

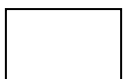
DARWIN CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, 14 DECEMBER, 2009

MEMBERS: The Right Worshipful, Lord Mayor, Mr G R Sawyer (Chairman); Member J D Bailey; Member R T Dee; Member R K Elix; Member H I Galton; Member G M Jarvis; Member G A Lambert; Member R Lesley; Member F P Marrone; Member A R Mitchell; Member K M Moir; Member J L Sangster; Member H D Sjoberg.

OFFICERS: Chief Executive Officer, Mr B Dowd; General Manager Community & Cultural Services, Mr J Banks; General Manager Corporate Services, Mr F Crawley; General Manager Infrastructure, Mr L Cercarelli; Manager Business Services, Mr L Carroll; Committee Administrator, Ms L Elmer.

Enquiries and/or Apologies: Linda Elmer
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*** I N D E X ***	<u>PAGE</u>
1 MEETING DECLARED OPEN.....	2
2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE	2
3 ELECTED MEMBERS CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION	2
4 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS	2
5 MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS	
5.1 Outcome of Public Consultation – Review of Walkways	3



1 MEETING DECLARED OPEN**2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE****2.1 Apologies****2.2 Leave of Absence Granted**

THAT it be noted that Member J D Bailey is an apology due to a Leave of Absence being previously granted on 13 October 2009 for the period 8 December 2009 – 20 January 2010.

DECISION NO.20\() (14/12/09)

2.3 Leave of Absence Requested**3 ELECTED MEMBERS CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION****4 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

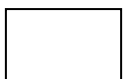
Nil



5 MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

5.1 Outcome of Public Consultation – Review of Walkways
Report No.09A0211 FC:lc (12/11/09) Common No.1646030

Report Number Report No.09A0211 FC:lc attached.



ENCL: YES

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

DATE: 12/11/09

REPORT

TO: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING/OPEN

APPROVED: FC

FROM: GENERAL MANAGER, CORPORATE
SERVICES

APPROVED: LC

REPORT NO: 09A0211

COMMON NO: 1646030

SUBJECT: OUTCOME OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION - REVIEW OF WALKWAYS

ITEM NO: 5.1**SYNOPSIS:**

This report details the results of a public consultation process undertaken in September 2009 in relation to the future use of 16 walkways in the northern suburbs. This report recommends the permanent closure of 12 walkways and that 4 walkways remain permanently open.

As per Council's Decision 20\1945 on the 25 August 2009 public consultation was undertaken to address the following walkways:

- a) Those that are subject of outstanding petitions
- b) Those that are subject to night closure and assessed as non essential.

Those remaining walkways being closed at night and assessed as essential (8 in total) are currently being reviewed for a possible upgrade to open permanently and will be the subject of a further report to Council.

A total of 1,675 survey forms were distributed with 238 responses received including correspondence from various key stakeholders. Correspondence is included in **Attachment A**.

GENERAL:

On the 28th August 2009, Council considered a walkway assessment report prepared by consultants CPG which reviewed 107 walkways in Karama, Malak, Wulagi, Wagaman, Anula and Moil. It proposed that 61 walkways assessed as essential should remain open, and 46 walkways assessed as non-essential should be closed permanently.

PAGE: 2
 REPORT NUMBER: 09A0211
 SUBJECT: Outcome of Public Consultation – Review of Walkways

The methodology recommended by CPG was to rationalise the current number of walkways by closing walkways surplus to the main desire lines (the natural and shortest path taken by pedestrians) and applying the financial savings to improve the standard of the remaining walkways.

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, adopting best practice Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.

A summary by suburb of reviewed walkways follows:

	<i>Reviewed</i>	<i>Essential</i>	<i>Non Essential</i>
<i>Karama</i>	25	10	15
<i>Malak</i>	24	11	13
<i>Wulagi</i>	16	8	8
<i>Wagaman</i>	9	6	3
<i>Anula</i>	19	13	6
<i>Moil</i>	11	11	0
<i>Casuarina</i>	1	1	0
<i>Nakara</i>	1	1	0
<i>Leanyer</i>	1		1
<i>Total</i>	107	61	46

PUBLIC CONSULTATION SEPTEMBER 2009

Consultation was undertaken on 16 walkways which were the subject of outstanding petitions or night closure and included the distribution of 1,675 pamphlets by letterbox drop to local residents, public notices and correspondence to key stakeholders and residents who have submitted petitions.

Respondents were given three options for each walkway ie. open permanently (Permanently Open), close permanently (Permanently Close), or a night time closure only (Night Closure). A total of 238 responses were received, see **Attachment B**.

Note some responses provided feedback on more than one walkway.

Only 8 of the respondents indicated they would be prepared to participate with other local residents to open and close the gates each day if night closure was their preferred option.

NIGHT TIME CLOSURE

As detailed in Councils policy, night time closures were only intended as a temporary measure to address anti social behaviour, however such closures are considered the preferred permanent option by a significant section of the community.

The walkway review conducted by CPG recommends a move away from night time closure due to the financial burden which it places on Council.

PAGE: 3
 REPORT NUMBER: 09A0211
 SUBJECT: PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON FUTURE OF WALKWAYS

WALKWAY REVIEW - NOVEMBER 2009 - PUBLIC CONSULTATION RESULTS SUMMARY

WALKWAYS SUBJECT TO PETITIONS

NO.	SUBURB	FROM	TO	CURRENT STATUS	CPG ASSESSMENT	CONSULTATION RESULTS			RECOMMENDATION
						OPEN	CLOSE	NIGHT	
79	Wagaman	Parer Drive	Carstens Crec	Open	Essential	14	20	7	OPEN Permanently
85	Wagaman	Van Diemen St	Malay Road	Night Closure	Essential	11	25	8	OPEN Permanently
102	Wulagi	Rosella Crs	Vanderlin Drv	Open	Non-Essential	16	44	1	CLOSE Permanently
166	Malak	Maddock Crt	Malak Park	Open	Non-Essential	4	0	4	CLOSE Permanently
175	Malak	Prowse Crt	Malak Park	Open	Non-Essential	3	6	1	CLOSE Permanently
192	Karama	Dulverton Crt	Koolama Crt	Open	Non-Essential	4	32	5	CLOSE Permanently
193	Karama	Dulverton Crt	McMillans Rd	Open	Non-Essential	3	32	10	CLOSE Permanently
196	Karama	Kybra Crt	Beeroona Crt	Open	Non-Essential	4	52	9	CLOSE Permanently
197	Karama	Kybra Crt	Dulverton Crt	Open	Non-Essential	3	45	10	CLOSE Permanently

WALKWAYS SUBJECT TO NIGHT CLOSURE

87	Wagaman	Parer Drive	Tasman Circ	Night Closure	Essential	11	21	11	OPEN Permanently
54	Leanyer	Darter Ct	Grasslands	Night Closure	Non-Essential	15	3	3	OPEN Permanently
142	Moil	Greenwood Cr	Lee Point Road	Permanently Closed	Essential	5	22	3	CLOSE Permanently
80	Wagaman	Trower Rd	Amsterdam Circ	Night Closure	Non-Essential	14	24	11	CLOSE Permanently
83	Wagaman	Vanderlin Drv	Amsterdam Circ	Night Closure	Non-Essential	12	27	8	CLOSE Permanently
184B	Malak	Chambers Crs	Parkland	Night Closure	Non-Essential	2	2	0	CLOSE Permanently
200	Karama	Sedge Crt	Mulla Mulla	Night Closure	Non-Essential	2	9	3	CLOSE Permanently

123	364	94
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PAGE: 4
 REPORT NUMBER: 09A0211
 SUBJECT: PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON FUTURE OF WALKWAYS

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION RESULTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

As has been demonstrated in the past, surveys in relation to the closure of walkways very often generate a polarised result, with permanent closure often supported by those who live adjacent to the walkways, and much less support for closure from residents living in the catchment area who use the walkways.

The detailed results of the community consultation for each walkway are as follows:

PETITIONS SURVEY RESULTS

These are the results of the public consultation on those walkways for which Council has received petitions for closures.

Of the 9 outstanding petitions surveyed, 2 are recommended to be opened permanently and 7 are recommended to be closed permanently.

Suburb	From	To	No.	CPG Assessment	Status
Wagaman	Parer Dr	Carstens Cr	79	Essential	Petition
Survey Results		Comments			
	Permanent Closure	20	Temporary night closure commenced in September 2009		
	Night Closure	7	Provides direct link to schools, park and Casuarina Secondary College		
	No Closure	14	Evidence of a desire line in the park leading directly to walkway		
	Total Responses Received	41	Walkway has been assessed as essential Survey results are inconclusive		
Recommendation		OPEN Permanently			

Suburb	From	To	No.	CPG Assessment	Status
Wagaman	Malay Rd	Van Diemen St	85	Essential	Petition
Survey Results		Comments			
	Permanent Closure	25	Night Closure commenced September 2009		
	Night Closure	8	Walkway has been assessed as essential		
	No Closure	11	Closure would create significant detours for access to facilities		
	Total Responses Received	44	Survey results are inconclusive		
Recommendation		OPEN Permanently			

PAGE: 5
 REPORT NUMBER: 09A0211
 SUBJECT: Outcome of Public Consultation – Review of Walkways

Suburb	From	To	No.	CPG Assessment	Status
Wulagi	Rosella Cr	Vanderlin Dr	102	Non-Essential	Petition
Survey Results			Comments		
Permanent Closure		44	No apparent facilities nearby on Vanderlin Drive		
Night Closure		1	Poor pedestrian amenities for crossing busy Vanderlin Drive		
No Closure		16	Alternative access via walkway #92 in close proximity		
Total Responses Received		61	Survey results support permanent closure.		
Recommendation			CLOSE Permanently		

Suburb	From	To	No.	CPG Assessment	Status
Malak	Maddock Cr	Malak Park	166	Non-Essential	Request to Purchase
Survey Results			Comments		
Permanent Closure		4	Council considered a request from the owner of the property adjacent to walkway 166 for its closure at its meeting in June 2009 and resolved to consider this matter in conjunction with the walkway review, decision 20/2044		
Night Closure		0			
No Closure		0			
Total Responses Received		4	The applicant who lodged the petition has requested to purchase the walkway		
Recommendation			CLOSE Permanently		

Suburb	From	To	No.	CPG Assessment	Status
Malak	Prowse Cr	Malak Park	175	Non-Essential	Petition
Survey Results			Comments		
Permanent Closure		6	Numerous alternative access points to park network nearby		
Night Closure		1			
No Closure		3			
Total Responses Received		10			
Recommendation			CLOSE Permanently		

PAGE: 6
 REPORT NUMBER: 09A0211
 SUBJECT: Outcome of Public Consultation – Review of Walkways

