The inclusion of the Darwin Inner Suburbs Area Plan in the NT Planning Scheme will herald a new era for planning opportunities in the Northern Territory.

Lands and Planning Minister David Tollner said the Darwin Inner Suburbs Area Plan establishes a framework to guide future development projected for the inner suburbs.

“This Plan will ensure the integration of land use, transport and infrastructure planning while treating the natural environmental, cultural and heritage values of the inner suburbs sensitively,” he said.

“The Area Plan is premised on focusing new growth toward activity centres to facilitate walkability associated with the co-location of higher density residential development and a mix of commercial, retail, community facilities and services, public transport and tracts of public open space.

“Underpinned by a detailed consultation process, the Area Plan aims to provide the community, the development industry and decision makers with confidence about the likely form of future land use.

“It also provides the opportunity to accommodate the new dwellings forecast for the inner suburbs of Darwin in the Darwin regional land use plan of 800 dwellings in the short term and 4490 in the long term.”

The Area Plan covers the suburbs of:

- The Gardens
- Stuart Park
- Parap
- Woolner
- Bayview
- Fannie Bay
- The Narrows
- Part of Ludmilla (south of Ludmilla Creek)

“As a framework for future growth, the Area Plan is supported by investigations that ensure future essential services can and are being provided commensurate to expected population growth,” Mr Tollner said.

“It outlines a range of policy statements that will guide future development decisions and its inclusion in the NT
Planning Scheme will legally establish its role as a policy.

“This is the first of the new area plans to be incorporated and we hope to incorporate the Darwin Mid Suburbs Area Plan and the Litchfield Sub-Regional Land Use Plan in the near future.”

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