Media Release

$10 Million Katherine Diversion Consultation Extended

Territorians will now have until 30 June to provide comments about a planned $10 million project to build a heavy vehicle diversion around Katherine Terrace.

Infrastructure Minister Delia Lawrie today said the extended consultation period would enable Katherine Town Council to discuss the matter fully and consider its response at its 23 June meeting.

Ms Lawrie said the Northern Territory Department of Planning and Infrastructure would manage the Federal Government funded, $10 million project.

“Community consultation is progressing well with public displays, advertising and letter box drops bringing this issue to the attention of Katherine residents,” Ms Lawrie said.

“We are keen to consult with all stakeholders as much as possible and extending the consultation period by more than one month will enable Katherine Town Council to properly debate the four options being put forward.

“We’re looking at options to improve safety, particularly for pedestrians either by diverting heavy vehicle traffic away from the centre of Katherine or improving safety on the existing route.”

Member for Lingiari, the Hon. Warren Snowdon MP, said the heavy vehicle diversion meets another of his Federal Government election promises.

“We are committed to making the main street of Katherine safer and more pedestrian friendly – which is great news, whether you are a visiting tourist to the town, a local, or truck driver,” said Mr Snowdon.

“I encourage residents and stakeholders to have their say in this $10 million Rudd Labor Government investment to improve Katherine’s main street.”

Ms Lawrie said the NT Department of Planning and Infrastructure has worked closely with Katherine Town Council and a consultant to produce four options for Katherine residents to provide feedback on.
The four options include:

- Removal of some sections of angled parking to provide increased footpath areas and other measures like fencing to improve pedestrian safety while maintaining the existing route along Katherine Terrace;
- Diverting heavy vehicles 3.8km along Bicentennial Road and the Victoria Highway;
- Diverting heavy vehicles 1.5km along a new two lane carriageway connecting the extension of Chambers Drive across the Stuart Highway to the Victoria Highway near Condon street, supporting future land development; or
- Diverting heavy vehicles along a new two lane carriageway connecting from the existing Chambers Drive intersection to the Victoria Highway, parallel to the Stuart Highway and adjacent to Railway terrace.

“Residents and stakeholders now have until 30 June to view the public display at the Northern Territory Government Centre,” Ms Lawrie said.

“Alternatively, people can go to www.nt.gov.au/katherinediversion or contact 8973 8661 to provide their comments and feedback.”

A report on the route options and outcomes of the feedback received from the public and stakeholders will be prepared and presented to the Territory Government for consideration after the public consultation period closes.

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