Tiger Brennan Drive Extension Continues To Take Shape

Motorists travelling along the Stuart Highway near Pinelands will see the bridges forming part of the Tiger Brennan Drive extension are nearing completion.

Chief Minister Paul Henderson, Construction Minister Gerry McCarthy and Member for Solomon Damian Hale today inspected progress of the Northbound Bridge as the first of the precast concrete bridge barriers was lifted into place.

“Territorians want to spend more time with their families and less time stuck in traffic which is why we are delivering this key project together with the Rudd Government,” Mr Henderson said.

“These bridges will become a transport icon for Territorians travelling between Darwin and Palmerston.

“There will be three bridges built within stage two of the Tiger Brennan Drive extension to help people travel between Darwin, Palmerston and the rural area.

“Two of the bridges are for vehicular traffic and the other is for cyclists and pedestrians and links in with the existing cycle paths.

“Stage two of the project that includes a 7.5km extension of Tiger Brennan Drive from Berrimah Road to the Stuart Highway is on track for completion before the next wet season.

“I congratulate Macmahon Contractors and the Government departments involved in the project on the great work they have done so far and look forward to seeing thousands of Territorians motoring along the Tiger Brennan Drive extension later this year.”

Mr McCarthy said each of the bridge barriers being lifted into place today has an imprinted artwork developed by Larrakia Nation Artists.

“The Territory’s unique arts and culture is one of our greatest treasures and it’s great that Larrakia art will be incorporated into this iconic landmark,” Mr McCarthy said.

“The first bridge as you head towards Darwin reflects themes of the land while the second bridge closer to Darwin reflects the sea.

“This celebrates the Larrakia as saltwater people and also the end of the long journey for drivers as they finally approach Darwin and the sea.”
Mr Hale said the 7.5km road extension will transform the lives of people in Darwin, Palmerston and the rural area.

“The new dual carriageway will remove existing bottle necks and reduce the travel time for around 34,000 vehicles a day,” Mr Hale said.

“The upgraded roads will also improve access for heavy vehicles to the East Arm Wharf, a major contributor to the Territory economy.”

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24 March 2010

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