Darwin Walkway Policy (Draft 2009)



1. Preamble

Purpose

The purpose of the Walkway Policy is to provide guidance to Council officers in managing Darwin's Walkways.

Definitions

For the purpose of this policy, a Walkway is a narrow pedestrian thoroughfare under the care and control of Council. They are generally designated "Road Reserve".

The Walkway Policy applies to existing walkways between adjacent blocks of residential or commercial land.

This Policy does not apply to cycle paths, footpaths or paths through parks and other public land. Council's Footpath Policy provides guidelines and procedures for the construction and reconstruction of footpaths adjacent to roads on road reserves.

Council's Subdivisional Guidelines covers the planning and design of pedestrian and cycling infrastructure in new subdivisions and developments.

Policy Ownership

Implementation and periodic review of this Walkway Policy is the responsibility of the Technical Services Department within Darwin City Council.

2. Policy

Council shall provide and maintain essential walkways within the municipality as part of a wider network that facilitates the movement of pedestrians and cyclists.

Lighting

In order to promote a safe environment for walkways at all times, Council will provide and maintain lighting of walkways.

As a minimum, street lighting at each end of a walkway will be provided according to Australian Standards (AS1158.3 Category P4). If additional lighting is deemed to be required, for example to longer walkways, it shall be designed to minimise light spillage into adjacent properties in accordance with Australian Standards.

Fencing

Whilst fencing of walkways is the responsibility of adjacent land owners, Council shall seek to ensure that fencing styles reflect Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) Principles. CPTED Principles encourage passive surveillance opportunities from adjoining properties through the use of transparent fencing and other such measures.

Maintenance

In order to facilitate safe access for pedestrians and cyclists, walkways shall be routinely maintained including prompt and regular:

- removal of overhanging vegetation within walkways;
- removal of rubbish;
- repair of adjacent street lighting;
- removal of vegetation obscuring street lighting;
- repair of walkway lighting, where present;
- removal of graffiti; and
- repair to walkway pavements.