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RAPID CREEK CONSERVATION CORRIDOR TAKES SHAPE

Fencing work is under way on the Rapid Creek conservation corridor in Darwin’s northern suburbs.

Planning and Lands Minister Dr Chris Burns said it had been the Martin Government’s commitment from its first day in office to establish public ownership of the conservation corridor, thus ensuring public access to the area.

“Last year, the Government acquired six parcels of privately-held land which border Rapid Creek in the area between McMillans Road and the Water Gardens,” Dr Burns said.

“In the 2005/06 Budget, the Government allocated $300,000 for the enhancement and protection of the Rapid Creek corridor.

“We will continue to develop our plans for Rapid Creek in close consultation with the Darwin City Council, the Rapid Creek Catchment Advisory Committee, the Rapid Creek Landcare Group, and the local community.”

Plans for the Rapid Creek conservation corridor include:

- rehabilitation and revegetation of the recently acquired land;
- water quality monitoring;
- weed control;
- improved walking and bike tracks along the creek;
- picnic and barbecue facilities beside the creek; and
- interpretive signage.

Dr Burns said management of the recently acquired land will initially rest with government, but will be handed over to the Darwin City Council in the longer term, and will become part of the overall corridor.

“The Rapid Creek conservation corridor will become a treasure in the northern suburbs,” Dr Burns said.

“As well as protecting the health and vitality of Rapid Creek, the corridor will be a wonderful open space for members of the public to enjoy.”

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