



AGENDA

Late Reports

**Confidential Ordinary Council Meeting
Tuesday, 28 July 2020**

Order Of Business

Confidential Section	3
26 Confidential Reports.....	3
26.4 Velodrome Project - Change to Project Scope and Funding.....	3

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION**26 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS****26.4 VELODROME PROJECT - CHANGE TO PROJECT SCOPE AND FUNDING**

Author: Recreation & Leisure Coordinator
 Executive Manager Leisure and Regulatory Services
 General Manager Community and Regulatory Services
 Executive Manager Program Management

Authoriser: Acting Chief Executive Officer

Section under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 65(2) of the <i>Local Government Act</i> and Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations.
Sub-clause and Reason:	8(c)(i) - information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on any person.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report entitled Velodrome Project – Change to Project Scope and Funding be received and noted.
2. THAT Council note correspondence received from the Chief Minister of the Northern Territory to the Lord Mayor, dated 21 July 2020, seeking to change the scope of the Velodrome Project and for City of Darwin to return the funds originally provided by the Northern Territory Government.
3. THAT Council provides in-principle approval to reduce the scope of the Velodrome Project, subject to legal and financial advice to guide its final decision.
4. THAT a further report be presented to Council on options to guide its final Decision in relation to the delivery of the Velodrome Project at the 1st Ordinary Meeting on 11 August 2020.

PURPOSE	To provide Council with a request from the Chief Minister of the Northern Territory dated 21 July 2020 that seeks to reduce the scope of the Velodrome Project from \$10.5M to \$2.5M and for the remaining funds of \$8M to be returned to the Northern Territory Government; and To provide Council with an overview of the progress and history of the Velodrome Project to date and advise Council that legal and financial advice will be sought to guide Council's future consideration in relation to the Chief Minister's request.
BACKGROUND & COUNCIL DECISIONS	The Northern Territory Government (NTG) has committed \$8M towards the upgrade and lighting of Velodrome track. City of Darwin (COD) accepted the funding through the execution of a binding funding agreement and will deliver the project on behalf of the Northern Territory Government through a binding project management and construction contract. The funding agreement identified the project scope for the project as:

	<p><i>Project is to be conducted in accordance with an approved Project Plan, associated Consultation Plan and Traffic Study, and shall include:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. construction on a 250 metre velodrome track upgrade with 30-35 degree banks and safety fencing, bike skills area, club and facilities storage, lights for velodrome track and parking and landscaping;</i> <i>2. engagement of the Project Manager to conduct the Project;</i> <i>3. purchase of the Assets set out under "Assets" in the column headed "Components" in the Project Plan (if applicable);</i> <i>4. undertaking any other Components set out in the Project Plan; and</i> <i>5. Master / Concept Plans for additional cycling elements to be considered in the Project Plan including a pump track and criterium track.</i> <p>A Contract for project management services to manage delivery of the project on COD's behalf was awarded to Cardno NT on 20 December 2019.</p> <p>In April 2020, Council and the Northern Territory Government (NTG) executed a variation regarding the Velodrome Project funding which amalgamated the initial funding from the Department Tourism, Sport and Culture of \$2.5M with the funding from Department Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics of \$8M for a combined funding amount of \$10.5M for the project.</p> <p>A project plan for the delivery of the Velodrome upgrade was approved by COD and the NTG on 6 May 2020.</p> <p>On 5 December 2019, Cycling NT advised Council of the formation of a Cycling Alliance, and that they would lead the stakeholder engagement for the Velodrome Project and that it was imperative that Council appointed a sub-contractor to build a wooden Velodrome in line with a world's best practice and UCI standard, Attachment 1.</p> <p>Cycling NT also provided Council with their own masterplan that they believed was suitable for the site and available funding, Attachment 2.</p> <p>Council's Chief Executive Officer provided a response to Cycling NT on 12 December 2019, advising of the agreed scope of works of the funding agreement and that the Velodrome Precinct Stakeholders Alliance requested change in 'fit for purpose' requirements needed to be considered with respect to all other stakeholder requests, whole of life costings, community access and the future management and maintenance responsibilities for the facility, Attachment 3.</p> <p>PREVIOUS DECISIONS</p> <p>DECISION NO.22\0512 (13/03/18) <u>Darwin Velodrome Upgrade - Update March 2018</u></p> <p>B. THAT Council write to the Northern Territory Government requesting a further \$2.5 M (GST exclusive) increase to the current one-off capital grant in order to deliver the agreed scope of works for the Darwin Velodrome Project.</p> <p>C. THAT in the event the Northern Territory Government declines an additional budget allocation for the Darwin Velodrome Upgrade that</p>
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	<p>Council proceeds with the asphalt resurfacing of the existing velodrome track and additional items, including lighting, pending budget availability from the current one-off capital grant.</p>
<p>DISCUSSION</p>	<p>On the 21 July 2020, the Lord Mayor received correspondence from the Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, stating that “as it is now clear that both the cycling community and local residents are very strongly opposed to the velodrome redevelopment project in its current form” and is requesting COD return an amount of \$8M from the funding agreement for the Velodrome project, Attachment 4.</p> <p>Furthermore, the correspondence advises Council to use the initial \$2.5M for beautification and upgrade works at the existing facility.</p> <p>COD has also received correspondence from Cycling NT, on behalf of the Cycling Alliance advising they no longer support the project, Attachment 5. Including a copy of correspondence from Cycling NT to Minister Moss on 21 July 2020, advising NTG of their withdrawal of support for the Velodrome project, Attachment 6.</p> <p>COD received correspondence on 20 July 2020, from Friends of Bagot Park, stating they wanted the entire proposed bicycle precinct including velodrome, bike skills area, pump track and criterium track moved to a different location, Attachment 7.</p> <p>The letter from the Chief Minister advises Council to use the initial \$2.5M for beautification and upgrade works at the existing facility. Council has already considered the use of funding if there was an inadequate amount for a full re-development, and in March 2018 determined to use any available funding for an asphalt re-surfacing of the track and upgrade of lighting.</p> <p>It should be noted that if Council is to continue on this basis, further consideration of available funding is required to determine what if any landscaping or car park upgrades as requested by the community can be accommodated in the project scope.</p> <p>In this regard, Council is seeking further advice and will cost this option.</p> <p>The existing velodrome facility is an open access community facility, however due to its current poor condition, it is no longer fit for purpose.</p> <p>Should a new Velodrome facility is to be built at an alternate location, Council could consider demolition and removal of existing Velodrome and surrounding infrastructure and return the site to green space. This has not been part of the Chief Minister’s current request and, where this may be an option in the future, funding for the removal and instatement of green space could be sought from the NT Government.</p> <p>Council’s in-principle approval for this change to the project is now sought, subject to a further report providing details of the options for both the changed scope for the Velodrome Project and the current funding, which needs to not only cover the \$2.5M in works, but also ensure that Council’s costs to date and any committed costs and potential claim by the current Project Manager and Construction Delivery Contractor, Cardno, are maintained and retained.</p> <p>In the meantime, the Chief Executive Officer and Council Officers continue to liaise with the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics and the Department of Tourism and Culture, who Council is bound in regards the current funding arrangements. Legal advice in relation to the changed scope and options under the existing funding</p>