Suburb	From	To	No.	CPG Assessment	Status
Karama	Dulverton Crt	Koolama Crt	192	Non-Essential	Petition
Survey Results			Comments		
Permanent Closure		32	<p>This walkway has been the subject of a petition for closure since July 2008. Council conducted a survey of 195 local residents in September 2008 with a 42% response rate. The results demonstrated strong support for the closure of this walkway (69%) with 26% supporting a night closure. A final decision was postponed pending the walkway review. The survey results from September 2009 show strong support for its closure. This walkway is assessed as non essential.</p>		
Night Closure		5			
No Closure		4			
Total Responses Received		41			
Recommendation			CLOSE Permanently		

Suburb	From	To	No.	CPG Assessment	Status
Karama	Dulverton Crt	McMillans Rd	193	Non-Essential	Petition
Survey Results			Comments		
Permanent Closure		32	<p>This walkway has been the subject of a petition for closure since July 2008. Council conducted a survey of 195 local residents in September 2008 with a 42% response rate. The results demonstrated strong support for the closure of this walkway (70%) with 22% supporting a night closure. A final decision was postponed pending the walkway review. The survey results from September 2009 show strong support for its closure. This walkway is assessed as non essential. Alternative route nearby to shopping centre via Kalymnos Drive</p>		
Night Closure		10			
No Closure		5			
Total Responses Received		47			
Recommendation			CLOSE Permanently		

PAGE: 7
 REPORT NUMBER: 09A0211
 SUBJECT: Outcome of Public Consultation – Review of Walkways

Suburb	From	To	No.	CPG Assessment	Status
Karama	Beeroona Crt	Kybra Crt	196	Non-Essential	Petition
Survey Results		Comments			
Permanent Closure		52	A petition was lodged for the closure of this walkway in June 2008.		
Night Closure		9	The walkway has been assessed as non essential		
No Closure		4	There is strong community support for the closure of this walkway		
Total Responses Received		65	Alternative route via walkway 191		
Recommendation		CLOSE Permanently			

Suburb	From	To	No.	CPG Assessment	Status
Karama	Dulverton Crt	Kybra Crt	197	Non-Essential	Petition
Survey Results		Comments			
Permanent Closure		45	This walkway has been the subject of a petition for closure since July 2008.		
Night Closure		10	Council conducted a survey of 195 local residents in September 2008 with a 42% response rate. The results demonstrated		
No Closure		3	strong support for the closure of this walkway (69%) with 24% supporting a night closure.		
Total Responses Received		58	A final decision was postponed pending the walkway review The survey results from September 2009 show strong support for its closure This walkway is assessed as non essential Subject to antisocial activities, shoplifters, public drinking Alternative route via Kalymnos Drive		
Recommendation		CLOSE Permanently			

PAGE: 8
 REPORT NUMBER: 09A0211
 SUBJECT: Outcome of Public Consultation – Review of Walkways

NIGHT TIME CLOSURES SURVEY RESULTS

These are the results of the public consultation on those walkways which are now closed at night.

Of the 6 night time closures 2 are recommended to be opened permanently and 4 are recommended to be closed permanently.

An additional walkway which is permanently locked was also surveyed. Walkway 142 Greenwood Crescent to Lee Point Road has a previous decision from Council to sell. It is recommended this walkway is closed permanently.

Suburb	From	To	No.	CPG Assessment	Status
Wagaman	Parer Dr	Tasman Cir	87	Essential	Night Closure
Survey Results		Comments			
Permanent Closure		21	Night closure commenced September 2008 as a temporary arrangement		
Night Closure		11	The walkway has been assessed as essential		
No Closure		11	The survey results are inconclusive		
Total Responses Received		43	An upgrade assessment of the walkway to be conducted		
Recommendation		OPEN Permanently			

Suburb	From	To	No.	CPG Assessment	Status
Moil	Greenwood Cr	Lee Point Rd	142	Essential	Closed
Survey Results		Comments			
Permanent Closure		22	The walkway has been permanently closed since June 2008 following Council's approval to dispose of it, decision 19/5902.		
Night Closure		3	Sale of the walkway was deferred pending a review of the Local Government Act and delayed further pending the walkway review.		
No Closure		5	There have been minimal complaints since the permanent closure of this walkway		
Total Responses Received		30	The walkway provides access to limited use bus stop. The walkway has been assessed as essential		
Recommendation		CLOSE Permanently			

PAGE: 9
 REPORT NUMBER: 09A0211
 SUBJECT: Outcome of Public Consultation – Review of Walkways

Suburb	From	To	No.	CPG Assessment	Status
Leanyer	Darter Ct	Grassland Cres	54	Non-Essential	Night Closure
Survey Results		Comments			
Permanent Closure		3	Night closure commenced November 2008		
Night Closure		3	No clear pedestrian crossovers, desire line blocked by carpark		
No Closure		15	No footpath on local access street		
Total Responses Received		21	Closure will not involve significant additional distances for residents		
		Interviews conducted with local residents in October 2008 indicated residents of Darter Court did not want this walkway closed (63%) and that residents along the walkway preferred a night closure.			
		Investigate footpath in Grassland Crescent.			
		Based on the community response conduct an upgrade assessment of the walkway.			
Recommendation		OPEN Permanently			

Suburb	From	To	No.	CPG Assessment	Status
Wagaman	Trower Rd	Amsterdam Circ	80	Non-Essential	Night Closure
Survey Results		Comments			
Permanent Closure		24	Night closure commenced July 2001		
Night Closure		11	Unsafe to cross Trower Road from this walkway		
No Closure		14	Recommended to direct pedestrians towards Walkway #81		
Total Responses Received		49	Survey results are inconclusive		
Recommendation		CLOSE Permanently			

Suburb	From	To	No.	CPG Assessment	Status
Wagaman	Vanderlin Dr	Amsterdam Circ	83	Non-Essential	Night Closure
Survey Results		Comments			
Permanent Closure		27	Night closure commenced July 2001		
Night Closure		8	Alternative access via walkway #81		
No Closure		12	Survey results are inconclusive		
Total Responses Received		47			
Recommendation		CLOSE Permanently			

PAGE: 10
 REPORT NUMBER: 09A0211
 SUBJECT: Outcome of Public Consultation – Review of Walkways

Suburb	From	To	No.	CPG Assessment	Status
Malak	Chambers Crs	Abbott Park	184B	Non-Essential	Night Closure
Survey Results		Comments			
Permanent Closure		2	Night closure commenced January 2008		
Night Closure		0	Recent application for senior citizens housing adjacent		
No Closure		2	Closure would strengthen community mix and provide increased passive surveillance		
Total Responses Received		4	Closing would not impact on connectivity Survey results were poor and inconclusive		
Recommendation		CLOSE Permanently			

Suburb	From	To	No.	CPG Assessment	Status
Karama	Sedge Crt	Mulla Mulla	200	Non-Essential	Night Closure
Survey Results		Comments			
Permanent Closure		8	Night closure commenced in April 2008		
Night Closure		3	Poor sightlines		
No Closure		2	Nearby streets provide direct access to school, park and shopping centre		
Total Responses Received		13	The walkway has been assessed as non essential		
Recommendation		CLOSE Permanently			

It was noted that 68 of the 238 responses received gave no name or contact details, and the number of multiple responses from the one source can not be quantified.

ATTACHED INFORMATION

The following information is attached to this report for information:

- Copies of key stakeholder submissions received (**Attachment A**)
- Summary of the 238 submissions received (**Attachment B**)
- Sample copy of survey forms (**Attachment C**)
- Map detailing the location of the walkways. (**Attachment D**)

The following information will be available at Council's meeting on the 14 December 2009 or can be accessed earlier by contacting the writer:

- Walkway Policy Review – April 2009
- Darwin Walkway Assessment – August 2009
- Copies of the 238 submissions received.

PAGE: 11
 REPORT NUMBER: 09A0211
 SUBJECT: Outcome of Public Consultation – Review of Walkways

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

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

Those walkways not acquired by adjacent residents will require periodic maintenance which should not cost any more than currently.

This report recommends the closure of 12 walkways, 5 of which currently have gates installed. The installation of gates in 7 walkways is estimated to cost up to \$40,000 which will be funded from the \$50,000 committed by the NT Government to address this issue.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS:

The issues addressed in this Report are in accordance with the following Goals/Strategies of the Darwin City Council 2008 – 2012 as outlined in the 'Evolving Darwin Strategic Directions: Towards 2020 and Beyond':-

Goal

2 Enhance Darwin's Active, Positive and Flexible Lifestyle

Outcome

2.1 Improve urban enhancement around Darwin

Key Strategies

2.1.5 Participate and partner in activities that contribute to a safer Darwin

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

The procedure for the permanent closure of a walkway must be in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2008.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS:

Methodology is based on best practice Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.

PUBLIC RELATIONS IMPLICATIONS:

This matter is of significant interest to the general community and will generate a broad range of views.

PAGE: 12
REPORT NUMBER: 09A0211
SUBJECT: Outcome of Public Consultation – Review of Walkways

COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS:

There are no significant implications insofar as walkways in Darwin are not the site of inordinate breaches of community safety notwithstanding some issues of concern in some walkways.

Council's commitment to the application of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design and community engagement principles to resolve specific safety issues in walkways if they emerge is strategically designed to enhance community safety in and around walkways and is demonstrably effective.

Noting that, according to the 2008-09 NT Police Annual Report, 75% of Territorians feel safe at home at night, this report's recommendations do not, in any way, necessarily foreshadow breaches of community safety.

DELEGATION:

THAT Darwin City Council pursuant to Section 32 (2) of the Local Government Act 2008 hereby delegates to the Chief Executive Officer or his delegate for the time being, the power to initiate and finalise the road closure process as described in the Local Government Act 2008.

CONSULTATION:

Residents of Wagaman, Wulagi, Malak, Karama, Leanyer, Moil in the vicinity of the relevant walkways.
Chief Officers Group
CPG Consulting

PROPOSED PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS:

As prescribed within the Local Government Act 2008 where closures are supported by Council.

APPROPRIATE SIGNAGE:

Signage may be required at those walkways which are closed.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT it be a recommendation to Council:-

- A. THAT Report Number 09A0211 entitled, Public Consultation on Future of Walkways, be received and noted.
- B. THAT Council permanently close the following walkways:

PAGE: 13
 REPORT NUMBER: 09A0211
 SUBJECT: Outcome of Public Consultation – Review of Walkways

NO.	SUBURB	FROM	TO	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION
102	Wulagi	Rosella Crs	Vanderlin Drv	Open	CLOSE Permanently
166	Malak	Maddock Crt	Malak Park	Open	CLOSE Permanently
175	Malak	Prowse Crt	Malak Park	Open	CLOSE Permanently
192	Karama	Dulverton Crt	Koolama Crt	Open	CLOSE Permanently
193	Karama	Dulverton Crt	McMillans Rd	Open	CLOSE Permanently
196	Karama	Kybra Crt	Beeroona Crt	Open	CLOSE Permanently
197	Karama	Kybra Crt	Dulverton Crt	Open	CLOSE Permanently
142	Moil	Greenwood Cr	Lee Point Road	Permanently Close	CLOSE Permanently
80	Wagaman	Trower Rd	Amsterdam Circ	Night Closure	CLOSE Permanently
83	Wagaman	Vanderlin Drv	Amsterdam Circ	Night Closure	CLOSE Permanently
184B	Malak	Chambers Cr	Parkland	Night Closure	CLOSE Permanently
200	Karama	Sedge Crt	Mulla Mulla Crt	Night Closure	CLOSE Permanently

C. THAT Council retain as open and cease night closures (as appropriate) of the following walkways:

NO.	SUBURB	FROM	TO	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION
79	Wagaman	Parer Drive	Carstens Cres	Open	OPEN Permanently
85	Wagaman	Van Diemen St	Malay Road	Night Closure	OPEN Permanently
87	Wagaman	Parer Drive	Tasman Circ	Night Closure	OPEN Permanently
54	Leayner	Darter Ct	Grasslands	Night Closure	OPEN Permanently

D. THAT the community be advised of Council's decision to close the walkways identified in B. above as prescribed under the Local Government Act 2008, providing 28 days notice, via:

- public notices in the newspaper;
- letterbox drop to affected residents;
- placement on Council's website;
- placement of signs on the walkways;
- writing to the local schools, MLA's and Ward Aldermen; and
- writing to the principle proponent where a petition has been received.

