



ACT
Government

Transport Canberra and
City Services

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COVERSHEET

The following information is provided pursuant to section 28 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*.

FOI reference: 24-024

Information to be published	Status
1. Access application	Published
2. Decision notice	Published
3. Schedule	Not Applicable
4. Documents	Published
5. Additional information identified	Not applicable
6. Fees	Not applicable
7. Processing time (in working days)	28 days
8. Decision made by Ombudsman	Not applicable
9. Additional information identified by Ombudsman	Not applicable
10. Decision made by ACAT	Not applicable

11. Additional information identified by ACAT	Not applicable
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Freedom of Information - Access Application to Transport Canberra and City Services - Submission confirmation

Your submission has been successful. Please keep a copy of this receipt for your records.

Date and time

Reference code

29 Feb 2024 11:12:48 AM

F472MKZS

Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS)

GPO Box 158
Canberra ACT 2601

Phone: 02 6207 2987
Email: TCCS.FOI@act.gov.au

Applicant details

Title

Given name

Family name

Mr

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Preferred name

[REDACTED]

Preferred method of contact

Phone

Email

Post

Contact phone number

[REDACTED]

Contact email address

[REDACTED]

Contact postal address

Address line 1

[REDACTED]

Address line 2

[REDACTED]

Suburb

[REDACTED]

State

[REDACTED]

Postcode

[REDACTED]

Preferred method to receive information *

Email

Post

Same as contact email address

Delivery email address *

[REDACTED]

Information request

Who are you making the request on behalf of?

Myself

What type of information are you requesting access to? *

Other information

What information are you requesting access to under the Act? *

The recent Urban Tree Management Audit included the following information, Managing community expectations for the planting of trees is also a challenge for TCCS. Approximately 12.4 percent of all tree plantings since Spring 2021 (2,485 trees) have been the "subject of a re-route process." The Audit also states Re-routes are mostly cause by members of the community opposing the "planting of a tree.

I am requesting a breakdown of the instances of re-route by suburb, particularly interested in the instances of tree refusal where community members oppose the planting of the tree.

I have a suspicion that tree refusal and instances of re-routing will be more common in higher density areas, particularly in newer suburbs with smaller blocks, narrower roads, and less established trees. However, I am looking actual data

Attach a description or additional details about the information you are requesting access to (optional)

Do you have a similar or identical request currently under review by another ACT Government Directorate?

Yes No

Are you enquiring as

A member of the public

Do you wish to apply for a waiver of fees associated with processing your application?

Yes No

Provide a statement about how the release of information is in the public interest (optional)

Tree canopy is lower in new suburbs. The ACT Government seeks to achieve 30 percent tree canopy cover by 2045. Significant time and effort is required by TCCS to manage and minimise the risk of re-routes. However the interaction with other planning and infill agendas seems to not have been explored well in the recent audit.

I have a suspicion that tree refusal and instances of re-routing have been more common in higher density areas, particularly in newer suburbs with smaller blocks, narrower roads, and less established trees or in areas that have been ""infilled""with higher density leading to more more demand for parking on verge and nature strips. However, I am looking actual data rather than just guessing and speculating.

Would you like to provide any additional information? (optional)

It would be useful to report on re-routing and tree refusal in similar ways to the current visualisations on tree canopy coverage.

Attach additional documents to support your application (optional)



Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information Request - Reference 24-024

I refer to your application under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (the FOI Act) received by Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) on 29 February 2024. It is my understanding that you are seeking access to the following information:

"The recent Urban Tree Management Audit included the following information, managing community expectations for the planting of trees is also a challenge for TCCS. Approximately 12.4 percent of all tree planting since Spring 2021 (2,485 trees) have been the "subject of a re-route process. "The Audit also states Re-routes are mostly cause by members of the community opposing the "planting of a tree. I am requesting a breakdown of the instances of re-route by suburb, particularly interested in the instances of tree refusal where community members oppose the planting of the tree. I have a suspicion that tree refusal and instances of re-routing will be more common in higher density areas, particularly in newer suburbs with smaller blocks, narrower roads, and less established trees. However, I am looking actual data".

I thank you for clarifying your request on 25th of March and confirming you are only seeking summary data rather than raw data. As discussed by phone, the summary data is not broken down into suburb levels.

Timeframes

A decision on your application is due on 15 April 2024.

Authority

I am an Information Officer appointed by the Director-General under section 18 of the FOI Act to deal with access applications made under Part 5 of the FOI Act.

Decision on access

In accordance with the FOI Act, a search of TCCS records has been completed and one record has been identified as relevant to your application. The record identified as relevant to your application is enclosed at Attachment A.

Upon reviewing the information within this record and applying the public interest test under section 17 of the FOI Act, I have found it to be, on balance, in the public interest to provide you with full access. The reasons for my decision are detailed below in the statement of reasons.

Statement of Reasons

In making my decision on disclosing the relevant government information, I must identify all relevant factors in schedule 1 and 2 of the FOI Act and determine, on balance, where the public interest lies. I have taken the following into account:

- The FOI Act; and
- The *Human Rights Act 2016*.

Schedule 1:

- No relevant sections identified.

Schedule 2:

Factors favouring disclosure (Schedule 2.1)

- Schedule 2.1(a)(i) - promote open discussion of public affairs and enhance the government's accountability.
- Schedule 2.1(a)(iv) - ensure effective oversight of expenditure of public funds;
- Schedule 2.1(a)(viii) - reveal the reason for a government decision and any background or contextual information that informed the decision.

