NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

Planning Act

AMENDMENT TO NT PLANNING SCHEME

I, EVA DINA LAWLER, Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics, under sections 30R(2)(a)(i) of the Planning Act, amend the NT Planning Scheme by making the amendment, specified in the Schedule.

Dated 14th March 2019.

Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

SCHEDULE

AMENDMENT TO NT PLANNING SCHEME

AMENDMENT No. 506

1. Citation

This amendment to the NT Planning Scheme may be cited as Amendment No. 506.

2. Definition

In this amendment –

"amending map" means the map, signed by the Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics and marked "NT Planning Scheme Amendment No. 506", deposited in the office of the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics, Darwin;

"zoning map" means the zoning map within the meaning of the NT Planning Scheme.
3. Amendment of Zoning Map

The NT Planning Scheme is amended by amending the zoning map relating to Litchfield to the extent of its inconsistency with the amending map in respect of the area of land shown on the amending map bounded by a thick black line and lettered RR and FD which is Section 2981 Hundred of Bagot (131 Menaja Road, Howard Springs)
NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

Planning Act
Section 30U

Reasons for Decision

NORTHERN TERRITORY PLANNING SCHEME
AMENDMENT No. 506

Section 2981 Hundred of Bagot (131 Menaja Road, Howard Springs) is suitable for rezoning from Zone RL (Rural Living) to Zone RR (Rural Residential) and Zone FD (Future Development).

Specifically, this rezoning is suitable because:

- The proposal is generally consistent with the future development of the area as envisaged by the Howard Springs Rural Activity Centre Area Plan.

- The portion of Section 2981 that has been included within Zone FD (Future Development) can be, subject to the approval of the Development Consent Authority, developed into urban size lots in the future, once urban services become available in the locality.

- The portion of Section 2981 located within the urban core of the Activity Centre that has been included within Zone RR (Rural Residential) does not preclude the potential for further subdivision into urban size lots, once urban services become available in the locality.

- Land in Zone RR (Rural Residential) located within the transition area will provide a buffer to future urban development and will thereby maintain existing rural amenity in the Howard Springs locality.

- The proposed lots in this subdivision will be serviced from a water main, which will be constructed within Smyth and Menaja Road corridors, thereby reducing reliance and pressure on groundwater resources in this locality.

- The final subdivision configuration can respond to the requirements of Litchfield Council and other servicing authorities.

EVA LAWLER
Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

14/3/2019
DEVELOPMENT PERMIT  
DP19/0095

DESCRIPTION OF LAND THE SUBJECT OF THE PERMIT

Section 02981  
Hundred of Bagot  
131 MENAJA RD, HOWARD SPRINGS

APPROVED PURPOSE

To use and develop the land for the purpose of a subdivision to create five lots, in accordance with the attached schedule of conditions and the endorsed plans.

VARIATIONS GRANTED

Nil.

BASE PERIOD OF THE PERMIT

Subject to the provisions of sections 58, 59 and 59A of the Planning Act 1999, this permit will lapse two years from the date of issue.

Dr Alana Mackay  
Mackay  
2019.05.17  
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DR ALANA MACKAY  
Delegate  
Development Consent Authority  
17 May 2019
DEVELOPMENT PERMIT
DP19/0095

SCHEDULE OF CONDITIONS

CONDITIONS PRECEDENT

1. Prior to the endorsement of plans and prior to the commencement of works, a schematic plan
   demonstrating the on-site collection of stormwater and its discharge into the Litchfield Council
   stormwater drainage system shall be submitted to and approved by the Litchfield Council, to the
   satisfaction of the consent authority. The plan shall include details of site levels and Council’s
   stormwater drain connection point/s. The plan shall also indicate how stormwater will be collected
   on the site and connected underground to Council’s system or an alternate approved connection.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

2. The works carried out under this permit shall be in accordance with the drawings endorsed as
   forming part of this permit.

3. The owner of the land must enter into agreements with the relevant authorities for the provision
   of water supply, drainage, electricity facilities to each lot shown on the endorsed plan in
   accordance with the authorities’ requirements and relevant legislation at the time.

4. All existing and proposed easements and sites for existing and required utility services must be
   vested in the relevant authority for which the easement or site is to be created on the plan of
   subdivision submitted for approval by the Surveyor General.

5. Engineering design and specifications for the proposed and affected roads, street lighting,
   stormwater drainage, site earthworks, vehicular access, pedestrian/ cycle corridors and street
   scaping are to be to the technical requirements of Litchfield Council to the satisfaction of the
   consent authority and all approved works constructed at the owner’s expense.

6. Stormwater is to be collected and discharged into the drainage network to the technical standards
   of and at no cost to Litchfield Council to the satisfaction of the consent authority.

