

# BRING BACK A BUS FOR DALEY RD

## The Need for Public Transport at ANU: An Open Letter

Dear Transport Canberra,

In 2019 the number 3 and 81 bus routes were cancelled as part of a change in the overall bus routes in the ACT. This has left much of ANU's campus without sufficient public transport access for the last 5 years. Since the cancellation, two petitions ([2019](#) and [2023](#)) have been conducted drawing over one thousand signatures each to restore the bus routes, demonstrating very high community support for the issue. The decision to do this was made before COVID-19, and before hundreds of new beds were added to on-campus accommodation, and in those changing circumstances it is time to remedy the hole it has left in the public transport network.

There are 5796 beds on ANU campus, with 3852 of these being a significant distance from Civic. In particular, the halls Yukeembruk, Burgmann, Johns, Ursula, Wamburun, Burton and Garran, Wright, and Bruce are on the far western side of campus and their access to the bus network is limited. For a student at Yukeembruk hall for example, it is usually faster to take the 1 hour round trip to civic by foot than to attempt to use any public transport options. The situation is similar at the other halls mentioned.

This long travel time is dangerous for an already vulnerable demographic, and for students that are already burdened by their working hours and a full-time study load, it makes the cost of living crisis particularly biting. In particular, for disabled students it makes living at ANU less accessible, as their ability to travel is diminished. These issues are heightened at night, when the long walk back to their residences presents a danger to students, especially for women and other vulnerable groups.

For the thousands and thousands of staff members at the ANU, the lack of public transport options also presents a difficulty for accessing their workplaces, either forcing them to use personal transport or to take a longer than necessary commute. Restoring public transport to the western side of campus would represent a much more convenient commute for workers in one of the biggest employers in the ACT. Additionally, for workers and visitors to the Australian National Botanic Gardens, and CSIRO, it would provide the same benefits.

While we understand that any increase in resource allocation is difficult for Transport Canberra, this is one area which would provide an enormous boon to students, workers, visitors, and other everyday Canberrans by providing greater bus access.

Therefore, with all of the above in mind, the signatories below call on Transport Canberra to reinstate a bus route that travels along either Daley Road or Clunies Ross Street.

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ANU Students Association



National Tertiary Education Union - ANU Branch



ANU Women's Department



ANU Queer\* Department



ANU Disabilities Student Association (DSA)



ANU International Students' Department



Ursula Hall Residents' Committee



Yukeembruk Hall Residents' Committee



Johns XXIII College Residents' Committee



ANU Medical Students' Society



The Food Co-op

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