Factors favouring non-disclosure (Schedule 2.2)

- No relevant factors identified.

In reviewing the relevant record, I have identified that disclosure is likely to enhance government accountability and reveal reasons for a government decision. I have not identified information where factors favouring non-disclosure apply. I have found that disclosure is, on balance, in the public interest and provide you with full access to the records enclosed at [Attachment B](#).

Charges

In accordance with [Freedom of Information \(Fees\) Determination 2018](#), a fee of \$0.35 per page of information disclosed, except for the first 50 pages, may be applied to an access application. No fees are applicable to this application as the number of pages being released are within the fee-free threshold.

Online publishing – disclosure log

Under section 28 of the Act, TCCS maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log. In accordance with section 28, your application, my decision, and the information disclosed to you will be published within 3 – 10 business days. Your personal information will be removed prior to publication. You may view the TCCS' disclosure log [here](#).

Ombudsman review

My decision on your access request is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the FOI Act. You have the right to seek an Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the FOI Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is published in TCCS' disclosure log, or a longer period allowed by the Ombudsman.

If you wish to request a review of my decision, you may write to the Ombudsman at:
The ACT Ombudsman
GPO Box 442
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Via email: actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) review

Under section 84 of the Act, if a decision is made under section 82 on an Ombudsman review, you may apply to the ACAT for review of the Ombudsman decision.

Further information may be obtained from ACAT at:

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal

GPO Box 370

CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

Telephone: (02) 6207 1740

www.acat.act.gov.au

If you have any queries concerning the directorate's processing of your request, or would like further information, please contact the TCCS FOI team on (02) 6207 2987 or email to tccs.foi@act.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Lisa Johnson
Information Officer

12 April 2024

Spring 2021

Trees planted

4991

Count of SPECIES	Column Labels			
Row Labels	Inhouse	Planting Contractor	Volunteers	Grand Total
Not Planted	5	439		444
Infrastructure / Services		105		105
null	5	1		6
Other		29		29
Overcrowding		23		23
Private planting		9		9
Resident Refusal		231		231
Site Inaccessible		31		31
Species Swap		1		1
Stock Not Available		4		4
(blank)		5		5
Vandalised / Missing	185	242	11	438
null	185	182	11	378
(blank)		60		60
Grand Total	190	681	11	882

Autumn 2022

Trees planted 5350

Count of SPECIES	Column Labels				
Row Labels	Inhouse	null	Planting Contractor	Volunteers	(blank) Grand Total
Not Planted	3		704	1	708
Delay Planting			60		60
Infrastructure / Services	3		208		211
null			16	1	17
Other			20		20
Overcrowding			70		70
Private planting			36		36
Resident Refusal			232		232
Site Inaccessible			38		38
Species Swap			16		16
Stock Not Available			5		5
(blank)			3		3
Vandalised / Missing	110	5	301	7	423
Delay Planting			1		1
null	82	5	241	7	335
Other			3		3
Resident Refusal			1		1
(blank)	28		55		83
(blank)					
(blank)					
Grand Total	113	5	1005	8	1131

Spring 2022

Trees planted 8545

Count of SPECIES	Column Labels			
Row Labels	Inhouse	Planting Contractor	Volunteers	Grand Total
Not Planted	277	694	25	996
Delay Planting	6	11		17
Infrastructure / Services	91	159		250
Other	6	16	1	23
Overcrowding	37	29		66
Private planting	6	21		27
Resident Refusal	37	200		237
Site Inaccessible	9	56		65
Species Swap	2	18		20
Stock Not Available	18	110		128
(blank)	65	74	24	163
Vandalised / Missing	169	203	1	373
Other	1			1
Resident Refusal		1		1
Site Inaccessible		1		1
(blank)	168	201	1	370
Grand Total	446	897	26	1369

Autumn 2023

Trees planted

8914

Count of SPECIES	Column Labels				
Row Labels	Inhouse	null	Planting Contractor	Volunteers	Grand Total
Not Planted	85	3	1012	10	1110
Delay Planting	2		19		21
DND_OFFSET			39		39
Infrastructure / Services	16		332	1	349
Other			18		18
Overcrowding	26		61	2	89
Private planting	4		19		23
Resident Refusal	10		330		340
Site Inaccessible	10		80		90
Species Swap			4		4
Stock Not Available	7		5		12
(blank)	10	3	105	7	125
Vandalised / Missing	60		289	1	350
Delay Planting			1		1
Infrastructure / Services			1		1
Overcrowding			1		1
Resident Refusal			1		1
(blank)	60		285	1	346
Grand Total	145	3	1301	11	1460

Spring 2023

Trees planted

4045

Count of SPECIES	Column Labels				
Row Labels	Inhouse	null	Planting Contractor	Volunteers	Grand Total
Not Planted	65	12		319	396
Delay Planting	1			11	12
DND_OFFSET				26	26
Infrastructure / Services	1			36	37
null	14	6		102	122
Other	6	2		12	20
Overcrowding	7	4		28	39
Private planting	1			17	18
Resident Refusal	31			66	97
Site Inaccessible	3			5	8
Species Swap	1				1
Stock Not Available				6	6
(blank)				10	10
Vandalised / Missing	3			48	52
null	3			40	44
(blank)				8	8
Grand Total	68	12		367	448