



Media Release:

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Community has their say on Draft Development Plan

Community consultation on the *Draft Araluen Cultural Precinct Development Plan* continues with public comment open until Saturday, 31 October and a second community workshop scheduled for Thursday, 19 November 2009 to discuss feedback received.

Araluen Cultural Precinct Director Tim Rollason said the draft plan is staged over a seven year timeframe and consists of a range of proposed initiatives regarding programs and infrastructure.

"The proposed initiatives aim to deliver key outcomes for the arts and tourism industries while continuing to fulfil the needs and aspirations of residents and visitors alike," Mr Rollason said.

"We're encouraging community feedback because it is important that the development plan reflects the values and aspirations of the local community.

"The first community workshop was held on Tuesday, 1 September 2009 with 20 people attending the briefing on the contents of the draft plan.

"So far we've received six written submissions, and we understand there are a number of collaborative submissions still to come from local arts organisations. We continue to urge all areas of the community to get involved and have their say."

"Further consultation will then be undertaken during a second community workshop, facilitated by Marg Johnson, to discuss the submissions received and achieve community consensus on the overall Plan before it's finalised."

The Araluen Cultural Precinct incorporates Araluen Arts Centre, including the Albert Namatjira Gallery, the Museum of Central Australia, the Strehlow Research Centre, the Central Australian Aviation Museum, Arts NT and Central Craft.

"Some of the initiatives outlined in the draft plan include the development of social history displays within the Museum of Central Australia and the implementation of an Artist in Residence program," Mr Rollason said.

"The draft plan also proposes a number of modifications to structures and amenities with a focus on modernisation and aesthetics of existing buildings, gardens and public spaces."

The second community workshop will be held in the Witchetty's ArtSpace at the Araluen Art Centre from 7-9pm on Thursday, 19 November 2009.

To view a copy of the draft plan or for more information on how to submit written feedback by Saturday, 31 October 2009 visit www.nt.gov.au/consult.

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Tim Rollason on 8951 1126

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