



Media Release

# Darwin City Council

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Friday 21 August 2009 – For Immediate Release

## Council To Consider Laneways Report

A report to Darwin City Council's Second Ordinary Council Meeting this Tuesday night will recommend permanently closing 42 of the laneways reviewed by consultants CPG.

In April 2009 a review of Councils walkway policy was undertaken by CPG (formerly Coomes Consulting). The review team comprised a Consulting Social Planner, a Transport Planner and Urban Design & Landscape Architect. The review involved considerable public consultation over a 10 week period with key stakeholders including Darwin City Council Aldermen and staff, residents of Karama, Malak and Casuarina, NT Police and NT Government Departments including the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure.

The report being presented to Council on Tuesday night provides a detailed review of walkways in Karama, Malak, Wulagi, Wagaman, Anula and Moil and proposes a list of walkways which should remain open and those which should be closed, based on methodology recommended by the consultants, CPG to Council in June 2009.

The new proposed Walkway Policy 2009 is a shift away from walkway closures towards a more concentrated and proactive approach of walkway management and infrastructure maintenance.

One hundred and six walkways in nine suburbs have been assessed which includes the 8 outstanding walkway petitions and the 14 walkways currently being closed at night time.

The report outlines financial implications associated with addressing walkways.

In total Council has allocated \$810,000 to addressing walkways matters as follows;

- \$215,000 - for the normal routine maintenance and cleaning of the 230 walkways each year.
- \$110,000 - addressing night closures and administration of walkway closures.
- \$100,000 - in the 2009/10 capital works program addressing walkway infrastructure upgrades within the Waters Ward.
- \$50,000 – committed from the NT Government in July this year (not yet received)
- \$120,000 – for the creation of a new position of Community Safety Officer to manage and address complaints in relation to anti social behaviour.
- \$215,000 – carry forward grants from the NT Government addressing lighting of walkways.

The cost of installing gates in walkways will potentially cost \$140,000 with the average cost of installing gates at a walkway being \$3,600. It is proposed these costs will be met up front by Council and may be recovered from local residents who may purchase walkways from Council.

The potential annual cost saving to Council by terminating night time closures is \$46,200 per annum. Council currently closes 14 walkways each night at an annual average cost of \$3,300 per walkway.

The recommendation being put to Council on Tuesday 25 August is as follows;

THAT it be a recommendation to Council:-

- A. THAT Report Number KEYBOARD entitled Walkway Policy Review be received and noted.
- B. THAT Council proceed immediately to address the 8 outstanding walkway petitions by permanently closing six of the walkways and temporarily closing two walkways at night time for a maximum period of up to four months pending an upgrade of lighting and the application of CPTED principles.

Outstanding petitions recommended for permanent closure

	<b>Suburb</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>No.</b>
1	Wulagi	Rosella Crs	Vanderlin Drv	102
2	Malak	Prowse Crt	Malak Park	175
3	Karama	Dulverton Crt	Koolama Crt	192
4	Karama	Dulverton Crt	McMillans Rd	193
5	Karama	Kybra Crt	Beroona Crt	196
6	Karama	Kybra Crt	Dulverton Crt	197

Outstanding petitions recommended for temporary closure pending upgrade assessment

	<b>Suburb</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>No.</b>
1	Wagaman	Carstens Cr	Parer Dr	79
2	Wagaman	Malay Rd	Van Diemen St	85

- C. THAT Council permanently close five of the fourteen walkways currently being closed at night time as follows

	<b>Suburb</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>No.</b>
1	Leayner	Darter Ct	Grasslands	54
2	Wagaman	Trower Rd	Amsterdam Circ	80
3	Wagaman	Vanderlin Drv	Amsterdam Circ	83
4	Karama	Karama Crs	Kwinana Crt	198
5	Karama	Sedge Crt	Mulla Mulla	200

- D. THAT Council continue to close at night time the following nine walkways for up to four months pending an upgrade assessment of lighting CPTED principles and then reopen the walkways permanently.