E. THAT a further report be brought back to Council in relation to the disposal options for those walkways to be closed and that the report considers options for long term leasing.

F. THAT Darwin City Council pursuant to Section 32 (2) of the Local Government Act 2008 hereby delegates to the Chief Executive Officer or his delegate for the time being, the power to initiate and finalise the road closure process as described in the Local Government Act 2008.

LIAM CARROLL
BUSINESS SERVICES MANAGER

FRANK CRAWLEY
GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES

Any queries on this report may be directed to Liam Carroll on 8930 0559 or l.carroll@darwin.nt.gov.au



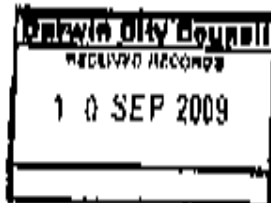
Chris Burns M.L.A.

Member for Johnston

James
09A0



SERVING THE COMMUNITY - LISTENING TO YOU



007

8 September 2009

Lord Mayor
Darwin City Council
GPO Box 84
DARWIN NT 0801

Dear Lord Mayor

Re: Non Closure of Laneway 79 - Wiggaman

I am again writing on behalf of [REDACTED],
Wiggaman next to the laneway which runs between Peter Drive and
Christens Crescent.

[REDACTED] is most concerned that Council's Walkway Assessment/Closures
has recommended that Laneway 79 remain open.

He wishes to lodge a protest on this recommendation and strongly urge
Council to reconsider its decision and close this laneway.

I am attaching my previous letter of 17 March 2009 setting out [REDACTED]
concerns and report that [REDACTED] is still experiencing a high level of
antisocial behaviour in the laneway bordering his property.

[REDACTED] can be contacted on [REDACTED] to discuss this protest.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Burns M.L.A.
Member for Johnston



Chris Burns M.L.A. Member for Johnston
Shop 1, Rapid Click Shopping Village, 18 Trucks Road, Stirling NT 0810 - PO Box 41360, Darwin NT 0811
Phone: (08) 8913 0377 Fax: (08) 8913 0925 - Email: christburns@johnston.gov.au



Chris Burns M.L.A.
Member for Johnston

SERVING THE COMMUNITY - LISTENING TO YOU

11 March 2009

Lord Mayor
Darwin City Council
GPO Box 84
DARWIN NT 0801

Dear Lord Mayor,

Re: Closure of Laneway - Parer Drive to Carstens Crescent, Wagaman

I have been approached by [REDACTED] who is very concerned about the antisocial behaviour occurring in the abovementioned laneway which borders his property.


[REDACTED] reports that the replacement value of items stolen and/or damage perpetrated against his property due to its proximity to the laneway is nearing the \$10,000 mark - money he can ill-afford.

As you will be aware, the laneway approximately 20 houses away from [REDACTED], which give access to Tuzman Circuit from Parer Drive, is gated and closed by security guards at night. As [REDACTED] rightly points out, this closure now funnels foot traffic at night through the laneway attached to his property resulting in excessive antisocial behaviour.

[REDACTED] asks that urgent consideration be given to closing the laneway between Parer Drive and Carstens Crescent at night to deter troublemakers in this area.

Your urgent attention to this matter would be appreciated.

Yours sincerely,


Chris Burns M.L.A.
Member for Johnston



President

Chris Burns M.L.A., Member for Johnston
Shop 3, Rapid Creek Shipping Village, 46 Trevor Road, Darwin NT 0810 - PO Box 41089, Darwin NT 0811

OurWorks Darwin. Number 1140260

Chris Burns M.L.A.

Member for Johnston

SERVING THE COMMUNITY LISTENING TO YOU

RECEIVED IN OFFICE
16 SEP 2009

022

14 September 2009

The Lord Mayor Graeme Sawyer
Darwin City Council
CPO Box 94
DARWIN NT 0801

Dear Lord Mayor,

Lee Pt. Rd.

Re: Laneway Closure - Greenwood to Lanyon Terrace, Moll (LA9)

As you are aware, the above laneway has been physically closed since November last year.

In an email to [REDACTED], from Darwin City Council dated 17 July 2008, [REDACTED] advised that pending the Minister for Local Government's approval, the Council would proceed with the closure and sale of the laneway adjoining her property.

I am advised by the Office of the Minister for Local Government that Minister Knight gave his written approval to Council for the Greenwood/Lee Point closure to proceed in December 2008.

However, it is understood this sale was put on hold when the Darwin Walkway Assessment was started.

[REDACTED] is concerned now with the recommendation of the report that the laneway should be retained and it is unclear on what basis it would be retained. [REDACTED] is heavily pregnant with her first child and very concerned there will be a return to the levels of anti-social behaviour that occurred before the closure.

She reports that there are still some incidents where some people do jump the fence and cause trouble within the laneway. There is fresh graffiti that has appeared after the laneway was permanently closed.

Since the permanent closure of this laneway this office has not received any complaints from residents who feel they have been inconvenienced by its closure.



Fresh Ideas
Real Results

Chris Burns M.L.A., Member for Johnston
Shop 3, Impact West Shopping Village, 48 Travers Road, Stirling NT 0810 • PO Box 41380, Canberra NT 0811
Phone: (08) 8918 0511 • Fax: (08) 8942 0311 • Email: electorate@johnston.mla.gov.au



On behalf of [REDACTED] and her neighbours who are keen to proceed with the purchase of the driveway, I urgently request your advice on how this matter can proceed.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Burns', written over a faint, dotted outline of the signature.

Chris Burns, MLA
Member for Johnston

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21/08/2009

From: Grant Fenton (G.Fenton@darwin.nt.gov.au)
Sent: Tuesday, 25 August 2009 10:52:06 AM
To: Liam Carroll; Frank Crawley; Brendan Dowd
C/C: Records Scanning
Subject: FW: URGENT - [REDACTED] - Walkway 195 Karumba

I received a mail yesterday from [REDACTED] regarding longways. She has sent me this letter outlining some concerns. She has asked that it be forwarded to the Elected Members prior to tonight's meeting. I advised [REDACTED] that I would follow up with some information pertaining to the outcome of tonight's meeting if she was unable to attend. She is fully aware that she has no opportunity to present to Council.
Regards
Gf

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 24 August 2009 11:50 PM
To: Grant Fenton
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: URGENT [REDACTED] - Walkway 195 Karumba

Dear Grant,

I refer to our phone conversation this afternoon.

Please find attached, as discussed, a letter regarding our situation with walkway 195.

Please forward this letter to all Aldermen, the Lord Mayor and all concerned in regards to the Walkway evaluations recently completed.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

TO: GRANT HENTON
MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING
DARWIN CITY COUNCIL
PH: 0466 017 689 email: g.henton@darwin.nt.gov.au

FROM: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
PH: [REDACTED] ([REDACTED])

Dear Grant,

Re: Walkway 195 -- Karama to Koolinda Crescents, Karama NT

I refer to our phone conversation this afternoon and would like to ask you to forward this letter to all Aldermen, the Lord Mayor and all concerned in regards to the Walkway evaluations recently completed.

I feel that the CPG Australia Pty Ltd evaluation was not thorough enough for the following reasons:

1. They did not speak to people living next to the walkways as none of the pensioners living next to Walkway No. 195 were consulted and neither were any other neighbours or ourselves.
2. Bus stops and amenities are not correctly marked. There are bus stops on Koolinda Cres, Karama Cres and Kalyamos Drive that have not been shown on any of their maps contained in their report to Council.
3. They did not receive any of the documentation that was lodged regarding Walkway 195 to consider the history and the problems this walkway has had over the years and the fact that the problems with crime and antisocial behaviour in the area are getting worse.
4. A Council report dated 13/9/08 Report No. 08A0176 Corroon No. 1199973 Page 3, Paragraph 2 and 3, states that Walkway 195 was resolved to permanently be closed and paragraph 3 stated that a recent survey favoured a permanent closure but a number of issues did not support the action and one of the issues was that three of the four properties on the boundary of the walkway are owned by NT Housing and the sale of the walkway may not be possible or practical. I have offered on several occasions to the Council in writing and in person that I will pay whatever needs to be paid to close the whole walkway and I will make sure that it is fenced securely so that offenders are unable to access the surrounding homes including the pensioner flats next to the walkway that are living in fear. The street gates are not effective and the offenders easily pull themselves over them within seconds.
5. Walkway Number 200 which in fact is 2 walkways being Sedge Court and Mullamulla Circuit in Karama are both attached directly to the Karama Primary School and both walkways have been listed for Permanent Closure in the report. Why

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in it that both of these 2 walkways that are attached to the Karama Primary School and are giving direct access for children to the school that both lead to a very large section of housing in Karama be closed due to unauthorised people accessing the school grounds through the walkways 200 and impacting on the education programs, and yet Walkway 195 which is across the road from the school has to remain open even though all other walkways surrounding walkway 195 are listed to also be closed immediately. (Walkways 192, 193, 196, 197, 198, 200 to be closed immediately). The report states that closure of walkways 200 with discussions with the school that there is an alternative route along a local access street (Mullamulla Circuit) for pedestrian access to the park, Karama Shopping Plaza and the school. It is the same as closure of Walkway 195, there is a 1 minute walk which is approximately 100 meters away which also then gives people access to the Karama Shopping Plaza and the school. I also note that the areas around Walkways surrounding the Holy Family Primary School and O'Loughlin Catholic College are largely populated areas that have access to get to these schools are also listed to be closed immediately. (Walkways 171, 172, 173, 175, 176, 177, 185, 186 to be closed immediately).

