



27th March 2018

Dear NT member

RE: Barneson Boulevard

As you are aware we have been working to try and get a better outcome for the Darwin CBD especially in response to a reasonable access to the city. Currently Barneson Boulevard has had a lot of attention and although we have contributed to 'have your say' and other policy documents for request we are concerned that our submissions have not been seriously considered. We have many concerns about this going ahead in its current form. As part of our approach we have met with the Minister and the Department on several occasions to also raise these issues. We previously advocated that the proposal should be reviewed, but we have considered this and are proposing an alternative which will activate the city, consider all users, vehicles, bikes and pedestrians as well as public transport options.

In consideration of the current plan we are recommending that Barneson Boulevard terminate at McMinn St (see attached). McMinn St needs to be developed and duplicated which will ensure the current road system can link into the other feeder streets as well as into the other significant perimeter roads. The Traffic studies that were undertaken as part of this development, actually support this recommendation. It also highlighted a key problem of the design as Woods St which will be blocked by a cul-de-sac on one side and a no right turn lane on the other which means after McMinn St all traffic must terminate on Cavanagh St, not allowing access to the remainder of the street network.

Termination on Cavanagh St is also problematic due to the streets networks here especially if moving to a current parking structure. Right turning traffic will have three street options, Whitfield St, Lindsay St and McLachlan St. Whitfield street runs behind Woolies and is often blocked by trucks unloading in their bays and Lindsay St and McLachlan St's are both school zones. The Left turn options are Searcy St and Edmunds St and turning right at the end of here on Smith St is difficult due to traffic management of Smith St Mall - Knuckey St intersection.

Another significant issue is the removal of the green space and the significant trees (<https://planinc.org.au/news/current-campaigns/206-frog-hollow-significant-trees.html>) at Frogs Hollow Park. Not only is the destruction of a Heritage Precinct this will remove a large green space area in the CBD and will create a split-level road which means connection from one side of this site to the other is seriously limited and a potential safety hazard. Currently there is green space on the outskirts of the CBD only and creating an extra road and heat sink going into the city will actually close off the opportunity to cool the city and make it a walkable space.

These are just a couple of issues. The links to all the key information is on page two and the list of pro's and con's are on three page which is where we seek your immediate feedback as this is vital for the next stage. Please consider the information and send through your feedback. You may have considered something brilliant that we need to take this forward.

What are our next steps? We are putting together a campaign to work with the media, general public, relevant Departments and Politicians. We will develop tools for you to use as individuals as well as us pushing this through the usual channels. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any queries and we look forward to your feedback. We would like any information back to us by Tuesday 3rd April by 12.30pm. I know this is a short timeframe however we feel that we need to address this as a matter of urgency.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards

Raquel

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Key links:

Barneson Boulevard and Tiger Brennan Drive final duplication stage
<https://dipl.nt.gov.au/transport/transport-strategies-and-plans/major-projects/barneson-boulevard>

Map of the proposed Barnesone Boulevard
https://dipl.nt.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0008/480365/Greening-Barneson-Map-DIPL-September-2017.pdf

Traffic Modelling
https://dipl.nt.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0020/450380/barneson-boulevard-modelling-reporting.pdf

Frog Hollow Significant trees
<https://planinc.org.au/news/current-campaigns/206-frog-hollow-significant-trees.html>

Contamination Assessment Summary
https://dipl.nt.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0011/464942/Barneson-Blvd-Contamination-Assessment-Summary_FINAL1.pdf

Barneson Boulevard and Tiger Brennan Drive final duplication stage – terminating at McMinn St

