Work on new $615,000 Bicycle Path Begins

Construction Minister Gerry McCarthy today inspected the start of a $615,000 project to improve the Territory’s bicycle network.

Mr McCarthy said the $615,000 bicycle path along Vanderlin Drive would link cycle paths along the Stuart Highway and McMillans Road in Berrimah.

“Territorians love the great outdoors and the Territory Government will continue to make our great Territory lifestyle even better,” Mr McCarthy said.

“This includes $615,000 to build a 2.8km asphalt bicycle path to provide cyclists with a safer option between Darwin city, Berrimah, Palmerston and the northern suburbs.

“I congratulate RMS Engineering and Construction Pty Ltd on being awarded the $615,000 tender which will support 10 local jobs, including 4 apprenticeships.

“Work on the new cycle path is expected to take 2 months and includes earthwork, pavement work, concrete work, drainage work and the removal and replacement of about 18 trees.”

Mr McCarthy said this project represents a continuing Territory Government commitment to building new cycle paths and follows on from key projects last year including:

- A new cycle path along Roystonea Avenue which is currently under construction from University Avenue to Buscall Avenue that will link Palmerston centre to Farrar, Bakewell, Gunn and the new suburb of Johnston;
- A new 1.2km cycle path along Berrimah Road;
- A new 400m cycle path under the Daly Street Bridge; and
- A new 850m cycle path along Frances Bay Drive.

“Budget 2010 also commits $3 million for a new cycle path from Palmerston to Howard Springs area with work set to begin in the 2nd quarter of 2010-11,” Mr McCarthy said.

“Riding your bike is a great way to exercise and socialise with your family, friends and neighbours and also plays a vital role in helping Territorians get to work or school.

“There is about 70 kilometres of cycle paths across the Darwin and Palmerston network and this Government will continue expanding this network.”

Mr McCarthy said the Territory Government will soon release its new 5 year plan to improve the cycle network across Darwin, Palmerston and the rural area.

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