6. If Walkways 200 being Sedge Court and Mullamulla Circuit are to be closed permanently and all walkways surrounding Walkway 195 are also to be closed, I do not see a reason for 195 to remain open. It is approximately a 1 minute walk which is 100 metres away to the shopping centre where people can walk to get to the school. I have watched how many children use walkway 195 and there are less than 10. Over half of them ride bikes and scooters and after school most of them go to the shops after school for a snack and don't even use the walkway. The school had asked for the walkway to be reopened during school hours and took on the responsibility to open and close the gates. Why do they want Walkways 200 to be closed permanently but still want to have Walkway 195 open? I have submitted reports and photos of Walkway 195 which include Graffiti, paint sniffing, broken glass and bottles, syringes, underwear, condoms, rubbish, smashed windows of our home and the list goes on. Were any of these reports and photos submitted for review to CPCC Australia Pty Ltd?

7. Over the past 6 years I have attended countless Council meetings regarding the walkways in Karama. I live next to walkway number 195 on Karama Crescent and have had problems over the years ranging from break-ins, theft, anti-social behaviour and violent behaviour towards our home. We have lost of \$100,000 worth of property due to theft and thousands of dollars spent to repair damages to our home not to mention that our home has now become a prison with the amount of bars and security we have installed to keep ourselves safe. All of this I feel is due to the fact that the walkway is an easy escape route, which has been proven several times that that is where they had accessed our home from and had taken off to.

8. The gates that are used to close the walkways at night are pointless as I constantly see people climbing them during the afternoons and at night and it only takes seconds for them to jump these gates.

9. Last year I had submitted a 52 page Police Report to Council through Liam Hasting over 30 times we have had problems and the list is still growing.

10. In February this year we had another break in which involved the intruder entering my bedroom, armed and threatening me. I chased him and he ended up disappearing through the quick escapes of the walkways through Karama. A police crew with a sniffer dog had come over straight away and the dog could only trace up to where the intruder had escaped through the walkways.

11. If I didn't have the courage to chase the intruder, instead, if I had given in to him, I dread to think what he would have done to me! Do we have to wait until someone is actually killed before there is something done.

12. I am crying out for help and have been for over 6 years over this problem which seems to be getting worse. I am emotionally stressed and so are my children. We live in fear every time we get home thinking someone has broken in and we can't sleep at night as we jump up to every sound we hear thinking we have been broken into again.

13. By closing all other surrounding walkways will result in walkway 195 being the main route for thieves, anti-social behaviour and violence.

14. Why do I have to live in a prison and live in fear of being broken into and threatened and attacked. Where are my rights to live peacefully and safely in my own home with my children?

15. It was recommended by Police that walkway 195 was a problem walkway in the review to Council in 2004. That review listed all problem walkways at the time and now 5 years later the crime and anti-social behaviour problems are worse and don't look to be getting any better. Government has introduced "Dry Housing" and now more drinking and anti-social behaviour is occurring in the walkways around Karama as they have no where else to hide to drink.

16. I need to know the outcomes of this review and Council's decision as soon as possible as we cannot continue to live like this and will start to take further action to put up even higher fencing and more security on my home to protect my family, which is a very sad and depressing way to live.

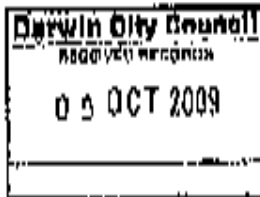
17. Please advise your outcomes and how much longer we need to wait.

I thank you for taking the time to read my letter and hope that you have had the time to look at all the other documents I have lodged with Council over the years in regards to our situation which involves me also speaking for the Pensioners living in the units next to the walkway and the constant new tenants in the surrounding homes that continue to turn over new tenants due to the break-ins they also have.

If you require further information, I can be contacted by email on: [REDACTED] or by phone: [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]).

Regards,

[REDACTED]
24 August, 2009



Attachment 109
Report 0040211



30 September 2009

Craine Sawyer
Lord Mayor
Darwin City Council
C/O Box 84
Darwin NT 0801

Dear Craine

Re: Walkway Policy Review

I write to you on behalf of The GPT Group, owner and manager of Casuarina Square, in response to the Darwin Walkway Assessment Report dated 8 September 2009. We welcome the opportunity to make provide feedback and assist Council in its assessment for potential walkway closures in Darwin.

We have reviewed the report and broadly support Council's objective to reduce anti-social behaviour in Darwin through the closure of specific walkways.

With respect to the walkways that lead to our property, we support the reports recommendations in relation to walkways B0, B1 & A3 on the basis of increased community safety.

We look forward to your response in this regard. Should you require any further clarification please feel free to contact me on (08) 8820 2200.

Yours sincerely

Ben Gill
Centre Manager



GPT Property Management
Pty Ltd
Jalan Yusof bin Ishak
Casuarina Square
247 Inner Harbour
Casuarina NT 0810
Australia
T: +61 8 8820 2245
F: +61 8 8827 0225
www.casuarinasquare.com.au
www.gpt.com.au

www.casuarinasquare.com.au



Peter Styles MLA

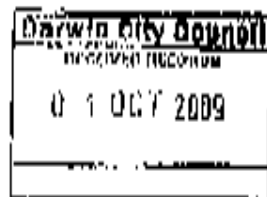
Member for Sanderson

Attachment A
Hospitals 09/09/09



112

The Right Worshipful
The Lord Mayor
Mr Graham Sawyer
GPO Box 84
DARWIN NT 0801



My Dear Lord Mayor,

Response prepared 5/10/09
A

I am writing in response to media reports that Council is considering selling more than 30 laneways across the northern suburbs in an effort to crack down on issues associated with anti-social behaviour.

Notwithstanding the serious issues that residents and council face in relation to issues of crime, noise and drunkenness associated with some council laneways, I'm writing to urge Council not to sell any of the problem laneways.

In short, it would be a case of throwing the baby out with the bathwater.

While I support the temporary closure of laneways or their closure at peak problem times, laneway sales and their permanent closure will create a whole raft of problems for residents in terms of access to surrounding streets and key amenities like shopping centres.

Darwin's northern suburbs were designed around laneways and should be retained into the long term.

To say the least, issues of anti-social behaviour are trying the patience of many residents in the suburbs and, in my capacity as the Member for Sanderson, I will work with Council to lobby the Henderson Government to focus its efforts to tackle crime in our suburbs.

Handled correctly, crime can be a transient problem and a suburb that has high incidents of anti-social behaviour one year can be relatively incident free the next.

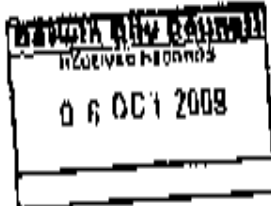
Please feel free to contact me if you want to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Styles MLA

28 September 2009





DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

1416509 08 / 16A(08R) Your Ref
17020091673: Our Ref

The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor
Mr Graeme Sawyer
Darwin City Council
GPO Box 84
Darwin NT 0801

Dear Lord Mayor


Walkway Review Policy

I thank you for your letter dated 8 September 2009 regarding your walkway policy review and inviting the NT Police to comment on your proposed walkway closures.

The issue of walkways and particularly the nominated walkways in the suburbs of Karama, Malek, Wilagi, Wagaman, Anula and Mail have been considered by the appropriate staff. The proposed closure of many of the lanes will in our view go some way to addressing the concerns of families whose homes border laneways and is supported by the Northern Territory Police.

As you would be aware from previous correspondence in regard to walkways the NT Police is not in a position to provide any statistical data in regard to perceived problem laneways. If there is a future need for this information, Council may consider a naming or numbering protocol for laneways to allow easier identification. This may enhance our capacity to provide statistical information in regard to specific laneways.

Yours sincerely



Bruce Wernham
Deputy Commissioner

2 October 2009

cc: Brendan Dowd
Chief Executive Officer
Darwin City Council



Northern Territory Government

MAB House 71 Smith Street Darwin Northern Territory Australia 0808
PO Box 39764 Winnellie Northern Territory Australia 0821
Telephone 08 8901 0713 Facsimile 08 8901 0215



Chris Burns MLA

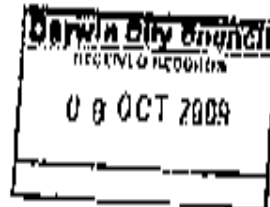
Member for Johnston

SERVING THE COMMUNITY - LISTENING TO YOU

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5 October 2009

The Lord Mayor Graeme Sawyer
Darwin City Council
GPO Box 84
DARWIN NT 0801

Dear Lord Mayor,

Re: Walkway 87 - Request for Continuance of Night Closure

In September 2008 I wrote to the then Lord Mayor on behalf of residents in Wagaman who had signed a petition regarding Walkway 87.

The petition contained over 90 signatures seeking closure of the laneway between Tasman Circuit and Payer Drive, Wagaman, during the hours from dusk to dawn due to the increase in unacceptable behaviour during the dark hours.

This regime has now been in place since 2008 and residents have had no complaints about the closing of the laneway during the evening and night in all this time.

However, I am again being approached by residents who are becoming extremely concerned following the Walkway Consultation feedback sheet being delivered to their neighbourhood. They believe that any change in the current working arrangements will lead to an increase in anti-social behaviour in this area.

On behalf of these residents, I request that Council maintain the current closure arrangements in respect of Walkway 87.

Yours sincerely,

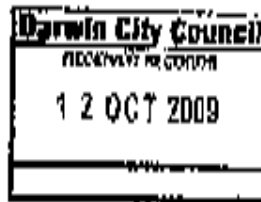
Chris Burns MLA
Member for Johnston



Fresh Ideas
Rural Australia

Chris Burns MLA, Member for Johnston
Shop 1, Rapid Creek Shopping Village, 400 Rapid Creek Road, Mayborg NT 0800 • PO Box 4138A, Casuarina NT 0811
Phone: (08) 8968 0777 • Fax: (08) 8968 0325 • Email: electorate@johnston0800.gov.au

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



October 11 2009

RE: In Response to the Walkway Assessment Report and Brunswick / Lee Point Walkway (Walkway No. 142)
Yas Raza Ahmed 14/10/09 05:00

Darwin City Council
GPO Box 84
Darwin NT 0801

To the attention of Lord Mayor Graeme Sawyer and Liam Carroll

We have lived next to Walkway No. 142 for 4.5 years. Our neighbours also adjacent to Walkway No. 142 have lived here for varied periods, the longest being approximately 30 years. Three households have young families and the fourth regularly has young grandchildren staying over. All four households strongly object to the report given to Darwin City Council from Commis Consulting Group recommending Walkway No. 142 be retained.

From discussions we have held with all four households adjacent to Walkway No. 142, we advise we have collectively experienced the following:

- Anti-social and criminal use of walkway such as:
 - o Using the walkway to escape police officers.
 - o Running sleds up and down fences or hanging on fences to cause noise and intentionally disturb occupants and dogs in the adjacent properties.
 - o Foul language yelled at household occupants.
 - o Groups of thugs who 'hang around' in walkway for extended periods and asking for money or cigarettes from household occupants trying to enjoy private outdoor entertainment in backyards.
 - o Illegitimate use of walkway late night or early morning hours.
 - o Using the walkway to participate in sexual activity, defecate or urinate within.
 - o Fire crackers let off in walkway by people who do not live in adjacent properties. After gates were installed and locked, fire crackers were thrown into the walkway.
 - o After gates installed and locked, groups of people have been jumping private fences to access walkway, including (primary school) aged children during school hours.