	<p>agreements is being sought.</p> <p>Once further advice is provided to enable full consideration by Council of its legal and commercial options, a further report will be presented to Council at the 1st Ordinary Meeting on 11 August 2020.</p>												
CRITICAL DATES	<p>City of Darwin Acting Chief Executive Officer wrote to the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics and the Department of Tourism and Culture on 27 July 2020, advising the Chief Executives of those departments about the request from the Chief Minister and Council's intended course of action in the meantime;</p> <p>A design and construct tender was to be issued for advertising on 30 July 2020 – this will not proceed in the interim, pending further advice;</p> <p>The NTG goes into Caretaker in preparation for the General Election on 22 August 2020 on 30 July 2020;</p> <p>A further Council report will be presented on 11 August 2020, which will inform its decision and it will be this decision that will form the basis of a response to the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of the Chief Minister, in response to the correspondence from the Chief Minister dated 21 July 2020, who will be in place following the Government's Caretaker provision.</p>												
BUDGET / FINANCIAL	<p>Budget/Funding: \$10.5M</p> <p>Funding identified: NTG Capital Grant</p> <p>Description: Funding agreement to deliver a redevelopment of the Velodrome at Bagot Park.</p> <p>Council has an existing contract with Cardno NT to project manage the redevelopment of the Velodrome.</p> <p>Total project expenditure to date:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Design & Development costs</td> <td>\$140,140</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project Management costs (Cardno NT)</td> <td>\$3,600</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Commitments to Cardno NT</td> <td>\$7,100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance of remaining funds</td> <td>\$10,349,160</td> </tr> </table>	Design & Development costs	\$140,140	Project Management costs (Cardno NT)	\$3,600	Commitments to Cardno NT	\$7,100	Balance of remaining funds	\$10,349,160				
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	<p>project outcomes were to be. There is a risk that COD's reputation as an organisation that is able to deliver projects that meet with community objectives may be tarnished as a result of this interference.</p> <p>To mitigate any legal or financial risk, COD has sought advice to ensure an appropriate outcome for all parties, in particular Council and the community it represents.</p> <p>To mitigate any further reputational risk, COD will ensure that, subject to Council's final decision, project signage and communications reflect the scope of the project and that inform level engagement with all stakeholders is undertaken on this basis.</p>																																				
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RISK RATING	In accordance with City of Darwin risk management policy, the Risk Rating is: Moderate Likely																																				
LEGISLATIVE / POLICY CONTROLS OR IMPACTS	<p>Legislation: N/A</p> <p>Policy: N/A</p>																																				
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	<p>Existing Position No:</p> <p>Contractor: Cardno NT</p>																																				
EXTERNAL CONSULTATION & ENGAGEMENT	External Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics and the Department of Tourism and Culture Chief Executives.																																				
COMMUNICATION STRATEGY	COD will ensure that, subject to Council's final decision, project signage and communications reflect the scope of the project and that inform level engagement with all stakeholders is undertaken on this basis.																																				

PLACE SCORE STATEMENT	N/A
STRATEGIC PLAN	2 A Safe, Liveable and Healthy City 2.3 By 2030, Darwin residents will be more active and healthy
ATTACHMENTS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Letter from Velodrome Precinct Stakeholder Alliance 2. Cycling NT Velodrome Precinct Concept Design 2019 3. Letter to Velodrome Precinct Stakeholder Alliance 4. Chief Minister Letter to Lord Mayor Velodrome Project 5. Cycling NT Letter to Lord Mayor 6. Cycling NT Letter to Minister Moss 7. Friends of Bagot Park Letter to Lord Mayor
APPROVED BY SLT	No
APPROVED BY SDG	Yes – 27 July 2020
FURTHER DIRECTIONS	This report was submitted as a late report due to the timing of the receipt of correspondence from the Chief Minister, late on the evening of Tuesday 21 July 2020 (during the course of Council's Confidential Briefing) by the Lord Mayor and the urgent requirement to seek advice and present this matter to Council on an urgent basis.
DATE	27 July 2020
DECLARATION OF INTEREST	No.

Mr Scott Waters
Chief Executive Officer
City of Darwin
GPO Box 84
DARWIN NT 0801

5 December 2019

VELODROME PRECINCT STAKEHOLDERS ALLIANCE

Dear Scott,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the sporting stakeholders Cycling NT (CNT), Darwin Cycling Club (DCC), Triathlon NT (TNT) and Darwin Triathlon Club (DTC). This letter is to outline the minimum requirements for a fit for purpose velodrome and cycle precinct as agreed by the above stakeholders who have come together as a united front and who would benefit from the precinct.