7. The kerb crossovers and driveways to the site approved by this permit are to meet the technical
   standards of Litchfield Council, to the satisfaction of the consent authority.

   The owner shall:
   a. remove disused vehicle and/ or pedestrian crossovers;
   b. provide footpaths/ cycleways to the satisfaction of the Litchfield Council;
   c. collect stormwater and discharge it to the drainage network; and
   d. undertake reinstatement works;
   all to the technical requirements of and at no cost to the Litchfield Council, to the satisfaction of
   the consent authority.

8. Appropriate erosion and sediment control measures should be effectively implemented throughout
   the construction stage of the development and all disturbed soil surfaces must be satisfactorily
   stabilised against erosion at completion of works, to the satisfaction of the Consent Authority.

9. Before the issue of titles, the owner must, in accordance with Part 6 of the Planning Act 1999, pay a monetary contribution to the Litchfield Council for the upgrade of local infrastructure, in accordance with its Development Contribution Plan.

NOTES

1. The land owner and developer should be aware that there is private water infrastructure (‘banjo lines’) within the Smyth Road road reserve. The developer and their contractors should take all reasonable steps to appropriately manage subdivision works, including for example, notification of users of the water lines of intended works, avoid damage and/or interruption of service of the water lines, and immediately make any necessary repairs if damage occurs.

2. A “Permit to Work Within a Road Reserve” may be required from Litchfield Council before commencement of any work within the road reserve.

3. The Power and Water Corporation advises that the Water and Sewer Services Development Section (landdevelopmentnorth@powerwater.com.au) and Power Network Engineering Section (powerconnections@powerwater.com.au) should be contacted via email a minimum of 1 month prior to construction works commencing in order to determine the Corporation’s servicing requirements, and the need for upgrading of on-site and/or surrounding infrastructure.

4. Any new on-site wastewater system to be installed must be carried out by a qualified licensed Self-Certifying Plumber and must comply with the NT Code of Practice for Small On-site Sewage and Sullage Treatment Systems and the Disposal or Reuse of Sewage Effluent (The Code).

5. There are statutory obligations under the Weeds Management Act 2001 to take all practical measures to manage weeds on the property. For advice on weed management please contact the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

6. As part of any subdivision, the parcel numbers for addressing should comply with the Australian Standard (AS/NZS 4819:2011). For more information contact Survey and Land Records surveylandrecords@nt.gov.au 08 8995 5354. The numbers shown on the plans are indicative only and are not for addressing purposes.

7. Professional advice regarding implementation of soil erosion control and dust control measures to be employed throughout the construction phase of the development are available from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Information can be obtained from the IECA Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines 2008 available at www.austieca.com.au and the NTG website https://nt.gov.au/environment/soil-land-vegetation.

8. The Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority recommends that the permit holder obtain an Authority Certificate to indemnify against prosecution under the Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989. For advice on how to obtain a certificate please contact the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority.

9. The Department of Health advises that the Howard Springs area can be subject to seasonal mosquito problems. There are no mosquito monitoring or control programs in the area.
Mr Kevin Dodd  
Earl James and Associates  
GPO Box 884  
DARWIN NT 0801

Dear Mr Dodd

**NOTICE OF CONSENT (SECTION 30Y OF THE PLANNING ACT)**  
LOT 2981 (13) MENAJA ROAD, HUNDRED OF BAGOT

The Development Consent Authority has determined, in accordance with section 30W(1)(a) of the Planning Act 1999, to grant consent to the proposal to use and develop the abovementioned land for the purpose of a subdivision to create five lots, subject to the conditions specified on the attached Development Permit DP19/0095.

**Reasons for the Determination**

1. Pursuant to section 30W(2) of the Planning Act 1999, in reconsidering the development component, the consent authority must take into account the matters included in the authority’s report given to the Minister under section 30Q(1).

The consent authority considered its report of 28 September 2018 where it reported to the Minister under section 30Q(1).

In its report to the Minister, it reported its preliminary decision regarding the development component and provided a summary of matters relevant to the subdivision including matters that the Authority considered the Minister should take into account, the three public submissions and the comments provided by service authorities.

In relation to matters the Authority considered the Minister should take into account, it provided information specifically regarding the requirements of Clause 11.4.5 (Subdivision of Land in Zone RR) including the requirement for lots in this zone to be connected to reticulated water. This matter was considered important, as the land is currently unserviced. The Authority acknowledged the requirements of the Scheme and, in response, the applicant stated its intention to provide for connection to reticulated water through the extension of existing infrastructure along Smyth Road. It noted that despite this, further assurances from the developer would be required for the Authority to consent to the subdivision.

