

Gerald McCarthy

Minister for Housing and Community Development



Media Release

Calling Territory street artists: Competition launches to paint high profile Darwin façade

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The Territory Labor Government is offering an exciting opportunity to Darwin street artists, inviting submissions to paint the high profile façade of Parap's Pitchender complex.

Earlier this year, the government announced a \$69 million housing stimulus for repairs, upgrades and maintenance of public housing across the Territory.

As part of the upgrades, the hunt is now on to find a talented artist to beautify the Pitchender Complex's 47 square metre facade and to join the growing worldwide movement of revitalising tired buildings with art works.

"Local jobs and better housing are top priorities for Government – so far nearly \$40 million in work is underway or completed, with local contractors and their sub-contractors benefiting from this program in every region of the Territory," Mr McCarthy said.

"This is an innovative opportunity for Territory street artists to transform the Pitchender Street wall, which is visible from the Stuart Highway."

The only requirement for artists is that the work embodies the spirit of the Northern Territory.

The public art competition is part of a new initiative designed to create a more vibrant Darwin through street art.

Three finalists will be selected by a judging panel before the final design is chosen by public vote.

The winning artist will be contracted by the department and it is expected the work will be completed by the end of July.

The competition follows the success of last year's NT Government Darwin Street Art Festival, which saw leading Australian artists pair with local artists to paint eight Darwin CBD buildings and walls, to help create a lively city centre.

Artists can email conceptual designs for the wall to communications.dhcd@nt.gov.au by 5pm on Monday 18 June.

The winner will be revealed following the closure of the public vote at 8am on Monday, June 25.

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