In light of a recent meeting with Council's Executive Manager, Leisure & Regulatory Services and our recent email suggesting our minimum requirements for both Cycling and Triathlon at the Bagot Park precinct we have some concerns surrounding the descriptive scope of works outlined in Clare Beacham email.

Since that meeting, CNT, DCC, TNT and DTC have met and have agreed unequivocally to be a united front with the project going forward.

As you will recall from our previous email that CNT require a minimum scope of works to ensure the project is "fit for purpose" with those requirements being that the Velodrome is the underlying element of the precinct and that on advice from Cycling Australia, the track should be a 250 metres, of a world's best practice timber construction (Accorya timber), to UCI standards, have an incline greater than 35 degrees, have a covered roof and lighting to no less than 600 lux. It is imperative that the Project Manager, when appointed, insists on a subcontractor to purpose build the wooden structure of velodrome to a world's best practice and UCI standard.

In addition we outlined that, TNT would require a "fit for purpose" Skills Track which we would be approximately 480m in length and approximately 6 meters wide with a cement stabilised earth track which should include a minimum of 6 humps, 2 tabletops, a slaloms and hip jump within the track.

It was also proposed that a Pump Track be incorporated which should be approximately 380m in length and approximately 3m wide with a series of ups and down shaped mounds to make it possible to go forward using a pump action and not needing to peddle as used by BMX riders. This should be finished with 30mm of hot mix over 100mm base course.

CYCLING NORTHERN TERRITORY INC. ABN: 79 481 542 728

Phone +61 0408 892 322 Email nt.eo@cycling.org.au Website www.ntcycling.org.au

Head Office, Sitzler Netball Centre, 235 Abala Road, Marrara NT 0812 Postal Address, PO Box 2391, Parap NT 0804

As for a Cycle Track we know this would be a challenge in the available space however both Cycling and Triathlon would also hope that some sort of track is achievable within the confines of the park. We would expect this to be a width of approximately 4m and finished with 30mm of hot mix over 100mm base course material.

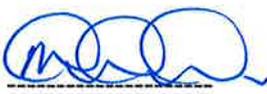
The estimates that CNT have had received suggest that these elements are achievable for the funding on hand, however we are fully aware that current market will dictate what is achievable for the money that is currently on the table. The estimates we have received are as follows and should be noted that they are only estimates:

Velodrome at a cost of \$7.6M +GST
Skills Track at a cost of \$180K + GST
Pump Track at a cost of \$366K + GST
Cycle Track at a cost of \$345K + GST
Carparking at a cost of \$345K + GST
Including a contingency of \$500K + GST

Clare's email outlined that the project will only be "upgrading" the velodrome, whereas Cycling is under the expectation that a new velodrome, fit for purpose, will be constructed. The email also indicated that the current funding model will not allow for a pump track and that a future pump track and criterium/cycle track will be considered. Cycling and Triathlon are concerned that the pump and cycle track will not be in the scope of works for tender?

All Stakeholders with the exclusion of Football NT and the Friends of Bagot have agreed as undersigned to have one point of contact for all future and further discussions surrounding the velodrome and cycle precinct. It was agreed that Cycling NT will be the lead contact and that the undersigned will have regular meetings to keep everyone abreast of the development. That point of contact will be Cycling NT Executive Officer, Mark Heath.