The Authority noted that these additional assurances were provided in November 2018, in the form of a letter from the landowner to the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics.
The public submissions raised concerns regarding the potential impact the subdivision would have on existing private water infrastructure within Smyth Road and also suggested that existing water metres be removed from outside the 'old Mitre 10 building' (associated with the private water lines) and that a footpath be provided along Smyth Road.

The matter of the private water infrastructure, while acknowledged, is largely out of the control of the Authority. The water lines are understood to be within the road reserve controlled by the Litchfield Council and, as advised by the proponent, there are no banjo lines that cross the site. The Authority acknowledged the land owner’s assurance at the meeting to take all reasonable steps to locate and protect the banjo lines as part of any subdivision works.

To ensure the current landowner and any future land owner/developer and their contractor(s) are aware of the presence of the private water lines, the Authority accepted the recommendation by Development Assessment Services and included a note (refer Note 1) on the permit regarding this. The note outlines the Authority’s expectations that the landowner and/or developer and their contractor(s) will take all responsible steps to locate and ensure the protection of the private lines during subdivision works.

Additionally, the Authority acknowledged discussion at the hearing that further negotiation between the land owner/developer, the Power and Water Corporation and owners of the private water lines would be advantageous for provision of more future-proofed infrastructure that would cater for any increased demand on the reticulated infrastructure associated with future connections in the area. The Authority encouraged the land owner/developer to investigate any alternative options to facilitate this.

2. The Authority considered the previous assessment report ('DAS report'), including information contained within it regarding the proposal, service authority comments, public submissions and assessment of the proposal against the NT Planning Scheme and Planning Act 1999.

The DAS report considered the requirements of the NT Planning Scheme, including Clauses 11.1.1 (Minimum Lot Sizes and Requirements), 11.1.3 (Subdivision of Land in Zone FD), 11.4.2 (Infrastructure in Subdivisions of Rural and Unzoned Land), 11.4.3 (Lot Size and Configuration in Subdivision of Rural and Unzoned Land), 11.4.5 (Subdivision of land in Zone RR) and 14.7.3 (Planning Principles and Area Plan for the Howard Springs Rural Activity Centre).

A non-compliance with the requirements of Clause 11.1.1 was identified in the DAS report. The non-compliance comes about due to the size of proposed Lot 5, which has an area of 4000m² instead of 50ha as required in Zone FD (Future Development).

The Authority noted that Clause 11.1.3 (Subdivision of Land Zoned FD) enables it to approve the subdivision of land in Zone FD where it is in accordance with any relevant Area Plan and once services are, or can be made available.

The application demonstrated that proposed Lot 5 is an interim lot to enable further subdivision in accordance with Howard Springs Activity Centre Area Plan once servicing needs have been resolved. The identified FD zoning places a number of controls over development and subdivision of land in Zone FD, meaning that proposed Lot 5 could not be used without consent.

The DAS report acknowledged that the application was accompanied by a Land Suitability Assessment that confirmed the presence of no land constraints within the property.

The DAS report further acknowledged that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources had advised that groundwater would not be available to support the proposed
subdivision, noting over-allocation and sustainability concerns of the existing underground water resource.

The Authority relied on the advice of the Power and Water Corporation which confirmed that reticulated water is available in the area and also the confirmation within the application that it is the land owner/developer’s intention to connect to this service.

Clause 11.4.5 (Subdivision of Land in Zone RR) prevents the consent authority from approving the subdivision unless the lots will be connected to reticulated water. Noting the above, the consent authority made reference to the availability of appropriate reticulated services and the proponent’s intention to connect to these services as being indicative of the land’s capability of supporting the proposal and that the proposal is in accordance with clause 11.4.5. The Authority confirmed the proponent’s understanding of this requirement at the meeting.

In relation to the advice of Litchfield Council specifically, and matters that relate to the development component, the Authority noted the Council’s support of the size of proposed Lot 5. It also noted Council’s concerns regarding the design and available driveway locations and potential resulting conflict with Macleod Road intersection directly opposite the lot.

The applicant provided an amended plan showing revised driveway locations in April 2019 and indications that the design would now resolve the Council concern regarding potential traffic conflict. Noting that formal advice from Council had not been received by the Authority, the proponent table a copy of an email from Council confirming that the design was acceptable.

Council’s representative at the meeting further confirmed that Council was in receipt of an amended plan and that the design was acceptable. On this basis, the Authority confirmed that draft condition precedent 1, which required submission of amended plans demonstrating appropriate and approved access to each of the lots, was therefore no longer required.

Submission of further plans/details will still be required to demonstrate how stormwater drainage will be managed, as requested by the Council. Condition precedent 2 deals with this requirement.

3. The Authority considered the minutes from the 10 August 2018 meeting of the Litchfield Division of the Development Consent Authority.