This submission to the Darwin City Council contains private information and is not to be released by the Darwin City Council into the public domain without the written consent of the authors of the document and any attachments. Page 1 of 10

- Extensive and highly offensive graffiti on fences leading into walkway. More graffiti has appeared within walkway after the gates were installed and locked.
- Rubbish such as broken glass, star pickets, rotten food, dirty nappies, thumb tacks, nails, brake and soft drink cans thrown into our yards and pools from walkway users. The walkway itself is a dumping ground for this same type of rubbish.
- Rocks, nuts, bolts, rotten fruit and eggs thrown directly at windows and doors of houses from walkway users.
- Our household reported a young kitten was thrown into their pool from the walkway and left to drown.
- Rocks and sticks thrown directly at dogs with the sole intent to cause injury and disturbance.
- Houses being targeted by criminal action such as petrol bombing and break-ins.
- Cars parked near walkway entrances being regularly broken into by people who then used the walkway to flee the area.

Since the permanent closure of Walkway No. 142, all four households have enjoyed a dramatic improvement and decrease of anti-social and criminal behaviour targeted at our properties. We have all enjoyed nights without walkway users banging on fences or having loud fights and arguments in the walkway. Rubbish is no longer being thrown at our houses or into our yards and pools. The instance of opportunistic car break-ins appears to have also decreased.

However, we continue to suffer from those intent on doing the wrong thing. We have regular occurrences of people jumping across our private property and fence lines to bypass the locked gates. We also have confirmed that new graffiti has appeared within Walkway No. 142 after the gates were installed and locked last year. The walkway should remain permanently closed and land be sold off.

We understand the owners of 2 Lanyon Terrace have written to you directly regarding the Walkway Assessment Report and we have also attached letters of support from:

- [Redacted] (Attachment A)
Owner-occupiers of household directly adjacent to Walkway No. 142
- [Redacted] (Attachment B)
Owner-occupiers of household directly adjacent to Walkway No. 142
- [Redacted] (Attachment C)
Owner-occupiers of household directly adjacent to Wagaman Walkway No. 117
- [Redacted] (Attachment D)
Caretaker of 48 Greenwood Crescent in our absence and regular visitor
- [Redacted] (Attachment E)
Caretaker of 48 Greenwood Crescent in our absence and regular visitor
- Minister Chris Burns, Member for Johnston (Attachment F)

Response to the Walkway Assessment Report

Moll - "Heart of the Suburb"

The Walkway Assessment Report has clearly identified Moll Pre & Primary School, Moll Park and small local shopping centre as forming "the heart" of the suburb" (page 39). Walkway No. 142 does not provide any direct access to this area, or these facilities including a medical centre opposite Moll Park.

This submission to the Darwin City Council contains private information and is not to be released by the Darwin City Council into the public domain without the written consent of the authors of the document and any attachments. Page 2 of 10

- Residents at the top of Greenwood Crescent (nearest to Lee Point Rd) would naturally walk towards the Moll Pre & Primary School, Moll Park or local shopping centre, down Greenwood Crescent and away from Walkway No. 142, to use Walkway No. 138, for direct access.
- Pedestrians from the bottom of Greenwood Crescent (closest to Greenwood Park and Yeardon Circuit) would naturally walk towards the Moll Pre & Primary School, medical centre, Moll Park or local shopping centre by using either Walkway No. 138 or Yeardon Circuit-Lanyon Terrace intersection to access.
- Pedestrians would not walk up and away from these easily identifiable direct access points to use Walkway No. 142 in order to access the Moll Pre & Primary School, medical centre, Moll Park or local shopping centre by a longer route.
- Pedestrians going to or from the Moll Pre & Primary School, medical centre, Moll Park or local shopping centre would use any of the "three main streets through the suburb; Moll Crescent, Swales Street and Lanyon Terrace" (page 59). Walkway No. 142 is the furthest walkway from the centre of Moll and is not physically close enough to be a direct route to travel.
- Walkway No. 142 leads pedestrians straight into a large and busy intersection on Lee Point Road, away from the Moll Pre & Primary School, medical centre, Moll Park and local shopping centre "heart of the suburb".

Comments specific to Walkway No. 142

"Walkway is not ideally located at the angle of a very long residential road"

- This is correct.

"Current closure involves significant additional distances, for pedestrian connectivity to bus stops on Lee Point Road"

- The bus stop closest to Walkway No. 142 has been marked as "Limited Use".
- We contacted the Department of Planning and Infrastructure Transport group and were advised that this bus stop is "drop off only".
- There is only one bus route, the Number 22 Express, which will drop off at this particular bus stop.
- The Number 22 Express runs Monday through Friday, at 4.30pm and 5pm only.
- I, Virginia, have been a frequent passenger of the 4.30pm Number 22 Express this year. I used this bus as my primary transport home for several months this year. I was heavily pregnant and was not inconvenienced by the walkway closure. The walkway closure added a few extra minutes to my walk home, which is quite insignificant.
- The entire time I used this service I was the only bus traveller to disembark at this stop who walked into Greenwood Crescent. Other passengers disembarking have walked directly across Lee Point Road towards Anula, Wulagi, down Lanyon Terrace into Moll or down Turner Drive towards Wageman streets.
- The other Lee Point Road bus stops (identified in the Walkway Assessment Report map for Moll (page 43) are closer to Walkway No. 140.
- Passengers disembarking at the bus stop close to Walkway No. 140 can access Moll using either that walkway, Moll Crescent or Lanyon Terrace. Passengers also walk directly across Lee Point Road into Anula and Wulagi and all are unaffected by the closure of Walkway No. 142.

- Walkway No. 142 is not physically close enough to be considered as a primary route for the bus stop on Lou Point Road close to Antia Walkway No. 145. Access to bus stops on Lou Point Road outbound to McMillans Road is available by using the Parer Drive - Lou Point Road signalled crossing.

"Current closure involves significant additional distance... for pedestrian connectivity... for community links"

The Walkway Assessment Report failed to identify the "community links" to which were being referred in comments for Walkway No. 142. Therefore we have made the following assumptions:

- The "community links" refer to the Girl Guides Facility and Moll Dike Park which are physically closest to Walkway No. 142.

Girl Guides Facility

- We have spoken with [redacted] who is the District Leader for the Moll Girl Guides facility.
- [redacted] has not received any complaints or concerns from parents over the closure of Walkway No. 142 since it was closed permanently late 2008.
- [redacted] has confirmed that parents drop their children off in cars and pick them back up the same method.
- [redacted] has confirmed she would not allow any child leaving the Girl Guides building to use Walkway No. 142, if it were open, to travel home by foot or bicycle.
- We spoke to a collection of parents dropping their children off at the Girl Guides facility. A summary of their comments:
 - o They were not inconvenienced by the closure of Walkway No. 142
 - o They do not reside in the suburb of Moll
 - o One parent commented they lived in Lyons where 'there were no walkways at all'
- [redacted] has confirmed that the Girl Guides building regularly suffers from vandalism, unauthorised entry and graffiti.

Moll Dike Park - Road safety concerns for bike park users

- Prior to the closure of Walkway No. 142, we regularly observed and experienced the following:
 - o Users of the Moll bike park travelled to the area using either bikes or are dropped off by parents or adults in cars or utvs.
 - o A large majority of bike park users are children of primary and high school age.
 - o Children are regularly seen riding to and using the bike park without helmets or protective clothing.
 - o Bike park users would unsafely "bunny hop" the curb, directly onto the Greenwood Crescent corner, both coming out of the lane, and to get back to the lane entrance on Greenwood Crescent.
 - o Bike park users would "bunny hop" the curb at the Lou Point Road end of the walkway, both on entering and on leaving the walkway, having crossed or then crossing the six lanes of traffic on Lou Point Road.
 - o Bike park users would do this regularly, without slowing down and looking for oncoming cars on the Greenwood Crescent corner.

- o The Greenwood Crescent corner is frequently subject to cars speeding the area directly in front of Walkway No. 142.
 - Due to concerns over speeding, a reduced speed of 30kph sign was introduced for the Greenwood Crescent corner. This is regularly ignored.
 - There are solid road lines to guide traffic not to 'stray' onto the wrong side when navigating the corner. This is regularly ignored.
 - It is only a matter of time till an accident between a vehicle and bike occurs.
- o Lee Point Road is a major access route for the Airport, Hospital, major shopping centres, religious institutions and traffic to and from large northern suburbs.
 - It is obvious to expect a high level of vehicle traffic.
 - Lee Point Road is used at 20kph for the majority of its length.
 - Bike park users would ride straight out onto this road without slowing down to check for oncoming traffic from:
 - Lunyan Terrace running onto Lee Point Road
 - Lee Point Road inbound (from McMillans Road towards Parer Drive)
 - Traffic turning north and into inbound Lee Point Road from Yunyula Drive Anula
 - Lee Point Road outbound (towards McMillans Road)
 - Lee Point Road traffic performing illegal u-turns at the Yunyula Drive Intersection
 - Lee Point Road traffic performing legal u-turns at the provided point in order to access Lunyan Terrace
- After the closure of Walkway No. 142, we have regularly observed and experienced the following:
 - o Bike park users continue to travel to the area using either bikes or are dropped off by parents or adults in cars and utes.
 - o The large majority of bike park users continue to be children of primary and high school age.
 - o Children are still regularly seen riding to and using the bike park without helmets or protective clothing.
 - o Bike park users coming from within Moll now travel safely up Greenwood Crescent on the footpath to access the bike park
 - We no longer observe bike park users unsafely "bunny hopping" the curb to directly cross on the Greenwood Crescent corner
 - o Bike park users also now travel further along the bike path on the Anula and Moll sides of Lee Point Road, using the signalled crossing to cross Lee Point Road and access the bike park from Parer Drive.
 - o Parents of the children at Lunyan Terrace, a property adjacent to Walkway No. 142 have confirmed they experience no issues with the walkway closure and encourage their children to ride along the footpath on the Moll side of Lee Point Road and access the bike park from Parer Drive.

The Walkway Assessment Report commented "a barrier be installed to the back of the kerb" to address the "possible safety concerns about access directly onto a road intersection" (page 41). Given that the major target user group for the "barrier" would be travelling on bikes and they are already used to "bunny hopping" up and down curbs with ease, and in fact go to the bike path to hone their skills "jumping" with bikes, it is unrealistic to expect that they would slow down for the barriers. It is realistic to expect they

would continue to ride in the reckless manner they do, cycle around proposed barriers and continue in the same dangerous fashion across a main road.

The Walkway Assessment Report has failed to consider the dangers of crossing the Greenwood Crescent curves and the Lee Point Road intersection by Bike Park and walkway users.

The closure of Walkway No. 142 has already made dramatic improvements in the road safety demonstrated by bike park users. This has been achieved *naturally* by encouraging bike traffic to cross using signalled crossings (at Parer Drive - Lee Point Road) or to cross further down Greenwood Crescent where traffic visibility is greatly improved on the straight section of road.