Kind regards,



Mark Heath
EO CNT



Megan Lawton
Chair CNT



Denise Dunn
Vice Chair CNT



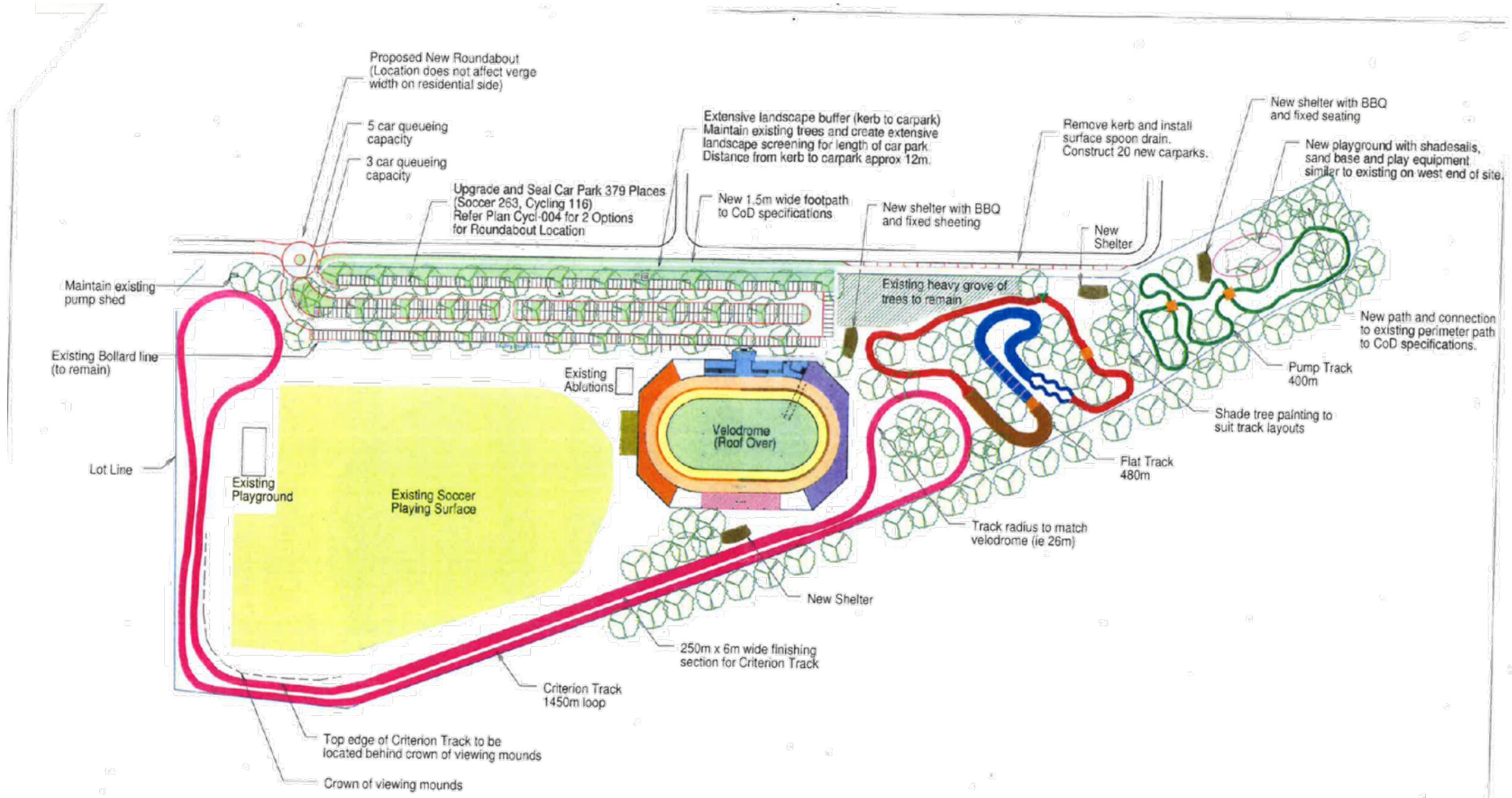
Ben Gibson
Chair DCC



Paul Bell
President TNT

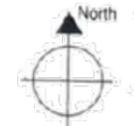


Lucy Berk
President DTC



Legend		Flat Track Course - Notes		
	Criterion Track 4m Wide Asphalt	1. Approximate length of track 480m	2. The course is to remain outside of tree drip line 3. Track surface is cement stabilized Road Base	
	Track 4m Wide (Earth)			
	Track 6m Wide (Earth)			
	Track 8m Wide (Earth)	Pump Track Course - Notes		
	Dual Slalom (Earth)			1. Approximate length of track 400m
	Table Top - 6m x 6m x 0.6m Deep Up and Down Ramps extend 3m			2. The course is to remain outside of tree drip line
	Hip Jump - 6m x 6m x 0.6m Triangle Top			3. Track surface is Asphalt
	Humps - 6m x 0.4m Wide x 0.3m Deep			
	Track 2m Wide (Asphalt)			

