

Capital City Charter

A commitment of the Northern Territory Government
and the Darwin City Council.



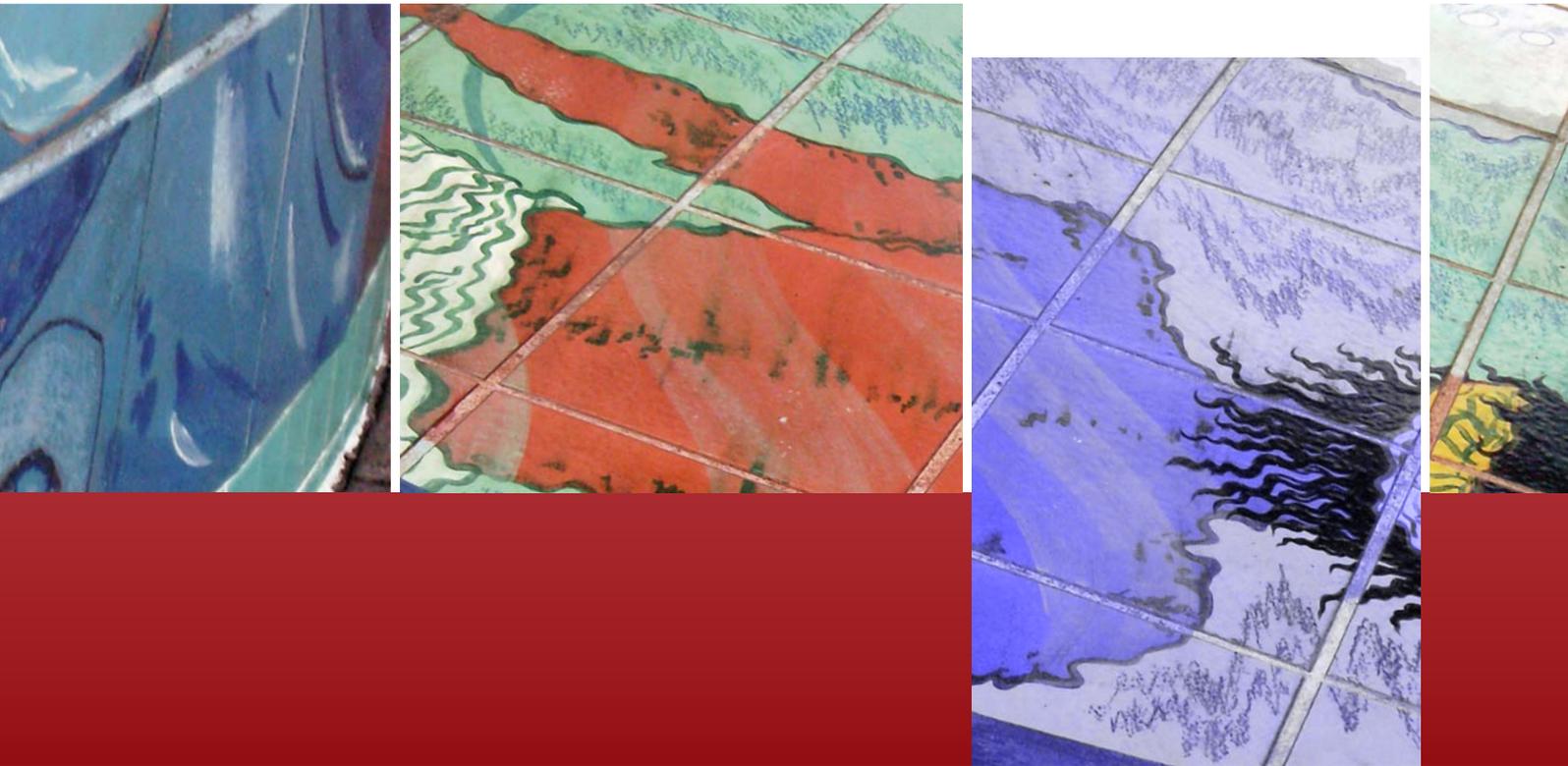


The Darwin City Council and Northern Territory Government will work together with the community to enhance the physical, social, artistic, historical, cultural, commercial and environmental aspects of Darwin with a focus on the central business area.