Moll Bike Park Anti-social and nuisance behaviour of Bike Park users

- Not all bike park users are a problem, but a great many are, and the issue is the impact of their nuisance and anti-social behaviour on households.
- The Moll bike park is regularly scattered with rubbish and there is extensive graffiti on equipment and signs.
- The wall of the Girl Guides Facility backs onto the Moll bike park and is the subject of frequent graffiti attacks.
- The fencing along the bike park edge on Parer Drive is regularly cut so people may 'shortcut' through the bike park.
- Large groups of children and teenagers would hang around the bike park at night, throwing rocks at passing vehicles.
- Prior to the closure, we had regularly observed and experienced the following:
 - o Many of the Bike Park users would bang on or run sticks up the fences in Walkway No. 142 as they rode through.
 - We were subject to many attacks including verbal assaults, rocks being thrown, sticks being poked at the dogs and spilling at our dogs and property by bike park users.
 - o Bike park users would try to sabotage other cyclists by leaving thumb tacks and nails in the walkway.
 - o Bike park users would add graffiti to the fencing and would escape easily on bikes.

It is clear that many bike park users are of the inclination to create disturbance and harm. Issues that were being experienced were incredibly disruptive and it is unfair to expect the households adjacent to Walkway No. 142 to continue to suffer.

Walkway Assessment Report general comments on Walkways

Within the Walkway Assessment Report there are inconsistencies in the methodology applied to the consideration of safety aspects, and community access, for different walkways. The result is that the line of reasoning used as rationale for closing some walkways, is not applied to Walkway No. 142, though the same safety issues exist.

For example from the Walkway Assessment Report:

- Wagaman Walkway No. 80 – "It was noted that some pedestrians using this walkway crossed Trower Road directly from the walkway. This is considered unsafe. Closure of this walkway.. will also force pedestrians to use signallised crossings across Trower Road" (page 20)
- Wagaman Walkway No. 83 – "It was noted that there are pedestrian crossovers in the kerb along Vanderlin Drive providing pedestrian access across this busy road to Casuarina Plaza. However, this is considered unsafe and better access is provided by the signallised crossing at the Trower Road interaction" (page 29)

If you consider:

- Both Walkway No. 80 and Walkway No. 83 provide direct access to the Casuarina Shopping Square, Casuarina Plaza, Trower Road and Vanderlin Drive areas for pedestrians from Amsterdam Circuit, Hazel Street and Macassar Street, or further afield.
- Casuarina Shopping Centre is a major hub in the northern suburbs with supermarkets, post office, medical services, banks and other financial institutions, transport with a major bus interchange and entertainment services.
- Casuarina Plaza houses a community Health clinic and other government services:
 - o The Casuarina Public Swimming Pool is directly behind Casuarina Plaza.
 - o Motor Vehicle Registry is also directly behind Casuarina Plaza
- There are also several different religious institutions on Vanderlin Drive directly accessible from Walkway No. 83
- By closing Walkway No. 83, direct access to Casuarina Plaza and the Casuarina Public Swimming Pool will be removed to pedestrians from Amsterdam Circuit, Hazel Street and Macassar Street etc. However the report has recommended this due to such use of Walkway No. 83 being "considered unsafe and better access is provided by the signallised crossing at the Trower Road interaction" (page 29).
- The closure of Walkway No. 83 and Walkway No. 80 would force pedestrians to walk great distances to use Walkway No. 81 in order to access Casuarina Plaza, using the signallised crossings; however the services and "community links" to which they provide direct access are of major importance.

An evaluation of the characteristics of these two walkways against Walkway No. 142 shows:

- Lee Point Road (the major road one end of Walkway No. 142 that lane users may cross) is always very busy and has traffic flow comparable in fact on Trower Road and Vanderlin Drive.
- Unlike the other two, Walkway No. 142 does not provide direct access to any shops, medical facilities, cinema, banks, Health or other government services or public swimming pool.
- Walkway No. 142 does like Walkways No. 80 and No. 83 provide direct access to a large and busy intersection (on Lee Point Road) without dedicated pedestrian crossing points.
- Similar to the effect of closing the other two Walkways, the closure of Walkway No. 142 adds extra walking distance to pedestrians (of Greenwood Crescent), however the distance is less than what would be caused by the closure of Walkways No. 83 and No. 80
- The closure of Walkway No. 142 would encourage pedestrians to use the signallised crossing at the Parer Drive – Lee Point Road interaction, a change in pedestrian behaviour recommended on the basis of increased safety, in relation to Walkways No. 80 and No. 83.

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160

Walkway Assessment Report recommends "adjoining residents to install transparent boundary fencing (with no screen matting attached) to provide passive surveillance opportunities" (Section 7.2.2)

Walkway Assessment Report recommends "the community to take some responsibility for their neighbourhoods" (Section 6)

These recommendations are flawed as they assume residents will be willing and prepared to 'take on' walkway users doing the wrong thing, day or night. Are households adjacent to walkways expected to perform stakeouts or maintain constant vigils in order to 'police' the behaviour of those using walkways? Ultimately, this responsibility would rest heavily on those households with properties directly adjacent to walkways. It is unrealistic to expect households that are three or more properties away from a walkway to know what may or may not be happening in a walkway simply due to the physical distance. It is also unrealistic to expect or assume that households within walking distance of a walkway are all affected in the same manner or level as those that are directly adjacent to walkways.

Prior to permanent closure of Walkway No. 147, we did attempt to deter those doing the wrong thing in Walkway No. 147 by making our presence known. Every single time we did, we were on the receiving end of extensive verbal and property abuse with rocks and other objects thrown at us, our house and dogs. We would also see the same groups of people returning to the walkway, repeating the same behaviour and work, again and again. These people delighted in the fact they were causing us distress and continued their criminal, nuisance and anti social behaviour

I, [REDACTED] as a new mum with a small baby, whose husband regularly works long and late hours, believe these are totally ludicrous recommendations. I will not be putting myself or baby in harm's way by monitoring or approaching any walkway users who are performing criminal or anti social behaviour through my 'passive surveillance opportunities', nor should any other member of my household hold any level of responsibility to do so.

The sole fact that our house is adjacent to a walkway does not make us 'pseudo police'; it simply makes us more targets for criminal, nuisance, anti social behaviour. Passive surveillance opportunities will do nothing to stem the frequency and level of abuse inflicted by walkway users.

Also, 'passive surveillance' works both ways. By recommending transparent fencing be used, the walkway Assessment Report fails to recognise that opportunities thieves would be provided with improved viewpoints into the private properties adjacent to walkways. Thieves and vandals would be able to determine with greater ease if household residents were home and to identify goods worthy of theft by simply walking down walkways. Majority of Darwin households enjoy a standard level of privacy and protection by very fact that access and visibility to their house and property is restricted to the street facing side. Properties adjacent to walkways are open to scrutiny from street and walkway sides. We firmly believe that should this particular recommendation be implemented, it would cause a direct increase home burglaries and property theft from households adjacent to walkways. It would also dramatically reduce the ability to enjoy private yard entertainment.

The PowerWater complex (water tower), the Moll Bike Park and Girl Guides building area.

We believe that the PowerWater complex (water tower), the Moll Bike Park and Girl Guides building area is prone to high levels of nuisance, antisocial and criminal behaviour.

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Page 8 of 10

160

Forer Drive - Takman Circuit Walkway No. 87 is currently on night-time closure. Whilst in a different suburb, you can well see that Walkway No. 87 is physically close to the Power Water complex (water tower), the Moll Bike Park and Girl Guides Facility area.

We understand that it has been on night-time closure since September 2008. We have spoken with [redacted], currently residing at [redacted]. Both these properties are adjacent to Walkway No. 87. All three confirmed experiencing the same type and level of anti-social behaviour from users of Walkway No. 87. Both residences are against the reopening of Walkway No. 87 at night-time due to the same types of issues we have experienced from users of Walkway No. 142.

Given their close proximity, it is very reasonable to assume that both walkways are being abused by the same or similar groups of people.

We have been advised by long-term Greenwood Crescent resident [redacted], that since Walkway No. 142 had gates installed November 2008 and Wagamen Walkway No. 87 had gates installed September 2008 for night-time closure, the level of vandalism and graffiti committed against the Girl Guides Facility has decreased.

Also during this time, we have also personally noticed a dramatic decrease in the occurrence of large itinerant groups camping in the park area between the Girl Guides building and the Moll bike park. These large itinerant groups would have loud, drunken arguments and fights; use Walkway No. 142 for toilet facilities, yell abuse at the dogs in properties adjacent to Walkway No. 142 and leave lots of rubbish in the small park area in front of the Girl Guides Facility.

It is clearly evident that this area of Moll is prone to anti social and criminal behaviour, and that the fact of walkways somehow increases the level of bad behaviour. By reopening Walkway No. 142, Darwin City Council would be allowing a return to increased levels of anti-social behaviour, and greatly impact on households in the area, those in the immediate vicinity more than others.

Previous action taken to permanently close Walkway No. 142 - Request to permanently close Walkway No. 142 lodged by Peter Patricks of 46 Greenwood Crescent in 2003.

[redacted] lodged a formal request with Darwin City Council to permanently close Walkway No. 142. [redacted] purchase the land. This request was supported by [redacted]. Their application was put on hold as "at that stage Council has only a draft walkway policy and [redacted] was advised in 2004 that his request would receive further consideration when the policy was implemented".

Request to permanently close Walkway No. 142 lodged by [redacted] in 2007.

Darwin City Council decision regarding Walkway No. 142 - Darwin City Council Report No. 08A0172 dated September 23 2008 debated that in March 2008 "Council resolved to close and seal Walkway No 142. The sale of the walkway has been delayed due to the review of the Local Government Act".

During the 30 day public comment period ending June 30 2008, requiring public advertisement in the Northern Territory News, signs placed on our fence and a Darwin City Council letter box drop to 1511 residences, Darwin City Council received two objections that it considered where "from the same

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household" and "does not constitute sufficient opposition for Council to reconsider its position to close the walkway".

In July 2008, we were advised that by Darwin City Council, pending the approval from Minister for Local Government, the walkway closure and sale of land would proceed and to provide our conveyancer's details to commence settlement. Minister Knight as Minister for Local Government gave his approval for permanent closure of Walkway No. 142 to Darwin City Council in December 2008.

Member for Johnston Chris Burns has confirmed his office has not received any complaints or concerns from Moll residents over the permanent closure of Walkway No. 142. Over the past several years, his office has been contacted by various property owners adjacent to Walkway No. 142 in an attempt to have the anti-social issues addressed through its permanent closure.

We implore the Darwin City Council continue with its original decision of March 2008 to permanently close Walkway No. 142 and sell the land to adjacent property owners. We have conferred with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and all households are in strong support to keep Walkway No. 142 permanently closed and land sold off.

