



PLANNING FOR DARWIN'S FUTURE

A forum to discuss how Darwin's CBD should look in the future is underway today.

Chief Minister Clare Martin and Darwin's Acting Lord Mayor John Bailey opened the Darwin CBD Urban Planning Forum at the Holiday Inn Esplanade.

"We've created a strong economy, and growth is important to Darwin's CBD - but we must also protect our great lifestyle," Ms Martin said.

"Careful planning gave our construction industry the confidence to invest – and careful planning is needed to make sure the CBD is the best it can be.

"Darwin has grown into a vibrant business, tourism and residential hub – we're proud of our tropical city and boast one of the best lifestyles in Australia."

Minister for Planning and Lands Delia Lawrie will address the forum this afternoon.

"The forum will include several of Darwin's key property and planning stakeholders," said Ms Lawrie.

"Participants will be asked - how do we achieve better building designs and what should our streets, parks and other open spaces look like?"

This afternoon the public will be invited to participate in a plenary and report back session at the forum.

Public information sessions will be held at Raintree Park on Friday between 11am-2pm and Casuarina Shopping Centre on Saturday between 9am-5pm.

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PLANNING EXPERTS TO ATTEND FORUM

Bob Nation - The Northern Territory Government Architect involved in the Darwin Waterfront Development and the Desert Knowledge Project in Alice Springs. He has more than 40 years experience as an architect in Australia and overseas.

Ross Finocchiaro - Director Gaymark Group of Companies. Born in Darwin he has been involved in hotel, shopping centre, office, multi-deck car park and industrial developments.

June D'Rozario - Local urban planning consultant and long-term Darwin resident.

Prof. Robert Adams - City of Melbourne. Professor Adams is considered one of the foremost champions of urban design in Australia. Cross-cultural and inter-disciplinary collaboration has formed a critical underpinning of his work. He has 30 years experience as a practicing designer in the private and public sectors.