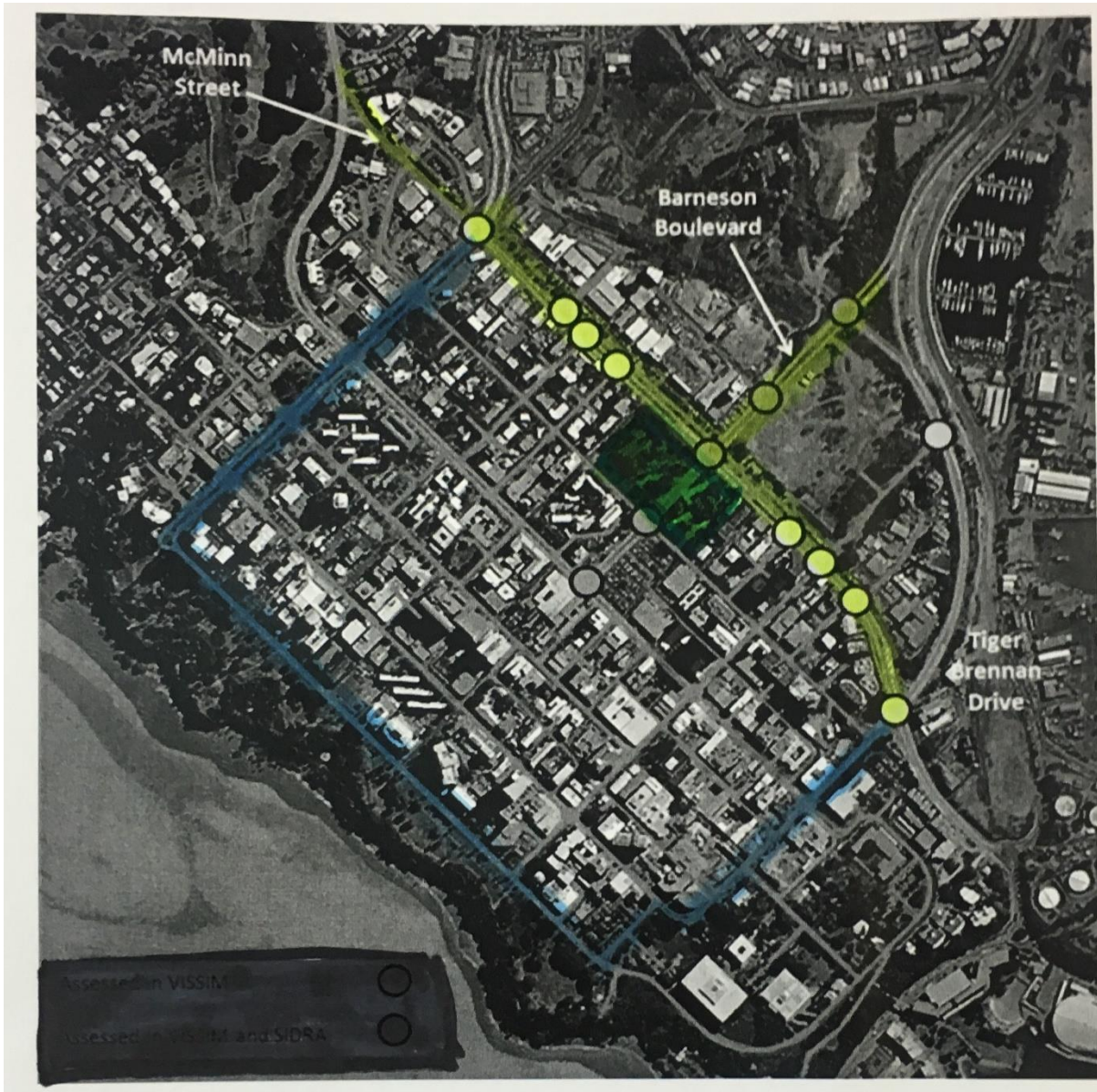
Pro's

- CBD linking with Suburbia
- Cycle path improvement around CBD
- Pedestrian path improvement around the CBD
- Activated traffic flow network from perimeter roads McMinn St, Bennett St the Esplanade and Daly St
- Can develop a parking hub on McMinn and activate public transport networks around the CBD
- Have a public transport hub
- Allow for traffic flow through the current CBD network
- Can relieve some traffic congestion into the city off Stuart Highway (not sure)

Con's

- Cost – given the recent cyclone some of the infrastructure spend can go into future proofing for power. Cyclone Marcus highlighted key infrastructure failings and using some of this spend could address some urgent current issues
- Bottle neck between McMinn St and Cavenagh St Woods St will be blocked for incoming traffic by a cul-de-sac on one side and a no right turn lane on the other
- Traffic flow issues in Cavenagh st - Termination on Cavanagh St - Whitfield street runs behind Woolies and is often blocked by trucks unloading in their bays and Lindsay St and McLachlan St's are both school zones. The Left turn options are Searcy St and Edmunds St and turning right at the end of here on Smith St is difficult due to traffic management of Smith St Mall - Knuckey St intersection.
- Traffic flow not relevant for current flow as this is to mitigate for 20 years especially as our population is declining
- Contaminated land (link provided)
- Closes Wood St to traffic flow
- Creates a larger heat sink

Mud Map of Barneson Boulevard and Tiger Brennan Drive final duplication stage – terminating at McMinn St



McMinn St and Barneson St recommendation

Frogs Hollow

Perimeter roads, Daly St, Bennett St and The Esplanade