

ENCL YES

## DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

Date: 13/09/08

### REPORT

<b>TO:</b>	CORPORATE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE/OPEN	<b>APPROVED:</b>	FC
<b>FROM:</b>	DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES	<b>APPROVED:</b>	LC
<b>REPORT NO:</b>	08A0179	<b>APPROVED:</b>	AB
<b>COMMON NO:</b>	1224683		
<b>SUBJET:</b>	CLOSURE OF WALKWAY NO's 180 & 183 CHAMBERS CRESCENT TO FAWCETT COURT, MALAK		

---

#### ITEM NO:

#### SYNOPSIS:

In June 2008 Council received a petition submitted by the Member for Karama for the night closure of walkway no's 180 (category C) and 183 (category B) both between Chambers Crescent and Fawcett Court, Malak.

In July 2008 Council received a second petition requesting the above closure which contained 124 signatures.

In August 2008 Council conducted a letterbox drop to 150 local residents seeking their views, to which 42 responses were received.

This report recommends the permanent closure of walkway no 180 and the night time closure of walkway 183.

#### GENERAL:

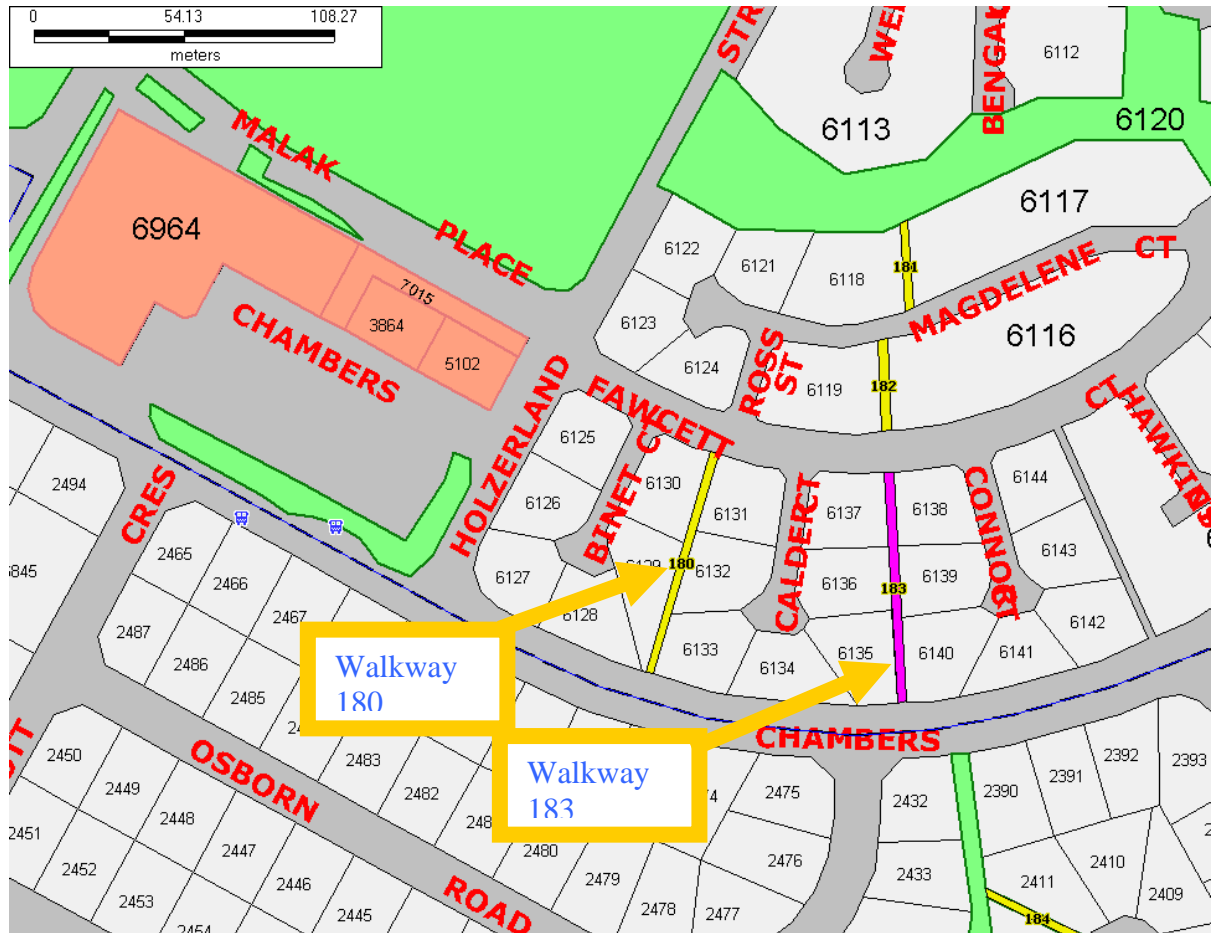
In 2007, a local resident who resides in Magdelene Court, Malak requested closure of Walkway No 180 due to antisocial behaviour. Council advised that if substantial support were shown, consideration would be given to the request.

In June 2008 the Member for Karama submitted one petition to Council requesting night closure of this walkway which contained 20 signatures.

In July 2008 Alderman Marrone tabled a second petition requesting permanent closure which contained 124 signatures.

