Rapid Creek Consultations Begin

12 December 2013

Potential flood affected residents and community stakeholder groups in the Rapid Creek area will receive a letter this week inviting them to give feedback on the draft Rapid Creek Action Plan.

Residents and stakeholders will have the opportunity to arrange a meeting with a government representative, at their convenience, to discuss the draft plan and any other concerns or ideas they have around flood mitigation in Rapid Creek.

Updated computer modelling of the Rapid Creek corridor has identified an additional 60 properties that could potentially be affected by flash flooding similar to what occurred during Cyclone Carlos in 2011. The previous modelling was compiled in 1999.

Minister for Lands, Planning and the Environment, Peter Chandler, said the public consultations will be a two way process where residents can have questions answered while also providing their own ideas about flood mitigation.

“This is an emotive issue that has had some different reactions from the community so I’m confident by taking this comprehensive public consultation approach we can arrive at a consensus about where to move forward from here,” Mr Chandler said.

“I want to hear from residents who were affected by Cyclone Carlos, new residents to the area and also community groups like Rapid Creek Landcare, we need to take everyone with us on this issue.

“No amount of government intervention will completely eliminate flooding of Rapid Creek, it is a naturally occurring water way and we need to respect that.

“However, through a co-ordinated approach between the government and local residents we can mitigate the effects and damage of flooding from extreme weather episodes.”

Affected residents can make a time to meet with a representative of the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment by phoning 8924 7597 and for more information visit: http://www.lands.nt.gov.au/rapid-creek

It is important that residents remain informed so they can be prepared in the event of heavy rainfall. For more information on how you can prepare, please go to www.securent.gov.au

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