16 April, 2012

$28 million in housing for Territory families

The Territory Government is helping families get ahead with a $28 million investment across affordable and social urban housing and land release projects as part of the upcoming 2012 Budget, Treasurer Delia Lawrie said.

Announced today at the Zuccoli sales office opening, Ms Lawrie said the Territory Government was committed to offering affordable and appropriate housing to meet the needs of all Territorians in line with its 2030 target.

“Budget 2012 is gearing up the Territory for growth with continued land release, and supporting Territory families with affordable housing packages and generous home buyer assistance.”

“This investment will also support local jobs during the construction phase,” Ms Lawrie said.

In the upcoming budget, Palmerston East will continue to expand with $15 million dedicated to rolling out the future stages of Zuccoli and associated headworks.

“This first stage of Zuccoli is expected to house about 750 families on top of the additional 7400 homes to be built across other parts of the Territory including Kilgariff in Alice Springs, Bellamack, Mitchell and Johnston, also in Palmerston East,” Minister Lawrie said.

She said the first stage of Zuccoli is being delivered as part of a joint venture between the Territory Government’s Land Development Corporation and Urbex Pty Ltd, and will deliver more than 500 residential lots to the market, with 38 lots on sale now.

Public housing funding will also feature heavily in the upcoming budget, including $4 million to redevelop various unit complexes.

Families in Palmerston will also benefit from $2.38 million investment into seven new two-bedroom units.

In addition, as part of a joint Territory and Australian Government initiative, $10.6 million will fund 26 new homes to be built in Palmerston to target those at risk of homelessness, with the Territory Government contributing $6.6 million to the package.

Ms Lawrie said the Henderson Government’s plan to provide homes for more than 15,000 Territorians over the next few years, 15 per cent of which will be affordable housing. Other land release initiatives include:
• **Johnston** – More than 49 new homes have been built to date. And over 300 units in are in various stages of approval and construction. Work will start on a further 295 lots in the coming months.

• **Bellamack** – Housing construction is well underway, with 465 titles issued and 131 new homes completed.

• **Weddell** – Planning continues with environmental assessment work and the design of the main water main underway. This new city will have the ultimate capacity to house 50,000 people.

• **Kilgariff** – $10 million of works are expected to be completed this year on this Alice Springs site. A further $3.5 million of works will continue in 2012-13, including the construction of a new intersection and water supply to the subdivision.

• **Tennant Creek** - 18 lots went to public auction over the weekend and more land will be rolled out as the market demands it.

Ms Lawrie said private sector housing was also strong with projects being rolled out across the Territory.

“The private sector is powering along and delivering more than 1000 lots in Muirhead, as well as 590 lots at the Heights in Durack and an 83-lot development at Coolalinga,” she said.

“On top of that, 1600 units are forecast to be completed in Darwin CBD and suburban areas by June 2014, including the 100 unit redevelopment of Wirrina in Parap.

These land release initiatives have been developed in line with the Territory 2030 strategy to maintain our enviable lifestyle and offer affordable, appropriate housing to meet the needs of all Territorians.

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