HAPPENINGS - Bonython Against Drones Action Group

Action items

- A letter was forwarded to the Minister of Transport and copies sent to CASA and Airservices Australia questioning how the trial could have been approved, including relaxing the rules around drones, when it was obvious that there were gaps in regulations regarding noise, safety and privacy.

An offer was also made to provide information about experiences and evidence gathered through the action group, so that they may use these to further identify and encourage drafting of laws and regulations that will provide protection and avenues to address concerns about the impacts of drones delivering goods in urban areas.

- A reply was received from Senator McCormack’s office from an email sent in September. Interesting to note that the letter confirmed that there had been an ‘unplanned landing’ in the suburb where Project Wing and CASA deny any such incidents!

- An email was sent to Mark Parton asking for an update on feedback from the ‘Have Your Say” site. A reply was returned that the forum was not a survey and therefore no results are to be given.

- An email will be sent to Canberra Ornithological Society highlighting the issues of the drones’ effect on the bird population in the area.

Membership

Current membership of the Facebook page BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES now stands at 217.

There has been an increase in emails to the stopbondrones@gmail.com account to 66.

Parliamentary Enquiry - SUCCESSFUL

Last Thursday, 1 November, the ACT Legislative Assembly approved a motion to establish a parliamentary inquiry into the ongoing drone trial in Bonython and drone delivery systems in the ACT, with particular reference to greater scrutiny of the technology, as well as the future of similar services in the Territory.

The Assembly’s Economic and Tourism Committee will conduct the inquiry.

“Canberra Liberals support innovation and new technologies, but we want to ensure they are appropriately regulated and that community concerns are considered” said Ms Lawder.

The proposed inquiry would cover six terms of references, including Wing’s decision to trial the service in Bonython, possible economic impact, including job creation, as well as the potential to collaborate with industry, schools and universities.

The extent of regulatory oversight would also be scrutinised, along with the effects of drone flights on residents, wildlife and domestic animals. In addition, greenhouse gases and information privacy will be considered.

If you are interested in watching the Assembly session where the trial was approved, please go to http://aod.parliament.act.gov.au/?fbclid=IwAR2FjxTUV6alayZiky-xuaEi8hQI7JOP05FokZKhOSXYLCPPPnKTnah53YM
Did you sign up for drone deliveries?
If you originally signed up at an event that Project Wing held to promote their services and realise now that it serves you no purpose, or you now realise the extent of problems the drones cause in the suburb, please write to Wing and asked to be removed for their active list. This will reduce the number of residents that they have recorded as ‘customers’. Please let us know if you do ‘opt out’ and particularly if there are any problems.

Petition: CEASE PROJECT WING DRONE TRIAL IN BONYTHON, ACT
The petition continues to be circulated around the suburb and thank you again to those willing volunteers who are knocking on doors and promoting our cause.

To date we have 470 signatures, which is an outstanding effort.

** We still have 3 areas in Bonython that have not been canvassed. If you can spare an hour to help out, preferable after hours or on a weekend, please contact the action group.

If you missed signing the petition, or you would like a petition sheet to collect signatures from family, friends, work colleagues, social groups etc, please contact the action group at stopbondrones@gmail.com.

Can drones invade my privacy?
The regulations imposed by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) do not require the operator of a drone to respect the privacy of others nor do they prohibit a drone being flown over another person’s land or filming persons in private or in public.

Under existing laws, it is generally lawful to take still photographs or to film people in a public space without their consent. A photographer can be prevented from filming while on private property, however, it is legal for them to take photographs of or film any person on private property as long as the photographer is on public property or their own property and they are not filming the a person engaged in a private or indecent act or unclothed.

This means that if a drone flies over your backyard and takes pictures of you in your pool or films you through a window eating breakfast you have essentially no legal recourse for breach of privacy.

CASA advises individuals who believe that their privacy, or the privacy of someone else is being breached by the activity of a drone, can report it to police. However, there are limits on what the police can do to enforce an individual’s privacy rights at this stage.