We are still prepared to purchase the land adjacent to our property. [REDACTED] has confirmed he is still willing to purchase the land adjacent to his property. As our properties are adjacent to different sections of the walkway, there is no conflict and the land sale can proceed quickly and smoothly.

We are parents of a newborn baby and have serious concerns about the possible reopening of Walkway No. 142. I, [REDACTED] will be home by myself with baby whilst my husband [REDACTED] is at work. I hold very high concerns for my safety and that of my child should Walkway No. 142 be retained as I will be home alone for lengthy periods.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

1.5.9.09

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

RE: PROPOSED

OF WALKWAY BETWEEN [REDACTED] &
L.A. 1700 [REDACTED].

WE TRAVELED [REDACTED] AT

[REDACTED] FOR 2 1/2 HOURS &
HAD NOTHING BUT THOUGHTS WHEN
THE WALKWAY WAS PROPOSED. HERE
ARE A FEW EXAMPLES.

MANHOLES, AUTO TIRE TREADS, FIRE EXTINGUISHERS &
STONES THROWN FROM WALKWAY THROUGH
OUR UPSTAIRS POOLS

WE HAVE BEEN FORCED TO GET A COUPLE
OF TIMES

HAD KITTENS ETC THROWN INTO OUR
POOL

HAD THINGS WITH STINKING WOUNDS
USING WALKWAY FOR TRAILS, SLEEPING &
USING FOR STORAGE

PERFORMED MAINTENANCE WHEN WE HAD SOLAR
HOT WATER SYSTEM SHIPPED WITH
FORKS

IT HAS BEEN PROBABLY BLIND STUBS
UNUSUAL - I WOULD BE VERY DISAPPOINTED
IF IT WAS TO BE OPERATED PROBABLY

THANKING YOU



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

Closure of Laneway between Lee Point Road and Greenwood Crescent

We wish to offer our support to your proposal to maintain the closure of the laneway between our properties.

We have lived at 46 Greenwood Cr since November 2007. When we moved into our property the laneway was open. We were frequently disturbed by noise as people passed through the laneway late at night, shouting, fighting and climbing on the fence. There was often offensive graffiti along the laneway side of our fence. We also regularly had rubbish, including broken glass, thrown into our yard and pool. As we have three young children this was of particular concern.

After the closure of the laneway in late 2008 there was no more night time disturbance and concerns for safety, a significant decrease in graffiti (although there were still occasions when people jumped the fence to leave a tag), and most importantly to us no more rubbish making its way into our yard to potentially harm our kids.

When the laneway was open we occasionally used it to pass through to Lee Point Rd on our way to Anula Park. We continued to frequently make the trip to Anula Park after the laneway closure and found that going to the end of Greenwood Cr and up Parer Cr only added a couple of minutes to our travel time. This is certainly a sacrifice we are willing to make if it means the permanent closure of the laneway.

We cannot see any tangible benefit for the community in reopening this laneway and will continue to support you in your efforts towards permanent closure.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

10 September 2008

27th September 2009

To: Darwin City Council

Attention: The Property Officer - Anna Hurton

Re: Walkway No. 142 Greenwood Crescent/Lea Point Road Moll and Walkway No. 87 Farac Drive/Tarman Circuit Wagarau

My wife and I are a retired couple who reside in [REDACTED] next door to Walkway No. 87. We received your flyer regarding the nightly re-opening of this walkway. We are in favour of keeping the walkway closed at night and below is our argument.

Apart from the cost of the initial installation of the lights and gates we are very concerned that this proposal will lead to the return of the anti-social behaviour we experienced nightly prior to the closure of the walkway.

Our sleep was often disturbed by drinks being used on the walkway at all hours of the night, abusive language, people urinating in the walkway, having lit down fires and screening. A number of times people have tried to unlawfully enter our property late at night but fortunately were disturbed before they could cause any trouble.

Since the installation the only trouble we have experienced was when the chains on the gate weren't secured tightly enough which enabled someone to squeeze through and graffiti our fence.

We have been monitoring the walkway and our findings are as follows:

- The walkway is rarely used during the day.
- Very few primary school children use it possibly because parents have advised against it due to safety issues.
- Casuarina Senior College students don't use it because they have a more direct route via Tarman Circuit.
- During week days the first bus is 6.30am and the last bus is 6.30pm (on weekends the last bus is 6.50pm) therefore the few people using the walkway as a thoroughfare to and from the bus stop opposite our house have ample time to access the walkway after it is opened at 6.00am and before it is closed at 6.00pm.

In addition, walkway No. 87 and No. 142 lies in the path taken most primarily at night by an escape route for the gangs that congregate in the bike park opposite and elsewhere. My wife and I used to fear for our safety. Since the walkways closure we have been able to sleep at night and due to illness and the fact that I have regular stays in hospital my wife feels much more secure at night when she is on her own.

Ideally we would like to assist in opening and closing the gates at night but again because of my illness and hospital stays I am very reluctant to pass this responsibility on to my wife.

Trusting our concerns will be given full consideration we look forward to a satisfying outcome.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

9 October 2009

CEO
Orwin City Council

Re: Closure of laneway number 142

My daughter and son-in-law own the house at [Redacted] which is adjacent to a laneway running from Greenwood Cres to Lee Point Road.

A number of times I have stayed there to caretake during their absence on holiday. Duration has varied, but the longest was for three months in early 2008, when they were overseas.

I found profane behaviour in this lane similar to that I had experienced living for many years next to a laneway in Mulak. Graffiti and rubbish (which can include plastic bags and containers, rotten food scraps, soft drink and beer cans, broken bottles, tea paper and dirty diapers) were constant.

Residents adjacent to the laneway (including myself while at Greenwood Cres) had to clean up the mess; Council would not attempt to do this.

The dogs in the 48 Greenwood property were often riled up by lane users banging on the fence, or yelling and screaming, or throwing items into the yard. Some of the kids seemed to delight in this activity and the dogs' reaction, and didn't just pass through the lane, but hung around creating nuisance, or went up and down the lane a few times for the same purpose. Police fobbed off reports of these instances.

I noted particularly that some of those in the lane during school hours were of the age they should have been in school, not on the streets. I really think there is a 'lane culture' among some kids who find this venue lets them lash out in a conclusion that public streets do not afford.

Incidents in the proximity did worry me when I was there. The driveway into 48 Greenwood is only three or four metres from the laneway entrance. It is difficult to see if anyone is in the lane when you pull up in a car after dark. It is frightening to step out of the car and find a group of (some unbranded) people right there cackling from you. It happened to me twice and I am very anxious now at night time in that area, as at Uluru Rangers still camp near the Girl Guides facility.

I cannot fathom why the laneway might be considered essential. The bus stop at the Lee Point Road end is a drop off point only for two late afternoon buses daily Monday to Friday. Since the consultation report I have made it my business to check how many people getting off those buses actually walk down Lee Point Road into Parer Drive then into Greenwood (and ostensibly be the ones who would use the laneway), and there was only one - my daughter.

As the bus stop on the Lee Point Road end of the laneway does not pick up passengers, the laneway is not a 'short cut' to catch a bus.

I know from discussion held that users of the Girl Guides building at Greenwood Cres do not use the lane, do not let their children use the lane, and hold fears of anti-social behaviour.

To cite access to the Moll bike park as a reason the lane should be kept open, is a nonsense.

The Mall bike park is on the corner of Greenwood Crescent and Parer Drive. Whether anyone ~~wants to go to the park from the Lee Point Road entrance to the laneway, came down the laneway and then along Greenwood, or went along Lee Point Road and then down Parer Drive, the distance to travel is the same.~~

If they lived on Lee Point Road between the laneway and the Parer Drive junction, it would be closer for them to go down Parer Drive. If they lived on Lee Point Road between Lanyon Terrace and McMillans Road, they would have to have traversed two major Lee Point Road intersections to get to the laneway, and there are much safer routes to the bike park using internal Mall streets rather than go along Lee Point Road.

If they lived in Anula or Walegi, the safest way for them to cross Lee Point Road is at the signalled crossings on the Parer Drive intersection.

There is a significant safety issue - regarding pedestrians and cyclists crossing Lee Point Road - that lane closure would address. I think it is the case that the positioning of the laneway encourages people, including kids on bikes, to run the gauntlet of Lee Point Road traffic to get to the laneway.

The placement of the bus stop also means bus commuters bound for residences on the Anula / Walegi side of Lee Point Road, tend to take their chance with the Lee Point Road traffic by crossing the road in close vicinity to the bus stop.

There are strong recommendations in the laneway Consultation Report that use of signalled crossings be encouraged. Lee Point Road is very busy day and night, so closing the laneway (and perhaps moving the bus stop closer to the Parer Drive intersection), will mean that more of those alighting from the express bus and wanting to go to Anula, and kids from Anula and Walegi going to and from the bike park, will cross at the Parer Drive lights.

Laneways do not cause anti-social and / or criminal behaviour. But they do facilitate concealment and provide routes for ramping down which a car cannot check, and attract the type of character who sees opportunity and benefit in that situation.

Things have been better since the laneway was closed, though some kids still scale the gates and get into the laneway and there is some rubbish and graffiti happening, but the problems caused by bike traffic and itinerants has stopped. They must be using another route, and I do wonder whether any of them have complained of any inconvenience caused them by the lane closure.

I know that if the laneway is re-opened it will go back to what it was. I worry about my daughter coming and going with a new babe when her husband is working late. I worry for my own safety when I go there at night.

The lane does not provide access to shops, medical facilities, schools, or sports facilities (other than the bike path mentioned above).

I see no useful need for this laneway. I am convinced by the fact that no solutions have been found by authorities dealing with laneway problems over many years, that no authority wants to shoulder the responsibility, nor has the answer to fixing the problems, and that if the laneway is reopened, the full remit of problems experienced before its closure will return.

I therefore endorse calls for its permanent closure.



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NT 0810

Closure of Laneway between Lee Point Road and Greenwood Crescent

Dear [REDACTED]

We wish to fully support the proposal to maintain the closure of the laneway.

We have been responsible for looking after your house and dogs for times that you have not been in Darwin. Before the laneway closure and on many occasions the dogs were agitated by groups of youths riding and on walking through the laneway. This agitation was caused by teasing, shouting and running sticks along the fence and poking sticks through the fence when dogs came to investigate. As animal lovers, we were distressed about what could happen to the dogs when we were not there. We felt very intimidated by groups of youths, especially as requests to desist were met with verbal abuse. Since the closure of this laneway we have not experienced any problems.

We cannot see any reason to keep this laneway open. Lee Point Road is easily accessible by going to the end of Greenwood Crescent. We feel that this laneway encourages anti social behaviour to the detriment of the citizens in this area and should remain closed.

Community safety issues should be a priority and we fully support the effort of residents seeking permanent closure.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
11th October, 2009

Chris Burns MLA
Member for Johnston

SERVING THE COMMUNITY LISTENING TO YOU

ATTACHMENT F

14 September 2009

The Lord Mayor Graeme Sawyer
Darwin City Council
GPO Box 84
DARWIN NT 0801

Dear Lord Mayor,

Re: Laneway Closure - Greenwood to Leanyon Terrace, Moll (132)

As you are aware, the above laneway has been physically closed since November last year.

