A $6 MILLION redevelopment of Palmerston’s city centre will most likely be put on hold indefinitely after the CLP Government refused to acknowledge the plan, Palmerston council says.

The council had asked the government to kick in for the Goyder Square project that would see a tree-lined path, an open grassed area for recreation, a performance space and outdoor seating adjacent to the large video screen at the library.

Alderman Seranna Shutt said the project would have brought jobs and economic activity to the area but the government has still not responded to the request.

“The silence is deafening,” Ms Shutt said. “We cannot make decisions while we’re still waiting to find out if they’re going to offer us funding or not.”

Labor leader Delia Lawrie called on the CLP and three of its Palmerston area MPs to pay its Palmerston area MPs to pay

“Why are they ignoring this really dynamic city that needs infrastructure improvements to its CBD?” Ms Lawrie said. “It’s our fastest-growing city.”

The council has also not heard back from the Federal Government on its possible commitment of cash. Palmerston chief executive Ricki Bruhn said he was surprised to hear Darwin had been awarded $6 million the day after its grant application was submitted.

“Our was finalised two months ago and we haven’t heard (anything),” he said. “We have to hold works.”

A spokesman for Lands and Planning Minister Dave Tollner would not confirm if the project would get the money, citing ongoing budget deliberations.

“The government is determined to deliver the best value for taxpayers’ money and all spending decisions must be rigorously assessed before any commitment is made,” he said.

Time to visit the dark side of the Territory

A NEW storytelling event kicks off this Friday in the Botanic Gardens. Span: True Stories Told in the Territory will celebrate the art of live storytelling and the extraordinary people, places and culture of the NT.

“There’s something very powerful about seeing a true, personal story told live,” creative producer Johanna Bell said. “You’re right there with the storytellers as they reveal themselves, and what you hear just might make you think differently about Darwin.”

Each Spun event will follow a different theme, with Friday’s gathering focusing on “The Dark Side” of Darwin.

From the shadowy world of online dating and the Stolen Generation through to a dark Valentine’s Day tale and the last breaths of a dying woman, humour and tragedy will take the audience into the lives of ordinary Territorians with extraordinary stories.

Tamara Howie, journalist and Visual Arts student, will share her tale of Tinder dating. “I met Territory blokes with normal personalities, oddities and quirks as colourful as they come.”

Fellow storyteller Julie Rankin, an occupational therapist for Darwin Royal Hospital Hospice for 34 years, will share her tale of Tinder dating. “It brought me face-to-face with the weird, and occasionally, the dark,” she said.

“I met Territory blokes with

“Spun: True Stories Told in the Territory” will take place at Eva’s Botanical Gardens Café from 6-8pm.