New Concept Masterplan For Old Hospital Site

Planning Minister Delia Lawrie today released a new concept masterplan to develop Darwin’s Old Hospital Site into a public park following community consultation.

Ms Lawrie said 153 submissions were received with most respondents supporting the Henderson Government’s proposal to develop the site into a public park.

“This will be a beautiful park and a great recreation area for Darwin in one of the city’s best locations,” Ms Lawrie said.

“It will create dozens of jobs during the life of the project with physical work on site set to commence in 2010.

“About 80% of the 8.7 hectare site will be developed into a tropical park that commemorates its historical connection to the old hospital, Kahlin Compound and the Larrakia.

“The Henderson Government will soon launch a competition to design the site’s commemorative space.

“The park will also feature public art, a café, children’s water play area, disabled access, shaded carparks, appropriate lighting, barbecue areas and shelters.

“The residential component on the remainder of the site will be relocated from the south-eastern corner to the north-eastern corner following public consultation.

“This residential aspect of the new concept will comprise medium density housing and high rise apartments of up to eight storeys.

“The prime parkland setting will provide panoramic views across Cullen Bay and Darwin Harbour and link with pedestrian access to the beach, Botanic Gardens and Cullen Bay Marina.

“The new parkland will cost millions of dollars to develop and is a critical component of this Government’s Ribbon of Green program to beautify public open space for Darwin.”

Work towards finalising the new concept masterplan will begin shortly with further input provided by stakeholders and historical groups.