Media Release

Adam Giles, Member for Braitling
Chief Minister of the Northern Territory

Francis Xavier Kurrupuwu, Member for Arafura

**New ‘Welcome Precinct’ for Maningrida**

6 October 2014

The entrance to Maningrida is about to get a facelift with the creation of a new ‘Welcome Precinct’ by the Territory Government.

“The Maningrida community has told us they want to create a welcoming entrance to their community for visitors and locals alike,” Chief Minister Adam Giles said.

“This new ‘Welcome Precinct’ will help restore a sense of community pride by revamping the entrances to the community which are currently dominated by prohibition signage.

“The ‘Welcome Precinct’ will link the airport, accommodation and the Arts Centre, helping to stimulate local jobs through improved arts sales and a café.

“Plans for the area are being developed by the Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation and Dhukurrdji Development Corporation which are both looking at ways to increase visitation to the Maningrida region.

“Future plans under consideration by local operators include day tours, car rentals, a performance area and a museum.

“The Government has approved a $100,000 grant to go towards landscaping, especially around the Arts Centre, some locally–made welcome signage and other beautification works.

“In addition to this facelift, we have agreed to seal the road adjacent to the accommodation block which will assist in the development of the area.

“I want to work with people in communities such as Maningrida to help build thriving local economies and I believe creating community pride is an important first step.”

Mr Giles made the announcement alongside local Member for Arafura Francis Xavier Kurrupuwu during a Cabinet visit to Maningrida today.

“I have lobbied for the Welcome Precinct to build-up the local community and I am pleased to see it is now happening,” Mr Kurrupuwu said.
“I know this is something my constituents in Maningrida are very excited about.

“The Precinct will help further develop tourism and transport-related businesses and that means more jobs for people in Maningrida.”

Media Contact: Danielle Parry 0413 081 801