Advancing infrastructure for Palmerston

Roystonea Avenue extended at last

Living in Palmerston for many years and using Lambrick Avenue and Roystonea Avenue, I have been continually frustrated with the congestion on Roystonea Avenue, Lambrick Avenue and Forrest Parade.

As Minister for Infrastructure and Minister for Transport I have brought forward plans to extend Roystonea Avenue from Lambrick Avenue to Owston Avenue in Rosebery.

This is great news for residents in Rosebery and surrounding suburbs like Bakewell, who can have pressure taken off roads such as Forrest Parade as Roystonea Avenue is used to its full potential as a major arterial road.

I know there is a lot of construction going on and I ask motorists to be patient while these changes take effect, as the final extension will be well worth it in the end.

Department of Transport is in the process of designing the extension to go ahead between 2015 and 2016.

Better roads - access to Palmerston Hospital site

Works are underway with completion scheduled for September 2015.

The project will provide access to the new Palmerston Regional Hospital. A feature of the works plan has been developed to maintain traffic flow during the construction period. The project will also include facilities for shared paths for cyclist and pedestrian access to the new hospital.

The upgrade of the intersection allows for the incorporation of a future duplicated Temple Terrace.

Stage One of the Maluka Views $50 million hotel development is taking shape.

The Land Development Corporation says they have been working closely with local developers and the City of Palmerston to finalise a master plan for the site.

The Palmerston Hotel will be located right behind ‘the Hub’ on Roystonea Avenue and consist of 161 hotel rooms, including 32 suites and also 41 short stay apartments.

This site has sat vacant for many years and the government has released it for development through our urban infill strategy which has identified 70 parcels of Crown land across the Territory which could yield up to 2,700 dwellings.

Hotel accommodation is under immense pressure, especially in the Dry, this development will bring online much needed rooms for the developing City of Palmerston.

The next stage of the Maluka Views development will have a residential focus while achieving a mix of commercial, retail and alfresco dining options to establish a unique and vibrant address within Palmerston.

For project enquiries visit www.landdevcorp.nt.gov.au/projects/maluka-views
The roundabout on Maluka Drive has been re-sealed.

**Elizabeth River Boat Ramp made safer with new CCTV**

Territorians who use the Elizabeth River boat ramp have reason to feel safer thanks to the installation of CCTV cameras, fully funded by the NT Government.

As Minister for Police I am proud the cameras were installed as part of the commitment by the Country Liberals Government to see a decrease in anti-social behaviour.

Police have already had major success with these particular CCTV cameras in identifying offenders who have been hooning, using illicit drugs and driving under the influence.

These CCTV cameras are another way in which we have enhanced the boat ramp and jetty on top of last year’s shade structure project.

**Upgrade for Lambrick Avenue cycling**

For years residents have been saying to me there needs to be a better cycle path up Lambrick Avenue, especially for kids. I could see how the area lacked this, and I am pleased to say the Government is now upgrading the cycle path.

This path will link the existing cycle path on Howard Springs Road to the Lambrick Avenue cycle path which currently ends at the Roystonea Avenue and Lambrick Avenue intersection.

A new cycle path will be constructed along Lambrick Avenue, (from Roystonea Avenue and Lambrick Avenue intersection), across the Stuart Highway and along Howard Springs road to connect to the Howard Springs cycle path. Works are expected to commence in August 2015.

**Backup generator for Palmerston Super Clinic**

I am proud to say the Country Liberals Government is further investing in medical services in Palmerston by providing a new backup generator for the existing Palmerston Super Clinic. The new generator will supply backup power to enable a designated area within the Palmerston super clinic to provide post cyclone medical response.

The existing generator supplies minimal power to drug fridges, the new larger generator will provide air-conditioning and essential power to therapy area. The new generator will facilitate an emergency response team to operate 24 hours a day in the therapy area in the event of an emergency.

**Roystonea Avenue - Temple Terrace to Gurd Street**

As a local resident living in Gunn I have shared the view with others that Roystonea Avenue needs to be upgraded near the Palmerston Super Clinic, as the major arterial road is used more and more with growth in the area.

As local member I have lobbied this issue and I am proud to say duplication of Roystonea Avenue between Temple and Gurd including the upgrading of the Roystonea/Temple intersection will occur throughout 2015 and 2016.

The works will relieve queuing at the intersection through additional turning and through lanes. Pedestrian safety will be addressed and the design will allow for future traffic growth in the area, and the design allows for the incorporation of a future duplicated Temple Terrace.

**Duplicating Tiger Brennan Drive and cutting travel time**

The Country Liberals Government in conjunction with the Federal Government continue to deliver on Tiger Brennan Drive duplication. By mid 2016 approximately nine kilometres of Tiger Brennan Drive, between Woolner Road and Berrimah Road will be duplicated.

**Current status:** Early works for soil mixing is 90 per cent complete. Rock removal at cuttings are 50 per cent complete.

