Palmerston to Howard Springs Bicycle Path

As Territorians take to their bikes today as part of National Ride to Work Day Construction Minister Gerry McCarthy today announced work will soon start on a new asphalt bicycle path connecting Palmerston to Darwin’s rural area.

Minister McCarthy said BMD Construction Pty Ltd has been awarded the $1.5million contract to build the Palmerston to Howard Springs cycle path.

“Construction of this bike path which is expected to start at the end of this month and be completed by early next year,” said Mr McCarthy.

“On completion the residents from Howard Springs and Palmerston will have a 35-kilometre cycle path from Howard Springs through to Darwin’s CBD.

“Most of the cycle path will be constructed within the former North Australia Railway (NAR) corridor from Yarrawonga to Howard Springs road and then across to the existing path on Whitewood Road – a total distance of approximately 5.4kms long.

“All existing heritage NAR bridges will be retained and the path rails will be manufactured by 10 Darwin Correctional Centre inmates working from the prison workshop between November and January.

“This is a multi-agency initiative including Department of Construction and Infrastructure, Correctional Services and Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education – and each participant will receive a formal qualification of Certificate 1 in Welding.

“Two interpretation shelters will be built, one at the Tulagi Rd crossing and one on Whitewood Rd with historical information about the Railway, smaller information signs will be placed at the bridges and in one of the cuttings and water bubblers will be installed at the shelters.”

The Howard Springs – Palmerston cycle path follows on from key projects last year including:

- A new cycle path along Roystonea Ave from University Ave to Buscall Ave that links Palmerston centre to Farrar, Bakewell, Gunn and the new suburb of Johnston;
- Vanderlin Dr cycle path from Stuart Hwy to McMillans Rd
- A new 1.2km cycle path along Berrimah Rd; and
- A new 400m cycle path under the Daly Street Bridge

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