Project Darwin Cycling Precinct Concept Drawings	Client Northern Territory Govt. City of Darwin	Design Northern Territory Project Management P/L 25/07 Spinnaker St, Purple Dammit Design Director: Dean Gibbons P: +61 8 89 42 9907 M: +61 415 672 954 E: dean@nptpm.com.au		Scale 1 : 2000 (A3)	Dwg No. Cycl-002
Drawing Title Site Plan Background Off		Copyright The plans and designs are the copyright of Northern Territory Project Management P/L and cannot be reproduced or used without prior written permission.		Drawn DSO	Issue 05
				Date 6/9/19	





12 December 2019

Please quote: 3091378 SW:mg

Mark Heath
Executive Officer
Cycling NT
PO Box 2391
PARAP NT 0804

Dear Mark,

Velodrome Precinct Stakeholder Alliance

Thank you for your correspondence of 5 December 2019 outlining the current position of the Velodrome Precinct Stakeholders Alliance.

In your correspondence you detail a minimum scope of works to ensure the project is 'fit for purpose'. The scope of works is significantly different to the previous advice provided to Council from Cycling NT and Triathlon NT.

In October 2018, Council was provided with an agreed prioritised scope of works to include:

Stage 1

- 250m velodrome, 30-35 degree banks, concrete with safety fencing.
- Bike skills area
- Lights for the velodrome track
- Pump track concept design and scoping

Stage 2

- Pump Track
- Storage area/ canteen
- Spectator seating and shade
- Criterium track

Council underwent community consultation based on the above agreed scope of works. In June 2019, Cycling NT and Triathlon NT reiterated their support for the above scope of works. The community consultation results were presented to Council in August 2019.

At this time, Council was advised of additional funding from the Northern Territory Government (NTG) for this project. Following negotiation between Council and NTG regarding terms and conditions, the funding agreement was recently finalized and announced.



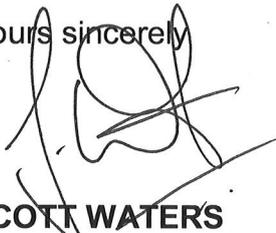
While I appreciate your correspondence of 5 December 2019 outlines a change in position for the Velodrome Precinct Stakeholders Alliance given the additional funding, your letter details significant changes to the previously agreed requirements for the velodrome, including timber rather than concrete construction, an increase in banking incline and the inclusion of a roof structure.

The Velodrome Precinct Stakeholders Alliance requested change in 'fit for purpose' requirements will need to be considered with respect to all other stakeholder requests, whole of life costings, community access and the future management and maintenance responsibilities for the facility.

Regarding the next steps, Council has advertised for a Project Manager who will work with all stakeholders including the Velodrome Precinct Stakeholder Alliance to oversee and deliver the project. As soon as the Project Manager has been confirmed, all stakeholders will be invited to a meeting to discuss the project and any requirements.

Finally, as requested, Council will liaise with you as Executive Officer, Cycling NT for all future discussions with the Velodrome Precinct Stakeholders Alliance.

Yours sincerely



SCOTT WATERS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER





CHIEF MINISTER

Parliament House
State Square
Darwin NT 0800
chief.minister@nt.gov.au

GPO Box 3146
Darwin NT 0801
Telephone: 08 8936 5500
Facsimile: 08 8936 5576

The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of Darwin
Mr Kon Vatskalis JP
PO Box 84
DARWIN NT 0801

Email: darwin@darwin.nt.gov.au

Dear Lord Mayor,

I write regarding the NT Government funded Velodrome project that is being managed by City of Darwin.

As you are aware, Cycling NT who represent the main user group of the Velodrome have withdrawn their support for the project as they do not believe it is being built to the specifications that they require to grow their sport.

Cycling NT have written to the Minister for Sport, Lauren Moss to formally request that the project is paused by the City of Darwin before it goes out to tender.

