Car Parking In New Developments in Darwin CBD

Lands and Planning Minister Gerry McCarthy today invited Territorians to comment on a report into car parking rates for new developments in Darwin’s Central Business District.

“Making homes more affordable for Territorians is a key priority of this Government’s housing the Territory initiative,” Mr McCarthy said.

“Providing car parks in new developments is expensive and many car parks in unit blocks are often empty.

“That’s why I am inviting Territorians to provide comment on the report and in particular the proposal to reduce the number of parking spaces required as part of any new unit complex in the Central Business District.

“Each parking space adds about $25,000 to $30,000 to the cost of a new unit and amending the parking requirements will make buying a unit in the CBD more affordable.”

The current Planning Scheme mandates two parking spaces per dwelling but the report recommends a proposed change to:

- 1 parking space per bedsit and one bedroom unit;
- 1.5 spaces per 2 bedroom dwelling;
- 1.7 spaces per 3 bedroom dwelling;
- 2 spaces per 4 bedroom dwelling;
- plus 0.24 visitor spaces per dwelling.

“Depending on the mix of units, the total number of parking spaces will be rounded up to the nearest whole number,” Mr McCarthy said.

“For one and two bedroom apartments, the proposed change means less cost to the developer being passed onto homebuyers at the point of sale.

“The report also recommends changes to commercial car parking and we are at the earliest stage of assessing this and we will want to hear from Territorians about the proposed changes.”

Go to [www.nt.gov.au/planning](http://www.nt.gov.au/planning) to view the independent study into car parking trends in Darwin CBD. Public comment will be received until Close of Business on Wednesday 16 June 2010.

Based on the report findings and the feedback received from the community the Government will publicly exhibit a proposed amendment to the Planning Scheme.

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