Media Release

$110 million Tiger Brennan Extension: Stage Two Begins

Work on Stage Two of the $110 million Tiger Brennan Drive extension has started.

Northern Territory Transport Minister Delia Lawrie and Member for Solomon Damian Hale today witnessed the first clearing that will make way for the 7.5km Tiger Brennan Drive extension.

“This project will reduce traffic delays for about 34,000 vehicles per day,” Ms Lawrie said.

“Territorians want to spend more time with their families and less time stuck in traffic – which is why we are delivering this key project together with the Rudd Government.

“Total project value for Stage Two is $89 million with completion scheduled for 2010 – and this will make a real difference for thousands of Territorians.

“The Tiger Brennan Drive extension is one of the most significant road projects in the Territory’s history – easing traffic congestion, improving safety and reducing travelling times between Darwin and Palmerston.

“The $89 million Stage Two involves the construction of 7.5km of road works – including a four lane dual highway – to extend Tiger Brennan Drive from Berrimah Road to the Stuart Highway.

“Stage Two also involves the construction of a much anticipated overpass at the Stuart Highway and Roystonea Avenue intersection - with pedestrian access across the Stuart Highway to be included.

“Later this year, work involving the relocation of services such as powerlines will begin with construction of the extension starting early next year.

“I congratulate local company Macmahon Contractors on being awarded the Tiger Brennan Drive extension Stage One and Stage Two contracts with these contracts set to generate up to 225 jobs for Territorians.

“Macmahon will work with its project partners – local companies SKM and Larrakia Development Corporation – to deliver the project.
“The $6.5 million Stage One of the Tiger Brennan Drive extension – duplicating lanes on Berrimah Road between Tiger Brennan Drive and Wishart Road and creating dual turning lanes to ease congestion - is set for completion early next year.

“The Tiger Brennan Drive extension is a great example of the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Government working together – ending years of buck-passing and the blame game.

“The Rudd Government has committed $74 million to this vital project with the Northern Territory Government contributing $36 million.”

Mr Hale said delivering the Tiger Brennan extension is one of his top priorities.

“I live in Palmerston and know first hand what local families experience everyday,” Mr Hale said.

“Being stuck in bumper-to-bumper traffic instead of spending time with your kids is not acceptable.

“That’s why I understand what a difference the Tiger Brennan extension will make for families on a daily basis.

“This project will also take more trucks and semis off local streets and make it safer for mums and dads, children and their bikes.

“I will continue working with my colleagues in Canberra to make sure the top priorities for Solomon are met.”

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DARWIN

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