It noted the reasons for decision relating to this application, including the decision regarding the applicant’s request to amended draft conditions 6 and 8, which related to site access and upgrades to road infrastructure. It noted the decision that inclusion of the conditions, in an unaltered form, was necessary to ensure appropriate servicing of the lots. Finally, it noted that, despite the above decision, it agreed to make minor changes to the wording of the conditions to clarify their meaning.

The Authority noted its previous consideration of the potential impact that the subdivision may have on the amenity of the area, including:
- That the subdivision is generally consistent with the requirements of the Scheme, including provision of appropriate lot configuration, connection to reticulated services and demonstration that the land is capable of supporting the proposed subdivision.
- That advice from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources indicated that increased groundwater extraction in this area would impact the sustainability of the groundwater resource.
- The advice from the Power and Water Corporation, which confirmed that reticulated water is available in the area but that the developer would need to undertake upgrades to the infrastructure to enable connection.
Finally, the Authority noted its decision to remove the condition requiring a caution notice to be registered on the land indicating that the area was subject to seasonal mosquito problems. This was in response to a request by the applicant and evidence available to the Authority at the meeting, including evidence provided by public submitters/local residents in attendance.

4. The Authority noted the request by the proponent at its meeting of 12 April 2019 to further amend conditions 6 and 8. The Authority determined that reference to ‘pedestrian/ cycle corridors’ within condition 6 was appropriate as the necessary corridors should be allowed for, whether or not footpaths and/or cycleways are required to be constructed by Council. In relation to condition 8, the Authority amended part (b) to include ‘to the satisfaction of the Litchfield Council’ to provide the additional clarification that the proponent sought. It further determined that payment of a bond by the proponent to the Council for construction of footpaths/cycleway once urban lots were developed/there was a need for the footpath, as suggested by Council’s representative at the meeting, was not preferred in this case.

5. In making its decision, the consent authority relied on advice from the Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics confirming that an amendment decision had been made. This provided the necessary assurances that the amendment component of the application had been determined.

Amendment Decision (Section 30R of the Planning Act 1999)

The Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics has decided, in accordance with Section 30R(2)(a)(i) of the Planning Act 1999 to approve the amendment proposal as specified in the concurrent application.

In accordance with Section 30R(3)(b) of the Planning Act 1999, the amendment decision takes effect on the date on which the attached Development Permit DP19/0095 is issued.

Reasons for the Amendment Decision

Section 2981 Hundred of Bagot (131 Menaja Road, Howard Springs) is suitable for rezoning from Zone RL (Rural Living) to Zone RR (Rural Residential) and Zone FD (Future Development).

Specifically, this rezoning is suitable because:

- The proposal is generally consistent with the future development of the area as envisaged by the Howard Springs Rural Activity Centre Area Plan.
- The portion of Section 2981 that has been included within Zone FD (Future Development) can be, subject to the approval of the Development Consent Authority, developed into urban size lots in the future, once urban services become available in the locality.
- The portion of Section 2981 located within the urban core of the Activity Centre that has been included within Zone RR (Rural Residential) does not preclude the potential for further subdivision into urban size lots, once urban services become available in the locality.
- Land in Zone RR (Rural Residential) located within the transition area will provide a buffer to future urban development and will thereby maintain existing rural amenity in the Howard Springs locality.
- The proposed lots in this subdivision will be serviced from a water main, which will be constructed within Smyth and Menaja Road corridors, thereby reducing reliance and pressure on groundwater resources in this locality.
- The final subdivision configuration can respond to the requirements of Litchfield Council and other servicing authorities.
Right of Appeal

Applicants are advised that a right of appeal to the Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal exists under Part 9 of the Planning Act in relation to the development component only. An appeal under section 114 against a determination of a development application must be made within 28 days of the service of this notice.

The Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal can provide information regarding the Notice of Appeal form and fees payable. The address for lodgement of a Notice of Appeal is: Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal, PO Box 41860 CASUARINA NT 0810 or Level 1, The Met Building, 13 Scaturchio Street, CASUARINA NT 0810 (Telephone: 08 8944 8720 or Facsimile 08 8922 7201 or email AGD.ntcat@nt.gov.au).

There is no right of appeal by a third party under section 117 of the Planning Act in respect of this determination as section 117(4) of the Act and regulation 14 of the Planning Regulations apply to the application.

If you have any queries in relation to this Notice of Consent or the attached Development Permit, please contact Development Assessment Services on telephone (08) 8999 6046.

Yours faithfully
Dr Alana Mackay
2019.05.17
08:16:13
‘+09’30’

DR ALANA MACKAY
Delegate

17 May 2019

Attachment

cc   Litchfield Council
     Gerry Wood MLA
     Mark Lowe
     Debbie Higgins