For more information please visit www.nt.gov.au/infrastructure/projects/tbd/woolner-berrimah/
Better Education for Palmerston

**Palmerston Special School update**

The New $21.2 million facility in Bellamack to accommodate 141 special needs children has been in community consultation phase and feedback has been very positive and exciting for Palmerston residents. Construction render is due to be released August 2015.

For queries about the project you can contact infrastructure.det@nt.gov.au

**Announcing Rosebery Preschool extension with Nathan Barrett in 2014**

I announced with Member for Blain Nathan Barrett in 2014 that the Country Liberals Government is investing $1.2 million to extend Rosebery Preschool and double its educating capacity.

The scope of this project is to construct a new extension to the existing preschool for a new playroom, bathroom, storeroom, quiet room and veranda.

The expansion will see an extra 44 places and completion date for this project is anticipated to be late July 2015.

**New Outdoor learning area for Bakewell Primary School**

Once Chair of Bakewell Primary School Council and as local member in the Bakewell school community, I am very pleased to see the Country Liberal’s Government responding to Bakewell Primary’s numbers growth.

Construction of an outdoor learning area, extending off the current building will provide an additional covered open learning space for students. Works are expected to be completed over the mid-year school break.

**Nominations open for NT Education and Care Awards**

If you know an outstanding early childhood professional, now is the time to nominate them for the 2015 Northern Territory Education and Care Awards.

The awards recognise educators and services that are innovative and exhibit outstanding commitment to delivering a high quality service for young children and their families.

Awards categories include emerging professional educator, outstanding leadership, outstanding achievement in sustainable practice, outstanding achievement in community engagement, and outstanding education and care service in five categories.

Award recipients will be invited to participate on a tour of high quality early childhood services in Sydney.

The tour aims to further participants' professional development, enhance their awareness and understanding of quality practices in education and care, and improve services in the Territory.

Nominations for the awards close Friday, 31 July 2015.

For more information or to make a nomination, visit www.ntecawards.net.

**Reforming the Northern Territory Education Act**

In my role as Minister for Education I am passionate about delivering the best education system for our children in the NT. To achieve this, the Education Bill must support a flexible education system to deal with current and future issues affecting school education in the Territory for the next 20-30 years.

For this reason, I am proposing significant updates to the legislation including:

- lowering the compulsory age of schooling in recognition of the importance of early education;
- greater flexibility for parent and community involvement in schools and school boards for Independent Public Schools;
- supporting contemporary practices for students with a disability; and
- broadening options for principals managing student wellbeing and behaviour.

The current Act is 35 years old. It’s out dated and no longer provides an adequate framework for delivering high-quality contemporary education to develop our students.

The draft Bill has been prepared following extensive consultation around a discussion paper released in 2014.

Consultative public meetings will be held in regional centres in June 2015.

For more information and to provide feedback visit: www.education.nt.gov.au. Closing date for comment is 7 August 2015.

**Car Park extension for Gray Primary School**

As Minister for Education I am proud to announce the Country Liberals Government is extending the school’s internal car park which is next to the sports oval by 35 spaces.

This means more parking for staff and parents and utilization of an area of land within the school grounds which is currently unused and high maintenance. Work will be completed by July 2015.
A safer Palmerston

Safer Territory buses

The Country Liberals Government has put in place a range of new initiatives to keep Territorians safe on public buses.

Transit officers now have the ability to ban habitual or serious offenders from the bus network for a defined period.

Should the offender return within their defined period he or she will be committing an offence and will be charged accordingly.

Other outcomes include the installation of digital radios and the restructuring of security for bus interchanges to improve emergency response to driver requests through a duress button.

A further recommendation includes the provision of a seven day presence of platform security guards targeting anti-social behaviour. We are committed to keeping people on buses safe.

Election promise delivered – new Palmerston CCTV units

The Country Liberals Government, in conjunction with the Federal Government, has delivered three new CCTV units for Palmerston and beyond, designed to rapidly deploy into known crime hot spots and major public events with the aim of reducing crime. This is in addition to $300K funding in CCTV for Palmerston.

State of the art - these systems can be completely standalone and can link into the existing NTPFES CCTV network. The units can be towed like a standard trailer and deployed in any desired location.

We are looking at ways to harness emerging technology and communication capacity, with these new Solar Powered units with battery backup for 24/7 operation.

Save the date for Palmerston’s Big cake Bake

Last year, the Palmerston Red Cross raised over $1,000 with the help from Team Palmerston through selling cakes we baked and others donated, and it’s on again this year!

Where: Palmerston Shopping Centre
When: Monday morning 31st August 2015

SIDS & Kids Walk 2 Remember

For our SIDS & Kids community, we take time to reflect and give support to each other.

Where: Sanctuary Lakes, Gunn
When: Sunday afternoon 30th August 2015

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