

October 2021 – 12-month update

Sunday 17 October marked one year since the local Murrumbidgee community voted me in as their local representative. I cannot thank you enough.

This last year has been absolutely amazing and incredible; and I feel honoured and humbled to be your local representative in the Legislative Assembly. This is a role and responsibility which I take very seriously, and in which I work hard to ensure the best possible outcomes across the community - from lawn mowing and suburban speeding to ending gambling harm and introducing an affirmative model of sexual consent legislation.

I love the variety of the work, from the micro to the macro level; I love engaging with Murrumbidgee residents, responding to your concerns and seeking solutions to your issues; I love the nature of Assembly business, including the various Committees on which I sit; and I love creating positive, lasting change.

Here's my list of some of my key achievements these last 12 months:

- The release of an Exposure Draft Bill for the Crimes (Consent) Amendment Bill 2021;
 - I'm currently awaiting feedback from the ACT Government's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Steering Committee before making final revisions and then introducing it to the Assembly;
- Private Members' Business calling on the ACT Government to:
 - Reduce the risks associated with vaping and e-cigarettes, particularly for young people;
 - Investigate opportunity for Canberra to become a National Park City;
 - Review regulatory arrangements and support services for Assisted Reproductive Technology;
 - Establish a Community Council for the Molonglo Valley;
- Dedicated community consultation campaigns for ACT Government upgrades and works for:
 - Duffy Shops;
 - Brierly Street, Weston;
 - Garran carparking and traffic issues;
- Dedicated community consultation and progress of the 'Her Way' campaign, to support women in my electorate who want to reduce their reliance on cars as their main mode of transport;
- Coordinating the #CBRScarecrows competition, together with the Weston Creek Community Council, to help build community morale during COVID-19 lockdown;
- Sponsoring e-petitions for:
 - Improved eating disorder services in the ACT;
 - Lighting for the Waramanga playing fields;

Dr Marisa



- Accessible complaints mechanisms to be included in the Human Rights Act 2004;
- Footpath construction on Ballarat Street, Fisher;
- Chaired and/or been involved with ACT Legislative Assembly Committee Inquiries for:
 - Renewable energy innovation;
 - Drugs of Dependence;
 - 2020 ACT Election and the Electoral Act;
 - Community corrections;
- A variety of events and activities:
 - Hosting a networking breakfast for Women in Climate and Health, coinciding with World Environment Day in June;
 - Wombat rescue activities;
 - Coordinated a tour of the Hume Recycling Facility;
 - Support to establish micro-forests in Murrumbidgee; and
- Ongoing constituent and stakeholder engagement through social media, regular mobile offices, constituent phone calls, e:newsletters and meetings.

I try to balance the work between high-level policy issues, particularly in areas of social justice, and on-the-ground practical outcomes for community-building and place-making initiatives.

Over the next 12 months a couple of my key priorities are to progress the Crimes (Consent) Amendment Bill 2021 through a successful passage and enactment to law, I also have some great ideas up my sleeve for Private Members' Business I wish to progress, some further legislation and a range of community projects. Stay tuned!

If you're not already, please sign up to my [e:newsletter](#) and follow my [Facebook page](#). Please don't hesitate to reach out to have a chat, or if there's anything I can assist with:

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