What do we need?

- A vibrant, creative and active central city area
- A safe community environment
- Attractive and climatically appropriate construction
- Improved public spaces
- A community that values its cultural heritage
- A sustainable city





A vibrant, creative and active central city area

A vibrant and active centre depends on having people living there. Re-population of the central area will reinvigorate business and create activity that, together with visitors, creates a vibrant social atmosphere.

Mixed use development of the centre depends on different uses co-existing, requiring a tolerance of and between activities. The central area also serves as the ceremonial place of the community and is a major focus of recreational and entertainment venues.

What do we need?

- Mixed use development including commerce, retail, residential, recreation and entertainment
- Interaction between public and private spaces
- Ceremonial place
- Densification to create increased pedestrian and cyclist traffic
- Promotion of the city as a place to visit

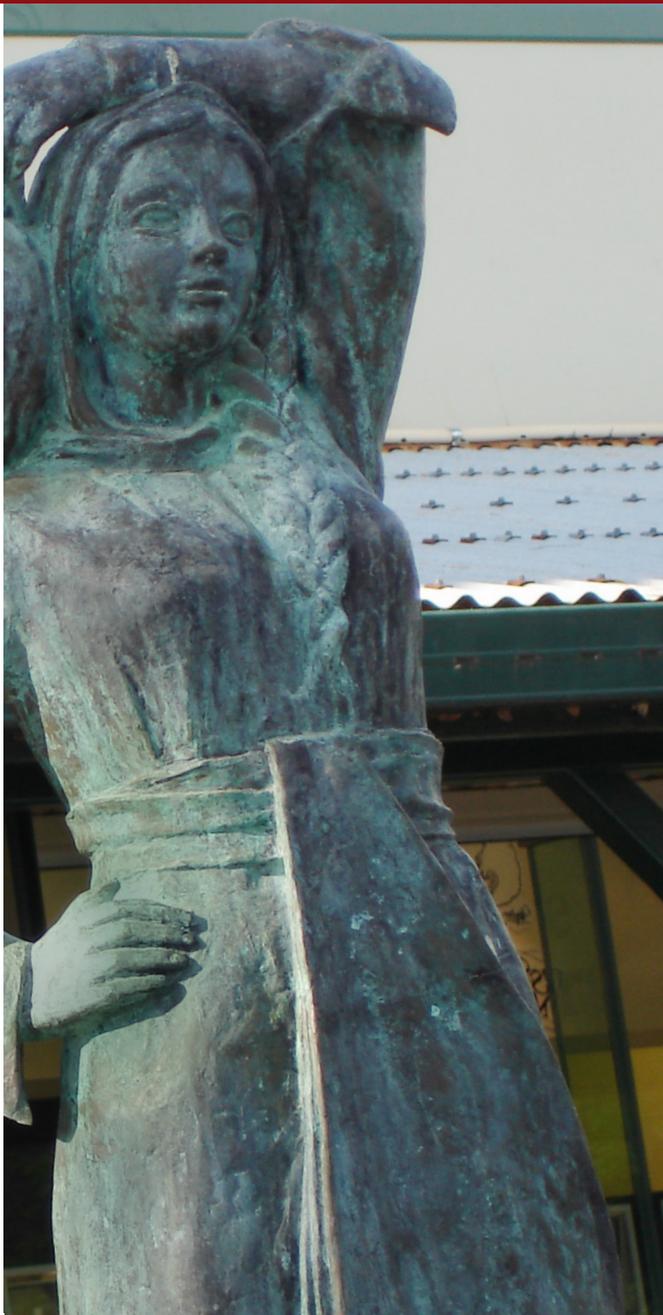
What can we deliver?

- Development that respects spatial context
- Public spaces that provide facilities that encourage active use of space by residents and visitors
- Coordinated marketing of Darwin



A safe community environment

Public spaces including the interface with private developments will focus on creating and maintaining a safe environment.