In an email to [REDACTED] from Darwin City Council dated 17 July 2008, [REDACTED] advised that pending the Minister for Local Government's approval, the Council would proceed with the closure and sale of the laneway adjoining her property.

I am advised by the Office of the Minister for Local Government that Minister Knight gave his written approval to Council for the Greenwood/Leanyon Terrace closure to proceed in December 2008.

However, it is understood this sale was put on hold when the Darwin Walkway Assessment was started.

[REDACTED] is concerned now with the recommendation of the report that the laneway should be retained and it is unclear on what basis it would be retained. [REDACTED] is heavily pregnant with her first child and very concerned there will be a return to the levels of anti-social behaviour that occurred before the closure.

She reports that there are still some incidents where some people do jump the fence and cause trouble within the laneway. There is fresh graffiti that has appeared after the laneway was permanently closed.

Since the permanent closure of this laneway this office has not received any complaints from residents who feel they have been inconvenienced by its closure.



Fresh Ideas
Real Results

Chris Burns MLA, Member for Johnston
Shop 9, Regal Creek Shopping Village, 48 Tennyson Road, Millers Point 0810 - PO Box 41380, Darwin NT 0801
Phone: (08) 8948 0177 • Fax: (08) 8948 0178 • Email: christoburne.johnston@nt.gov.au

On behalf of [REDACTED] and her neighbours who are keen to proceed with the purchase of the laneway, I urgently request your advice on how this matter can proceed.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Burns MLA
Member for Johnston

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, 13 October 2009 4:47:02 PM

To: Lord Mayor

CC: Darwin City Council; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Alderman O Lambert

Subject: Darwin Walkways Assessment

Dear Graeme,

The Wagoner Residents Committee have recently met and discussed the Darwin Walkways Assessment which was sent by Council requesting feedback.

I have been asked to provide feedback on behalf of the committee. Please refer to the attached document (Darwin Walkways Response 2009.doc) for the response.

I have also attached the minutes of our last meeting for reference.

Yours,

[REDACTED]

Friday's mighty rock is just yesterday's mast that holds up your world

[REDACTED]

Wagaman Residents Committee

Attachment A
 1001 Arnhem Road, Darwin NT
 Member: Mr. Johnnie
 Shop 2 Rapid Creek Shopping Centre
 1001 Arnhem Road Darwin
 Phone: (08) 8940 0077
 Fax: (08) 8940 0028

Monday 12th October 2009

Ciraene Sawyer
 Lord Mayor
 Darwin City Council

Dear Lord Mayor,

The Wagaman Residents Committee (WRC) would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback in relation to the Walkways Assessment Report. The WRC discussed the report at the last meeting held on the 24th September at the Arnhem Electorate Office. A copy of the minutes is attached.

During the meeting there was concern that neither residents nor police were consulted as part of the report. Instead the report identified laneways to be closed based on their level of pedestrian access rather than anti-social behaviour. The WRC has worked tirelessly alongside the DCC, NT Police, NT Government and other agencies to help identify local issues and form solutions to these. In fact, this year will see the WRC celebrating our 10 year anniversary! Ironically the report states (page 3) that community members were consulted, a process that did not occur in our area.

It was made very clear during the meeting that residents were very happy with the current environment and level of access this provided. The night time closures prevented problems of antisocial behaviour and people felt safe at night.

Over the years there have been many discussions about the laneways and whether DCC would continue to pay for them to be closed at night. It has been the view of the WRC for many years that three laneways on one street is far too many and that problems increase exponentially should those laneways open up to a 24 hour service station or supermarket. Along with many other arguments, the WRC identified that should DCC consider discontinuing night time closures, that laneways 81 and 83 (in the report) should be closed since laneway 80 provided efficient access to Casuarina, pedestrian crossings and Casuarina Senior College. However, as this lane is in line of sight of police vehicles leaving the Casuarina Police Station, it was also easy for police to monitor this lane. As such this lane has not had the same problems as 81 and 83. Currently the report identifies laneway 81 to be kept open due to the level of access. However it is for the same reason that the WRC recommend that 81 be closed and the suitable and the appropriate alternative laneway 80 be kept open. More in depth discussion is provided in the minutes attached.

There was concern during the meeting that residents could provide their support for permanent or night time closure of the laneways (via the survey) in other parts of Wagaman that is not directly in their area. There also did not appear to be choice of permanent closure or opening should the night time closures be discontinued. This is confusing as the Walkways Report recommends discontinuing night time closures for laneways that will not be closed permanently.

The survey does not provide an option to request that laneway 81 be closed either at night or permanently, unlike laneways 85 and 79 which are also listed as remaining open. Laneway 81 is currently being closed at night and hence should have been included in the survey as per the letter from acting Chief Executive Officer John Banks to Hon. Dr. Chris Burns (see attached letter).

I would also like to point out that not all residents in the area have received a survey which also informs about the process. My experience is that it would be more beneficial to contact each of the residents directly as this leads to greater survey response.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide a response to the Walkways Assessment Report and look forward to further dialogue prior to any decision made by DCC.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Name and Title]

PH: [Redacted Phone Number]

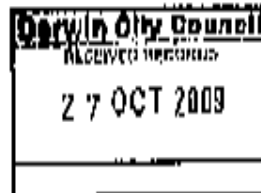
Email: [Redacted Email Address]



Neighbourhood Watch Northern Territory Inc
ABN 88 704 500 325

PO Box 41500
Darwin NT 0811
Ph: 08 8948 9111
Fax: 08 8948 9134

10 October 2009



Mr. Graeme Sawyer,
Lord Mayor,
Darwin City Council,
G.P.O. Box 84,
DARWIN, N.T. 0801

Dear Sir,

WALKWAY POLICY REVIEW
REFERENCE: 1416899 GS.A4

Thank you for your letter of 03 September 2009 enclosing the Darwin Walkways Assessment document. I am sorry that I could not respond by the given date of 13 October 2009 as our Karama NHW Meeting was not held until after that date.

The Assessment was discussed by members attending our meeting and I was informed that various members have communicated to the Council views on the laneways that directly affect them. For example, one member was not in favour of Kwinana Court being closed, whilst another agreed with the closure of Duverton Court.

The main theme arising from our meeting was that as every walkway is different, i.e. convenient access to public transport, schools, shops, etc. and age and mobility of residents who use the walkways, consultation with residents is essential so as to meet the needs of residents and taxpayers.

The general consensus was that there does not appear to have been a proper consultation with the stakeholders and no consultation with the residents and many people are not satisfied with the consultation process.

Yours sincerely

KARAMA NEIGHBOUR WATCH

'Safe Neighbourhoods through a united and involved community'

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Robyn Lesley
Waters Ward Alderman
Darwin City Council
GPO Box 84
Darwin NT 0801

Dear Robyn

RE: Walkway 195; Karama Crescent/ Koolinda Crescent

On behalf of the Karama School Council, I would like to thank Darwin City Council for undertaking a review of the walkways in the Karama area. Walkways are such a controversial topic and it is rarely possible to please all parties involved. In relation to walkway 195, we would like to offer the following.


Karama School Council understands the concerns of the residents living near walkway 195 regarding antisocial behaviour mainly occurring at night. The School Council have been managing the opening and closing of this walkway during school hours for 12 months now, and to our knowledge no complaints have been made regarding anti social behaviour occurring during the times it is open. Karama School Council is satisfied with the current arrangement and wishes to see this continue.

Our main priority is ensuring the safe passage of all families and children attending the school, pre-school and Family's Centre and we feel this is being achieved with minimal inconvenience to the residents and at no cost to Darwin City Council.

Our crossing guard regularly picks up litter and garden refuse from the walkway when he opens or closes the gates, and I believe that Darwin City Council workers occasionally tidy it up also. We believe this is a good example of how Darwin City Council and the local community can work together and hope to see this partnership continue.

Thank you again, on behalf of the Karama School Council and Community.

Regards


Chairperson
Karama School Council
30 October 2009

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Attachment A
08/09/2014

Robyn Lesley
Waters Ward Alderman
Darwin City Council
GPO Box 84
Darwin NT 0801

Dear Robyn

RE: Walkway 200; Sedge Court/ Mulla Mulla Circuit/ Karama School Oval

On behalf of the Karama School Council, I would like to thank Darwin City Council for consulting us regarding the recommendations for walkway 200. This particular walkway has been the subject of many a discussion at school council meetings and staff meetings over the past few years.

The design of this walkway lends itself to many unsavoury activities occurring both during school hours and at night time. It is the ideal hang out area for youths as it gives them 3 routes of escape from both each other and the police. This walkway backs directly onto the school oval which students access during recess and lunch as well as before and after school, and the daily presence of broken glass, condoms, dirty nappies, the occasional syringe and general litter is a hazard to students. Itinerants frequently wander from the walkway, through the back of the school to the park opposite Karama Shops, drinking, swearing and fighting. We have even had students find people sleeping in this area. Our maintenance officer spends many hours a week trying to minimise the moss in this area and removing broken glass each day for the safety of our students. The school has spent a great deal of money fencing this area as well as replacing screening on the fences of residents who have been the victims of vandalism by people making use of this secluded area of the school. The school has also had to pay to have trees removed or lower branches pruned back to discourage itinerants who sought out the shaded areas to drink and make camp.

As a result of a petition which was supported by Karama School Council about 2 years ago, this walkway has been closed each night. The night time closure of this walkway has had little effect on the problems endured by the school. In fact much of the undesirable activity occurs during school hours, with itinerants still walking through and dropping their rubbish, fighting and swearing on their way. The school's position regarding this walkway is that the safety of students and school property is at risk as well as having a negative impact on the reputation Karama School has worked hard to build.


Karama School Council conducted a survey of our families living in the area most likely to use this walkway to travel to and from school. Of the 29 surveys we sent out, only 6 were returned. Two of the families prefer the walkway to be closed, one family did not live close enough to the walkway to make use of it and is not concerned either way. Three families said that it should remain open – one of these favouring night time closure, but did not access the walkway themselves.

After much discussion at our Council meeting on Wednesday 28th October 2009, members of school council voted in favour of supporting the closure of this walkway. The issues raised by members of council were the same as those raised by the school – the safety of students and school property, the amount of broken glass and litter as well as the passing by of itinerants being of most concern. In considering the alternatives available to students who may walk to school, we feel that for the majority of residents it is no further to walk down Mulla Mulla Circuit or Livistona Road to access the school, park or shops, - not to mention safer.

In early 2009 when construction begins on the "Building the Education Revolution" project, access from the school grounds to the park will be blocked off to the public by a new multi-purpose building. Once this happens, the walkway will only serve to provide access to the school oval, and people taking this route to the shops will no longer be able to short cut through the school grounds.

I would like to thank Darwin City Council again for seeking the input of the Karama School Council in making this decision.

Regards


Chairperson
Karama School Council
30 October 2009