Member for Sanderson, Peter Styles, has written to Construction Minister Gerry McCarthy seeking answers about the removal of trees along McMillans Road.

Mr Styles said a large number of trees had been removed from the common area between Rothdale and Matthews roads over recent months.

He said conversations with residents revealed they are:

a) Bewildered at the extreme nature of the works program; and
b) Angry there is no indication the trees that were removed will be replaced.

“Residents have told me they received a letter from Government stating that as a result of expert advice, trees and vegetation along McMillans Road would be trimmed,” Mr Styles said.

“The result of the ‘trimming’ is there are now large tracts of open space where previously there had been a buffer between the homes and traffic on McMillans Road.

“A number of residents report a considerable increase in noise inside their homes as a result of the tree removals as well as a reduction in the aesthetic and resale value of their homes.”

Mr Styles said the tree felling is a long way from the vision former Chief Minister, Clare Martin, outlined about transforming Darwin into a tropical city like Singapore.

“Clare Martin proposed planting more vegetation and greening the entire Darwin landscape,” he said.

“Her replacement seems intent on defoliating the city and suburbs. In addition to McMillans Road, trees have also been pillaged along Tiger Brennan Drive, Bagot Road and on the outbound side of the Stuart Highway adjacent to the Parap Grove boundary wall.

“I have written to Gerry McCarthy, on behalf of residents asking him to begin an immediate revegetation program along McMillans Road.

“I await his response with interest.”

Further comment: Peter Styles 0411 640 660