What do we need?

- Application of the principles of crime prevention through environmental design
- Programmed improvements based on a safety audit of public spaces
- Appropriate development initiatives that populate publicly accessible spaces

What can we deliver?

- More open and well patronised spaces
- Appropriate lighting and signage
- Active street frontages
- Multi-use spaces
- Coordinated public investment in streetscapes



Attractive and climatically appropriate design

The climatic extremes of Darwin demand appropriate design responses. Emphasis should be on energy efficiency in buildings, while maximising the opportunity to enjoy the more moderate dry season conditions.

Avoiding uniformity in building height, massing or façade treatment will enhance the character, identity and sense of place.

Shelter from the elements in public spaces and particularly along well trafficked footpaths and cycle paths is necessary to encourage pedestrian movement and community interaction. Design of the built environment should enhance the experience of people moving through the city.

What do we need?

- Quality in design
- Emphasis on energy efficiency
- Pedestrian and cyclist amenity
- Visually attractive environment
- Improvements to parking and public transport facilities

What can we deliver?

- Developments that consider climate and energy efficiency
- Coordinated public investment in public areas that enhance shade, shelter and visual amenity
- Coordination and partnerships for the delivery of parking and public transport facilities



Improved public spaces

Emphasis will be given improving areas available for public use, whether they are owned privately or publicly. Opportunities to enhance existing public space will focus on aesthetic improvement, functionality, accessibility and amenity.

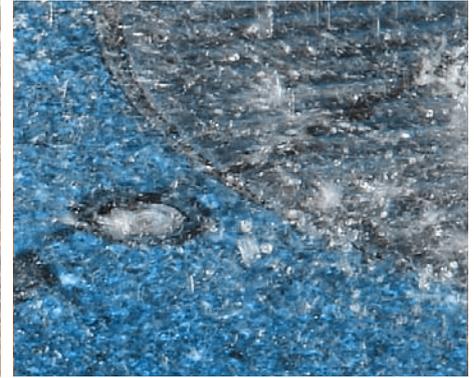
Developers of public spaces will be encouraged to design active frontages adding where appropriate to areas available for public use and enjoyment. Continuity and inter-connectivity between developments is desirable.

What do we need?

- Appropriate landscaping and façade treatments
- Shade and verandah structures
- Public art
- Street furniture
- Community safety
- Improved transport and parking options
- Wireless technology in the central business district
- Presentation and cleanliness of streets and surrounds

What can we deliver?

- Coordinated investment strategy of Council and Northern Territory Government agencies
- Northern Territory Government commitment to quality design of buildings
- Combined and coordinated public art strategy
- Emphasis on design quality in the development approvals process
- Redevelopment of State Square
- Better connections to the Waterfront



Valuing cultural heritage

The long-standing cultural diversity of Darwin's population contributes to its identity, sense of community and aspirations for a harmonious future. The celebration of heritage reinforces the values of our community and enables expression of our hopes for the future.

What do we need?

- Preservation of tangible and intangible heritage values

What can we deliver?

- Legislative protection for cultural heritage

- Development that appropriately celebrates heritage

- Art and design with identifiable heritage connection

- Cultural influences in art and design and public spaces

- World War II historical and commemorative experiences

A sustainable city

It is our role to create and maintain an environmentally sustainable city for current and future generations of Territorians.

We must strive to become leaders in climate change policies and we must implement a coastal erosion plan and prepare for alternate fuel and energy sources.

Together we must support our community to increase water efficiency and in preserving the Darwin Harbour and protecting the ecological systems within it.

What do we need?

- Preservation of the Darwin Harbour
- An inclusive approach to climate change and sustainability

What can we deliver?

- Coordinated strategies to preserve and protect our Harbour from coastal erosion and degeneration of water quality, ecological systems and biodiversity
- Increased energy efficiency in Government buildings
- Increased efficiency in water usage and reuse

Graeme Sawyer
Lord Mayor of Darwin

Paul Henderson
Chief Minister

Delia Lawrie
Minister for Planning and Lands



Darwin City a people place