Drone Incident Reports
While there have been no direct reports this week, below is a post from the Facebook page

“One woman stated that she was in her backyard and turned around to find a drone coming in next to her, it was delivering medication from a chemist. The only problem was, the drone had the wrong address. The woman involved had to return it to the chemist.”

She raised the point, what if there had been children in the backyard, who opened the delivery and thought they were lollies?

If you have any of these stories to tell please let us know at stopbondrones@gmail.com or share your story with Gai Brodtman, Joy Burch and/or Andrew Wall as they are all campaigning for our cause.
**Canberra Times Survey**

The Canberra Times recently did a survey about the independent review of the drone delivery trial.

Interesting that only 14% said NO to the review being conducted.

**HELP:**

**Petition** - We only have three small areas left in Bonython to door knock. Can you spare an hour to collect signatures for our very important petition?

**SouthFest** - We now have 5 responses from members offering to help out at the SouthFest (Tuggeranong Festival) Saturday 24 November. This is your chance to help ‘make a noise’ and stand your ground against the commercial drone deliveries. Please let us know if you can spare even an hour to hand out brochures and talk to people. *This will also be our last chance to collect signatures for the petition.*

Please contact us also if you think there are other ways that you can help us out to fight for the cause so we can have the choice to live in a peaceful environment.

**What you can do**

- Spread the word about the **BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES** Action Group – tell your neighbours, family and friends. Project Wing intends to expand testing zones of the drone delivery service.
- Check out the Facebook page **BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES** and leave comments – ask your family and friends to do the same.
- Please contact Gai Brodtman and send her your feedback. She is very aware and concerned about the issues of the trial and asks that residents share their thoughts about it with her.
- Send us emails with your complaints, issues and let us know if you have any information that you might think we can employ.
- **Keep sending emails addressing your complaints and grievances to any or all on the attached list – ‘Who you can contact’ below.**

**Who you can contact**

If you have any more people or organisations to add to this list, please let us know so we can let others know.

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<tr>
<th>Who you can contact</th>
<th>How to contact</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Have Your Say – Note: this is NOT a Gov’t site</strong></td>
<td><a href="https://www.haveyoursay.net.au/drones">https://www.haveyoursay.net.au/drones</a></td>
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<td><strong>Noise complaints - EPA</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Wing drones</strong></td>
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<td><strong>City News</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Member for Canberra</strong></td>
<td><strong>ACT Legislative Assembly</strong></td>
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<td>Andrew Barr – <a href="mailto:barr@act.gov.au">barr@act.gov.au</a></td>
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<td>Mick Gentleman - <a href="mailto:gentleman@act.gov.au">gentleman@act.gov.au</a></td>
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<td>Joy Burch - <a href="mailto:burch@act.gov.au">burch@act.gov.au</a></td>
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<td>Andrew Wall - <a href="mailto:Andrew.Wall@parliament.act.gov.au">Andrew.Wall@parliament.act.gov.au</a></td>
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<td>Nicole Lawder (Opposition) - <a href="mailto:lawder@parliament.act.gov.au">lawder@parliament.act.gov.au</a></td>
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<td>Caroline Le Couteur (Greens) - <a href="mailto:lecouteur@parliament.act.gov.au">lecouteur@parliament.act.gov.au</a></td>
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<td>Shane Rattenbury (Greens) - <a href="mailto:rattenbury@act.gov.au">rattenbury@act.gov.au</a></td>
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<td>CASA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:simon.denby@casa.gov.au">simon.denby@casa.gov.au</a></td>
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**Snippets**

**BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES Action Group contact**

If you can help out in any way, have new ideas or information please contact us.

Email: stopbondrones@gmail.com  
Facebook: BONYTHON AGAINST DRONES

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NOTE: If you do not wish to receive these Bulletins please contact stopbondrones@gmail.com