

ENCL: YES

DARWIN CITY COUNCIL

DATE: 12/05/09

REPORT

TO: 1ST ORDINARY COUNCIL/OPEN

APPROVED: BD

FROM: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

APPROVED: AH

REPORT NO: 09TC0029

APPROVED:

COMMON NO: 1572294

SUBJECT: CAPITAL CITY COMMITTEE CHARTER

ITEM NO:

SYNOPSIS:

This report is seeking Council's endorsement of the proposed changes to the Capital City Committee Charter prior to it being presented to the June Capital City Committee Meeting.

GENERAL:

The Capital City Charter represents a commitment by the Darwin City Council and the Northern Territory Government to work together with the community to enhance the physical, social, artistic, cultural, commercial and environmental aspects of Darwin with a focus on the central business area.

The Charter was originally developed in 2004/05 and was signed by the then Lord Mayor and Chief Minister.

Darwin City Council in conjunction with the Department of the Chief Minister and the Department of Planning and Infrastructure have revised the previous Charter to reflect current issues and trends.

This report contains the revised Charter, all changes are shown via the tracked changes.

This revised Charter will be presented to the June Capital City Committee meeting with the view that the Chief Minister and Darwin City Council's Lord Mayor, Graeme Sawyer will 'publicly' sign off on the new Charter. However, the proposed changes may need to go to Cabinet for endorsement first, we are still awaiting for advice on this.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil

EVOLVING DARWIN, TOWARDS 2020 IMPLICATIONS:

The issues addressed in this Report are in accordance with the following Goals/Outcomes of the Evolving Darwin, Towards 2020 Strategic Plan:

- 1 EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLOBARATIVE RELATIONSHIPS**
- 1.1 Improve relations with all levels of Government**

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil

PUBLIC RELATIONS IMPLICATIONS:

Nil

COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS:

Nil

DELEGATION:

Nil

CONSULTATION:

Dept of the Chief Minister
Dept of Planning and Infrastructure

PROPOSED PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS:

N/A

APPROPRIATE SIGNAGE

N/A

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. THAT Report Number 09TC0029 entitled Capital City Committee Charter, be received and endorsed.

ANNE HAMMOND
MANAGER STRATEGY AND
OUTCOMES

BRENDAN DOWD
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Any queries on this report may be directed to Anne Hammond on 5531

Capital City Charter (words only)

Proposed amendments as endorsed by Department of Planning and Infrastructure and Darwin City Council

Cover - **A commitment of the Northern Territory Government and the Council of the City of Darwin.**

Page 1 - ***The Darwin City Council and Northern Territory Government will work together with the community to enhance the physical, social, artistic, historical, cultural, commercial and environmental aspects of Darwin with a focus on the central business area.***

We want to achieve:

A vibrant, creative and active central city area

A safe community environment

Attractive and climatically appropriate construction Improved public spaces

A community that values its cultural heritage

[A sustainable city](#)

Page 2 - **A vibrant, creative and active central city area**

A vibrant and active centre depends on having people living there. Re-population of the central area will reinvigorate business and create activity that, together with visitors, creates a vibrant social atmosphere.

Mixed use development of the centre depends on different uses co-existing, requiring a tolerance of and between activities. The central area also serves as the ceremonial place of the community and is a major focus of recreational and entertainment venues.

What do we need?

- Mixed use development including commerce, retail, residential, recreation and entertainment
- Interaction between public and private spaces
- Ceremonial place
- [Densification to create increased pedestrian and cyclist traffic](#)
- [Promotion of the city as a place to visit](#)

What can we deliver?

- Development that respects spatial context
- Public spaces that provide facilities that encourage active use of space by residents and visitors
- [Coordinated marketing of Darwin](#)

Page 3 - **A safe community environment**

Public spaces including the interface with private developments will focus on creating and maintaining a safe environment.

What do we need?

- Application of the principles of crime prevention through environmental design
- Programmed improvements based on a safety audit of public spaces
- Appropriate development initiatives that populate publicly accessible spaces

What can we deliver?

- More open and well patronised spaces
- Appropriate lighting and signage
- Active street frontages
- Multi-use spaces
- [Coordinated public investment in streetscapes](#)

Page 4 - Attractive and climatically appropriate design

The climatic extremes of Darwin demand appropriate design responses. Emphasis should be on energy efficiency in [buildings](#), while maximising the opportunity to enjoy the more moderate dry season conditions.

Avoiding uniformity in building height, massing or façade treatment will enhance the character, identity and sense of place.

Shelter from the elements in public spaces and particularly along well trafficked footpaths is necessary to encourage pedestrian movement and community interaction. Design of the built environment should enhance the experience of people moving through the city.

What do we need?

- Quality in design
- Emphasis on energy efficiency
- Pedestrian [and cyclist](#) amenity
- Visually attractive environment
- [Improvements to parking and public transport facilities](#)

What can we deliver?

- Developments that consider climate and energy efficiency
- Coordinated public investment in public areas that enhances shade, shelter and visual amenity
- [Coordination and partnerships for the delivery of parking and public transport facilities](#)

Page 5 - Improved public spaces

Emphasis will be given improving areas available for public use, whether they are owned privately or publicly. Opportunities to enhance existing public space will focus on aesthetic improvement, functionality, accessibility and amenity.

Developers of public spaces will be encouraged to design active frontages adding where appropriate to areas available for public use and enjoyment. Continuity and inter-connectivity between developments is desirable.

What do we need?

- Appropriate landscaping and façade treatments
- Shade and verandah structures
- Art and design
- Street furniture
- Community safety
- Improved transport [and parking](#) options

- [Wireless technology in the central business district](#)
- [Presentation and cleanliness of streets and surrounds](#)

What can we deliver?

- Coordinated investment strategy of Council and Northern Territory Government agencies
- Northern Territory Government commitment to quality design of buildings
- Combined and coordinated public art strategy
- Emphasis on design quality in the development approvals process
- [Redevelopment of State Square](#)
- [Better connections to the Waterfront](#)

Page 6 - **Valuing cultural heritage**

The long-standing cultural diversity of Darwin's population contributes to its identity, sense of community and aspirations for a harmonious future. The celebration of heritage reinforces the values of our community and enables expression of our hopes for the future.

What do we need?

- Preservation of tangible and intangible heritage values

What can we deliver?

- Legislative protection for cultural heritage
- Development that appropriately celebrates heritage
- Art and design with identifiable heritage connection
- Cultural influences in art and design and public spaces
- [World War II historical and commemorative experiences](#)

[Page 7 – A sustainable city](#)

[It is our role to create and maintain an environmentally sustainable city for current and future generations of Territorians.](#)

[We must strive to become leaders in climate change policies and we must implement a coastal erosion plan and prepare for alternate fuel and energy resources.](#)

[Together we must support our community to increase water efficiency and in preserving the Darwin Harbour and protecting the ecological systems within it.](#)

[What do we need?](#)

- [Preservation of the Darwin Harbour](#)
- [An inclusive approach to climate change and sustainability](#)

[What can we deliver?](#)

- [Coordinated strategies to preserve and protect and Harbour from coastal erosion and degeneration of water quality, ecological systems and biodiversity](#)
- [Increased efficiency of Government buildings](#)
- [Increased efficiency in water usage and reuse](#)