New Road Opens to Improve Safety

Construction Minister Gerry McCarthy today announced the opening of the $2.4 million realignment and upgrade of Girraween Road.

“About 6000 vehicles will use this new 800m stretch of road each day, making it safer and easier for motorists driving through this busy Stuart Highway and Henning Rd intersection,” Mr McCarthy said.

“This $2.4 million project is part of the Henderson Government’s 2009 infrastructure budget which has delivered more than $1 billion worth of vital projects so far this financial year.

“The realignment and upgrade of Girraween Road will divert traffic to the signalised Stuart Highway and Henning Rd intersection, providing a safer traffic option.

“Girraween Road will also directly access the commercial area on the outbound lane of the Stuart Highway, removing the current need to cross the Stuart Highway.

“A dedicated turning lane on Henning Road was also built to reduce traffic bottlenecks for traffic turning left onto the Stuart Highway.

“More than 50 Territorians are working on the road upgrade and realignment and I congratulate local company Ostojic Group which is delivering this important project.”

Mr McCarthy said the upgrade and realignment of Girraween Road now paved the way for work to start on new Park and Ride bus facilities in the rural area with bulk earthworks of $112,000 constructed in conjunction with the Girraween Road project.

“Public transport plays a key role in major cities around the world and we encourage more Territorians to use our buses,” Mr McCarthy said.

“That’s why Budget 2010 commits $2.52 million towards constructing park and ride bus facilities in Darwin and the rural area as a way of getting more Territorians using public transport. In conjunction with the park and ride facilities, a further $500 000 has been allocated to the upgrading of the Humpty Doo Bus Interchange.

“Getting more Territorians on buses will take more cars off the road and help reduce carbon emissions

“Our park and ride initiative complements this Government’s measures to encourage more Territorians to use public transport by providing free bus travel to students, seniors and carers.”