A survey (Attachment A) was conducted in August 2008 with the results demonstrating that the majority of residents favour permanent closure of both walkways (Attachment B).

Regulatory Services Officers have liaised with the police, who have advised that they support the closure of any walkways in Karama and Malak, where there are ongoing issues with youths.



### Survey Results

The survey of 150 local residents conducted in August 2008 provided the following results:

Walkway	Walkway 180 (Category C)	Walkway 183 (Category B)
No Closure	3	4
Night Time Closure	7	7
Permanent Closure	12	9

### Social Planner Comment

In this instance the reason behind the request is antisocial behaviour by a number of youths who use the walkway to carry out unlawful activities, including vandalism, criminal damage to property and avenues to prevent apprehension by authorities.

PAGE: 3  
REPORT NUMBER: 08A0179  
SUBJECT: CLOSURE OF WALKWAY NO's 180 & 183, CHAMBERS CRESCENT TO  
FAWCETT COURT, MALAK

---

This was confirmed by Casuarina Police who supplied data regarding the responses and patrols carried out by Police for antisocial activity occurring in or near the vicinity of the walkway between Fawcett Court and Chambers Crescent. The Police would strongly support the closure of this walkway.

If Council were to close and sell the Fawcett Court walkway, cost would be minimal if the landholders on either side of the walkway purchased the walkway as per the procedure. Two of the five houses that have boundaries with the walkway are owned by the Northern Territory Housing Commission, who are unlikely to purchase additional land.

If Council were to close the egress points on a night time basis there would be costs involved in the provision and installation of gates, the consultation with and notification to the public, as well as the ongoing maintenance and opening and closing costs, which is contracted to an outside security service.

The walkway allows access between Fawcett Court and Chambers Crescent. The closure of this walkway would require residents to either utilise another walkway approximately 50 metres along Fawcett Court (walkway No 183) or utilise Holzerland Street which is 50 metres in the other direction.

The closure of the subject walkway would not have a significant negative impact on the pedestrian network of this neighbourhood.

### **Walkway No 180**

Walkway 180 is a Category C walkway and may be closed under Councils existing walkway policy.

In this instance based on the survey results Council Officers recommend the permanent closure of this walkway but do not support its sale. And disposal of walkways should be considered by Council following the review of its walkway policy and classification which it is currently undertaking.

### **Walkway No 183**

Walkway 183 is a category B walkway and may be closed permanently under Council's walkway policy.

In this instance based on its proximity to Abbot Park and the survey results Council Officers recommend a night time closure only.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

If a night closure is approved, the estimated cost of installing gates is \$3,000 per walkway, and the average cost for security to lock and unlock is approximately \$3,800 per annum per walkway.

If the walkway are closed permanently but not sold Council will incur the cost of installing the gates only.

If the walkways are closed and sold, the land value of the walkway is approximately \$43,000 each if there are no easements, discounted 75% to \$10,750 each if easements are required.

### **ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS:**

The issues addressed in this Report are in accordance with the following Goals/Strategies of the Action Plan of the Darwin City Council 2004 - 2008:

#### 4.1 Public Safety (infrastructure)

- To provide infrastructure in such a manner that promotes public safety.
- Review existing footpath/nature strip policy to ensure safe public access and visibility.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS:**

No environmental implications have been identified.

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS IMPLICATIONS:**

May impact on members of the public affected by the closure.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That it be recommended to Council:-

- A. THAT report number 08A0179, entitled Closure of Walkway No's 180 & 183, Chambers Crescent to Fawcett Court, Malak be received and noted.
- B. THAT Walkway 180 between Chambers Crescent and Fawcett Court, Malak be permanently closed but not sold subject to Council reviewing its current walkway policy.
- C. THAT Walkway 183 between Chambers Crescent and Fawcett Court, Malak be closed at night.
- D. THAT local residents be advised of Council's decision in accordance with Council's walkway policy.

**LIAM CARROLL**  
**MANAGER BUSINESS SERVICES**

**FRANK CRAWLEY**  
**DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES**

PAGE: 5  
REPORT NUMBER: 08A0179  
SUBJECT: CLOSURE OF WALKWAY NO's 180 & 183, CHAMBERS CRESCENT TO  
FAWCETT COURT, MALAK

---

## DECISION

10. **Closure of Walkway No's 180 & 183 Chambers Crescent to Fawcett Court, Malak**  
Report No. 08A0179 (13/09/08) Common No. 1224683

### ***Procedural Motion***

*(Jarvis/Bailey)*

*THAT the Matter lay on the Table until after the Council Workshop is held regarding the Terms of Reference for the Walkway Policy Review.*

*The Procedural Motion was Lost*

*(Moir/Lambert)*

- A. THAT Report Number 08A0179, entitled Closure of Walkway No's 180 & 183, Chambers Crescent to Fawcett Court, Malak, be received and noted.
- B. THAT Walkway Number 180 between Chambers Crescent and Fawcett Court, Malak be closed but not sold subject to Council reviewing its current Walkway Policy Number 329.
- C. THAT Walkway Number 183 between Chambers Crescent and Fawcett Court, Malak be closed at night.
- D. THAT local residents be advised of Council's decision in accordance with Council's walkway policy.

DECISION NO.20\0766 (30/09/08)

Carried

ACTION: DCORP