

## Infrastructure Spending Backs Local Business

The Territory Government is backing Territorians with record infrastructure spending. In Budget 2005 the Territory Government has committed \$476 million in cash to building the Territory.

That's more work for local business and more jobs for Territorians.

### INFRASTRUCTURE SPENDING

In Budget 2005, we will spend \$476 million on infrastructure. This follows record spending of \$405 million in 2001, \$427 million in 2002, \$438 million in 2003 and an expected \$479 million from Budget 2004.

Since 2001 the Territory Government has committed \$2.2 billion in cash to building the Territory.

80% of the total value of all contracts over \$50 000 go to local business.

### MINOR NEW WORKS – 40% INCREASE MEANS MORE WORK FOR LOCAL BUSINESS

Budget 2005 lifts minor new works spending by almost 40% or an extra \$8 million to \$28.6 million.

This will mean more work for local small business and more jobs for Territorians.

### ROADS SPENDING CONTINUES

The total infrastructure program for Territory roads and national highways in Budget 2005 is \$137 million.

This includes:

- \$15 million for Victoria Highway
- \$1.6 million for upgrading Point Stuart Road
- \$800 000 for upgrading the Maryvale Road
- \$200 000 for improvements to the Larrimah West Creek Link Road
- \$500 000 for upgrades to the Central Arnhem Road
- \$500 000 for the Ngukurr/Numbulwar Road
- \$500 000 for upgrading the Sandover Highway

Work on the Mereenie Loop Road is continuing, with \$43 million to be spent.

Sealing of the Litchfield Loop Road is also continuing, with \$15 million allocated.

## **FURTHER INVESTMENT IN TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE**

Budget 2005 continues the Government's significant investment into tourism infrastructure, with:

- \$7.5 million over three years to upgrade facilities at Litchfield National Park
- \$1 million for upgrading and expanding visitor facilities in the West MacDonnells
- The continued sealing of the Mereenie Loop and Litchfield Loop roads
- \$380 000 for improvements to the Alice Springs Desert Park and Territory Wildlife Park
- \$350 000 for the Todd and Charles River Masterplans

## **SPENDING ON INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE TERRITORY LIFESTYLE**

Territorians are proud of our lifestyle – it's unique and the best in Australia.

In Budget 2005, the Territory Government is continuing to invest in our great lifestyle with:

- \$3 million Urban Enhancement Program
- \$2 million four-year program to improve fishing infrastructure
- \$5.8 million to complete the home of soccer for Darwin
- \$1.9 million to upgrade Hidden Valley Raceway
- \$800 000 for the Alice Springs Drag Strip
- \$400 000 for Channel Point Reserve ranger accommodation and compound

## **STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE SPENDING DRIVES LOCAL GROWTH, CREATES LOCAL JOBS AND BUILDS THE TERRITORY**

The Government uses the infrastructure budget to underpin economic growth and strategically build the Territory.

Budget 2005 highlights include:

- \$66 million Power and Water capital investment
- \$21.7 million for AusLink Network and \$15.7 million in repairs and maintenance
- \$3.6 million for a new fire station at Marrara to service Darwin's suburbs
- \$7.3 million for the Darwin City Waterfront redevelopment
- \$1.5 million for Darwin Business Park Stage Two headworks
- \$1.88 million on strategic bush airstrips
- \$400 000 on Stokes Hill Wharf customs jetty
- Continuing work on the Joint User Terminal at East Arm
- \$10 million of ongoing projects at East Arm

## **HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE SPEND MEANS LOCAL JOBS**

Housing construction throughout the Territory creates local jobs and provides work for smaller construction businesses, with benefits flowing to retail and other small local businesses.

Budget 2005 housing infrastructure highlights include:

- \$10.4 million for Government employee housing across the Territory
- \$1.8 million for community renewal of public housing throughout the Territory