The Country Liberals Government committed $1.5 million at the last Territory election towards a hydrology review and mitigation works for the Rapid Creek corridor.

A draft action plan has been developed using the completed review and also previously commissioned works including the Rapid Creek Flood Study and Potential Flood Damages Assessment.

The draft action plan will be put out for public consultation to gather significant community input from mid-December with notices being publicised from next week.

Minister for Lands, Planning and the Environment, Peter Chandler, said the Rapid Creek community has been forthcoming on this issue and feels it would be irresponsible to proceed without significant consultation.

“Understandably, we have seen some strong community views on this subject, and not everyone can agree on what is the best option going forward,” Mr Chandler said.

“We have even seen the two affected local Opposition members at odds over where to go from here, one wants to bulldoze the trees, the other wants to hug them.

“That is why it is essential to get a consensus from the public on a way forward.

“Rapid Creek has been flooding since the suburb was first developed and nothing has been done for the 11 years Labor was in government.

“The draft plan does not contain a silver bullet to fix the flooding of Rapid Creek, no amount of government intervention can stop heavy rains or high tides.

“However a number of short, medium and long term options will be put the public, ranging from increased public awareness to major works of the existing upstream airport flood control weir.

“I am keen to receive feedback from the community so we can finalise the action plan and get on with the job.”

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