	<b>Suburb</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>No.</b>
1	Nakara	Copeland Cr	Ellengowan Dr	19
2	Casuarina	Bradshaw Tce	Kilfoyle Cr	24
3	Wagaman	Amsterdam Cr	Trower	81
4	Wagaman	Tasman Ct	Payer Dr	87
5	Anula	Howley Cr	Union Tc	154
6	Malak	Fawcett Ct	Chambers Cr	183
7	Karama	Karama Cr	Koolinda Cr	195
8	Karama	Mullamulla Ct	Sedge Ct	200
9	Karama	Donaldson Ct	Kalymnos Dr	201

- E. THAT Council proceed to permanently close and dispose of the remaining 31 walkways based on values assessed by the Australian Valuation Office and that delegation be granted to the General Manager Corporate Services to deal with the disposal of the walkways and that the Chief Executive Officer and Lord Mayor be given authority to sign and seal the necessary documentation.

	<b>Suburb</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>No.</b>
1	Wulagi	Curlew Circ	Plover St	89
2	Wulagi	Jabiru St	Curlew Circ	90
3	Wulagi	Pelican Cres	Wulagi Park	91
4	Wulagi	Perigrine	Kestrel Circ	93
5	Wulagi	Kestrel Circ	Perigrine St	94
6	Wulagi	Rosella Crs	Wulagi Park	99
7	Wulagi	Rosella Crs	Vanderlin Drv	103
8	Anula	Kohinoor Crs	Yanyula Park	148
9	Anula	Tennison Crs	Yanyula Park	150
10	Anula	Caledonian St	Yanyula Park	152
11	Anula	Copperfield Crs	Yanyula Park	155
12	Anula	Enterprise St	Britannia Crs	156
13	Anula	Shackle St	Lee Point Rd	158
14	Malak	Maddock Crt	Malak Park	166
15	Malak	Harcus Crt	Malak Park	171
16	Malak	Palmer Crt	Malak Park	172
17	Malak	Wescombe Crt	Malak Park	173

18	Malak	Abrahams Crt	Malak Park	176
19	Malak	Hearne Crt	Abrahams Crt	177
20	Malak	Abbott Crs	Osbourne rd	179
21	Malak	Chambers Crs	Binet Crt	180
22	Malak	Tabletop Plc	Bayfield Rd	185
23	Malak	Gibbon Crt	Chambers Crs	186
24	Karama	Mistletoe Circ	Vanderlin Drv	188
25	Karama	Koojarra Crt	McMillans Rd	189
26	Karama	Milkwood Circ	Vanderlin Drv	202
27	Karama	Applegum Drv	Hayball Park	203
28	Karama	Wearing Crs	Vanderlin Drv	205
29	Karama	Brazil Crs	Vanderlin Drv	206
30	Karama	Creber Crt	McMillans Rd	207
31	Karama	Fourcroy St	Perron Park	211

- F. THAT the community be advised of Council's decision in relation to items B, C, D and E above by way of public notice in the newspaper, letterbox drop to residents within 500 metres of the walkway, advertising on Council's web site, placing of signs on the walkways and writing to the local MLA and principal proponent of the petition.
- G. THAT Council undertake a similar walkway assessment review for the remainder of the Municipality not covered in this report over the next 12 months and that a further report be brought back to Council.
- H. THAT in relation to the matter of urgent closure of walkways, that Council undertake to close a walkway within a two week period based on a policy developed based around the following criteria.
- Proponents requesting an immediate closure of a walkway must demonstrate the following;
- Statutory declaration by the proponent detailing the public safety issues.
  - Written corroboration of the public safety issue by adjacent residents to the walkway.
  - A copy of police reports and promis numbers detailing the public safety issue.
  - Any other evidence such as photographic evidence.
  - As assessment of by Council Officers.
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