ANOTHER STEP FORWARD FOR WATERFRONT

A Bill has been passed in Territory Parliament to establish the Darwin Waterfront Corporation.

Chief Minister Clare Martin said this statutory body will manage the Waterfront precinct after construction.

“Construction is well underway and we have to be ready for when it’s finished,” Ms Martin said.

“When Stage One is complete in 2008 we’ll have a convention centre, a wave lagoon, apartments, shops and restaurants,” Ms Martin said.

“In the short term, the Corporation will own and manage land in the precinct and work with the Territory Government and Darwin City Council on adjoining land.

“The Corporation will also promote the precinct as a place of residence and a venue for public events and entertainment.

“It will eventually, manage all of the parks and public spaces and provide local government services to the precinct.”

These responsibilities include the maintenance of facilities, traffic and parking control, street lighting, garbage collection and the passing of by-laws.

The Corporation will charge rates in a similar fashion to that of Darwin City Council and is intended to break even, in cost revenue terms, over time.

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