I have also been contacted by local residents group, the Friends of Bagot Park, who are completely opposed to the redevelopment of Bagot Park and who want to see the entire project moved to a more suitable location.

It is now clear that the Cycling community and the local residents are very strongly opposed to the Velodrome redevelopment project in its current form.

I therefore request that the \$8million given to the City of Darwin for the project be returned to the NT Government.

The initial \$2.5million in funding you received should be used by the City of Darwin for beautification and upgrade works at the existing facility.

The project should not proceed as planned now that it has no support from residents or the cycling community, so I trust that council will move to return this funding as soon as possible.

Yours Sincerely,

MICHAEL GUNNER

21 JUL 2020



Th Hon Kon Vatskalis
Lord Mayor, City of Darwin
Civic Centre Harry Chan Avenue
GPO Box 84
Darwin NT 0801

14 July 2020

Bagot Park Velodrome

We refer to our letters of 15 October 2019 in which we provided information and specifications for the construction of a velodrome, suitable for national and international cycling events. We also note our meetings and email communications with City of Darwin staff, in which we have reiterated the requirements for the facility to meet the needs of the sport. We have also shared with you the express support from both Triathlon NT and Darwin Cycling Club for a purpose built facility.

We met with the Project Manager on 10 of June 2020 and it was confirmed that the project will not meet those specifications. We are now alarmed to learn that the tender is proposed to be released this month - in other words the 'consultation' has concluded.

As we have previously agreed, cycling infrastructure in Darwin is in a parlous state and there are significant opportunities to be had from a purpose built velodrome. We are of the view that \$10.5 Million is adequate to provide a purpose built sporting facility and significant amenity to park users and local residents and sport tourism.

We now advise that we can no-longer support a project that does not deliver the facilities our sport so desperately needs. We will be writing to the relevant Ministers urgently to seek a halt to the project and re-direction of the funds to a purpose built facility that meets the needs of the community.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Megan Lawton".

Megan Lawton
Chairperson
Cycling Northern Territory Inc.

cc: Scott Waters

CYCLING NORTHERN TERRITORY INC. ABN: 79 481 542 728

Phone: +61 0408 892 322 Email: nt.eo@cycling.org.au Website: www.ntcycling.org.au

Head Office: Sitzler Netball Centre, 235 Abala Road, Marrara NT 0812 Postal Address: PO Box 2391, Parap NT 0804





Minister Lauren Moss, MLA
Minister for Corporate and Information Services
Minister for Tourism, Sport and Culture
Parliament House
Darwin NT 0800

21 July 2020

Bagot Park Velodrome

Dear Minister Moss,

Please see attached letter of 15 October 2019 to the City of Darwin in which we provided information and specifications for the construction of a velodrome, suitable for national and international cycling events. We also note a number of meetings throughout 2019 and email communications with City of Darwin staff, in which we have reiterated the requirements for the facility to meet the needs of the sport of cycling. We have also met with both Triathlon NT and Darwin Cycling Club who have expressed support for Cycling NT as the primary stakeholder in consultations to deliver a purpose-built facility.

We recently wrote to the Lord Mayor about the current project and our objection based on the parameters of the tenders to go out, however have not received any correspondence in return to date.

A delegation from Cycling NT met with Ryan Prescott, the Project Manager from Cardno on 10th of June 2020 and it was confirmed during that meeting that the project will not meet the specifications required by Cycling NT. We are now alarmed to learn that the tender is proposed to be released this month and as early as next week - in other words the 'consultation' has concluded and we have had little or no input into the consultation process. Our EO (Mark Heath) has also spoken to Ryan Prescott today to confirm that the specifications going out to tender for the Velodrome will not meet the specifications or requirements that will suit the sport of Track Cycling in the Northern Territory.

As we have previously agreed, cycling infrastructure in Darwin is in a parlous state and there are significant opportunities to be had from a purpose built velodrome which would include interstate and international exposure as well as the opportunity to host National and international events. We are of the view that \$10.5 Million is adequate to provide a purpose-built sporting facility at Bagot Park or elsewhere, with significant amenity to park users and local residents and opportunities for sport tourism.

