Nicole Manison
Treasurer

**Budget 2017: Investing in Darwin’s Future – Jobs, Children, Community**

2 May 2017

Treasurer Nicole Manison today delivered the 2017 Northern Territory Budget outlining investment and opportunity for Darwin – Australia’s capital of the North.

Announcing a $1.75 billion infrastructure works package, $250 million in economic stimulus and a record $297 million for repairs and maintenance jobs right across the Territory, Ms Manison said investing in our Northern capital is vital to economic development in the Territory.

“Budget 2017 invests for the future of the Territory and is focused on delivering more jobs, growing our population and improving the lives of our children by building better communities,” Ms Manison said.

“This Budget is one of the most challenging in the Territory’s history. A $2 billion GST cut by the Federal Government over the next four years will have a deep impact on the Territory’s fiscal position and we are faced with a slowing economy.”

“As a result, the fiscal deficit is expected to be $1.3 billion in 2017-18. Importantly, if not for the GST cuts, the measures included in this Budget show that we would have been on track to deliver a surplus in 2019-20.”

“The Territory needs investment right now, and it needs vision. Budget 2017 delivers both.”

“The projects and investment announced as part of Budget 2017 will deliver results immediately and into the future, supporting more jobs, better services and attracting more private investment.”

Ms Manison said key highlights of Budget 2017 for Darwin are:

- $100 million to begin revitalising Darwin’s CBD commencing with State Square
- $39.5 million for the long-awaited Barneson Boulevard link
- $25 million for a new home for Rugby League at Warren Park
- $18 million for PET Scanner and Cyclotron
• $12 million for a multi-story car park at Royal Darwin Hospital
• $18 million for Darwin High School redevelopment and expansion
• $10 million to kick start the luxury hotel at the Waterfront
• $10 million for a new indoor netball stadium
• $9.7 million to construct a replacement Nightcliff Renal facility
• $6 million for the Ludmilla Primary School Stage 1 redevelopment
• $3 million to refurbish TIO stadium
• $500 000 to progress retirement villages in Darwin and the rural area
• $500 000 to test the feasibility of a Darwin-based Water Park
• $300 000 for every school in Darwin to upgrade school infrastructure

“There is a bright future for Darwin and the Northern Territory and our current challenge is making sure we support jobs and keep people here while we unlock more private investment and further grow our economy.”

“We have listened and taken decisive action in Budget 2017 to support people across the Territory and that is why we are investing for our future, in jobs, children and our community.”

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