum are now complete, improving the experience for the thousands of people who visit each year.

Upgrades include:

- > new toilet facilities at the Pod Playground, including unisex wheelchair accessible toilets with nappy changing facilities
- > fully enclosing the covered outdoor learning area with glass doors
- > a facelift for the event terrace with more trees along the roads and walkways, and new seating and lighting.

 For more information visit [nationalarboretum.act.gov.au](http://nationalarboretum.act.gov.au)



## ELECTIVE SURGERY BLITZ GETS RESULTS

Canberra's elective surgery waiting list has improved by 70% in just seven months thanks to an \$11.8 million blitz across the ACT Health system. It means that fewer people are on the waiting list and more people now have access to elective surgery.

The blitz exceeded its target of 1000 additional elective surgeries in 2015-16 and

significantly reduced the number of people waiting too long.

This increase in activity has delivered the highest number of elective surgery procedures ever performed in the ACT within a single year, with close to 13,400 surgeries performed in 2015-16 overall.

## MORE FUN OUT OF THE SUN FOR CANBERRA'S KIDS

Families and children across Canberra will soon enjoy a better experience at their local park or playground with upgrades announced across the city.

Upgrades at 30 high-use playgrounds around Canberra will have a particular focus on providing new shade sails to protect children from the elements, new play equipment, and more pleasant rest areas for parents and carers at all times of the day, particularly during the warmer summer months.

 For more information visit [act.gov.au/our-canberra](http://act.gov.au/our-canberra)



For more stories and information from across Canberra, visit [act.gov.au/ourcanberra](http://act.gov.au/ourcanberra) or follow us on social media. Our Canberra is prepared by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate.