We cannot support a project that does not deliver the facilities our sport so desperately needs, and unfortunately this project does not meet our needs or that of Cycling Australia.

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We are writing to request the Minister(s) intervene to call an urgent halt to the project and for the re-direction of the current funds back to the NTG. We propose that the NTG build a purpose-built facility at a location and of a standard that meets the needs of the community on Crown Land. We are well aware this is not a simple process and it will set the Velodrome project back several months; however, we are unable to support the current project in its current format through the City of Darwin.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Heath".

Mark Heath
Executive Officer
Cycling Northern Territory Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Megan Lawton".

Megan Lawton
Chairperson
Cycling Northern Territory Inc.

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email: friendsofbagotpark@yahoo.com

Facebook: Friends of Bagot Park

The Right Worshipful The Lord Mayor of Darwin
Kon Vatskalis JP
City of Darwin
GPO Box 84
DARWIN NT 0801

Dear Lord Mayor

Thank you for the opportunity to meet with you and the Darwin City Council CEO Scott Waters, Nik Klein, and Project Manager Ryan Prescott on 16 July 2020. It was a lively meeting.

During the meeting I outlined the Friends of Bagot Park position on the proposed Velodrome and Cycling Precinct at Bagot Park, and as requested, I hereby confirm our viewpoint. We do not want the velodrome to be rebuilt at Bagot Park. We want the Council to develop a Master Plan. We want to be involved in the project plan or planning initiatives. We want Bagot Park to remain a park.

However, we acknowledge cyclists' need to upgrade the velodrome to enjoy a facility that will help their sport grow and understand that the velodrome has been in disrepair for many years and does not meet State, National or International Standards. We believe that currently, with the provision of \$10.5 million, now would be a prime opportunity to consider the long-term future of cycling in the Northern Territory that includes providing a venue that enables the Territory to host and promote major cycling events in Darwin.

In agreement with cyclists that they need a velodrome that they can use, with wide-ranging opportunities to grow their sport, we suggest relocating the velodrome to a location appropriate to hosting major competitions. Demolish the velodrome and relocate the facility to the Marrara Sporting Precinct which was originally developed in 1985 to accommodate major sporting competitions.

We believe that Bagot Park cannot accommodate two large sporting groups with their separate infrastructure needs and we are concerned that planned clubrooms, spectator seating/grandstands, signage, security fencing and change rooms will absorb park grounds.

We also believe, as raised during our meeting and at a past Public Forum, that the proposed upgraded velodrome and cycle elements project was based on an idea that was promulgated through a flawed and skewed survey.

Promoting, Protecting and Enhancing the environmental, cultural and aesthetic values of Bagot Park - Page 1 of 2



In Council correspondence, cycle venues provided as examples of cyclists' requirements, were all located in bushland settings or in industrial areas. We provide a link to the Alice Springs velodrome that is built in an industrial area <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yj9tKM2EfuM>. The noise is horrendous. We question how could the Council and the Northern Territory Government even consider constructing a new velodrome on our doorstep with that noise? What is the compelling reason to build a new velodrome at Bagot Park?

Millner is an old, established residential suburb with an ageing population. It is a quiet neighbourhood. We do not need the noise, traffic, lighting and parking problems associated with another major sport based at Bagot Park. We want the park to remain a park, for the benefit of all persons; a landscaped park with hundreds of native trees planted, verges landscaped and an upgraded carpark to accommodate an ever-increasing number of soccer participants.

We reiterate our position. We want the City of Darwin, in consultation with residents, to develop a Master Plan for the whole of Bagot Park. We want the entire proposed bicycle precinct, including the velodrome, bike skills area, pump track and criterium track, moved to a different location. We want to retain open space and parkland for the use by all persons.

Yours faithfully

CYNTHIA LAST
Coordinator
Friends of Bagot Park

Monday 20 July 2020

CC City of Darwin Aldermen