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PLAN NEWS SHARE -22 MAY 2014

Dear Members,

The following information is provided for your information.

Please take action if you can, in the interest of better planning for the community.

1. Draft Plan for the Future use of the Old Hospital Site, Myilly Point and Flagstaff Park.

The Northern Territory Government has at last issued a draft layout for the above sites which have lain idle for so long. People have often asked us for information about what is happening to this land which is important to all of us in Darwin.

The Home page of the NT Planning Commission contains useful information about what the NTG is suggesting for the use of the land, much more than can be summarised in this NEWS SHARE.

First Look for the 'Concept Plan'. Just browse down on the front page of '[www.planningcommission.nt.gov.au](http://www.planningcommission.nt.gov.au)'. The heading says 'Consultation on Kahlin Compound...)' There is a lot of explanation, including history and heritage background. There is also a place to lodge an on line comment, by 11 JUNE 2014.

The most obvious problem is the strategy being used. This is all Crown land.

In the Draft, the NTG is working on the basis that over 60% of the total land would need to be used for residential development, in order to meet the cost of providing the parks that we have been waiting for, for so long in the remaining 40%.

PLan does not see that the public should agree to this rationale. Even the ALP only wanted 20% for residential.

The community was specifically promised Flagstaff Park, which is the landmark headland of Myilly Point, by Clare Martin as Chief Minister in 2001. However, we are still waiting.

This is a very special area, with views across Fannie Bay, and was the home of the Senior Army Officer NT pre World War 11, later it was the home of Mr Justice Blackburn which was blown down in Cyclone Tracy. The remnant of the Garden remains. Due to neglect, the flag pole has fallen down. After the cyclone people watched from the headland to see if the fishing boats were coming home safely.

Friends of Kahlin are working hard to see that the Compound is not forgotten.

The old hospital also had an important history. The integrity of the the National Trust Precinct needs to be maintained, and not crowded out. The views around the headland across Mindil Beach and Fannie Bay are magnificent. The area has long been ignored through lack of even signposting by the Council.

As Darwin grows by thousands we will need more dedicated public open space that cannot be alienated, not less.

A lot of consultation needs to take place before the cut off date. After that the NTG intends to finalise proposal ideas, and advertise an Expression of Interest document for developers to bid for the right to develop the site.

PLan intends to hold an on site public meeting for feedback from the community at a date to be advertised before 11 June. People power is important.

Please get involved to save our precious public open space. Make time to check out the NT Planning Commission website, and also visit the area.

## 2. Information on Ochre Green Workshops and related Events

These are being offered at comparatively reasonable prices by the Environment Centre on a wide range of currently relevant topics, early in June.

Take a closer look at the programme, and use this fabulous opportunity to attend if you can.

More information from Anne Boustead ([policy@ecnt.org](mailto:policy@ecnt.org)) or Cat.beaton ([cat.beaton@ecnt.org](mailto:cat.beaton@ecnt.org))

Best Wishes,  
Margaret Clinch  
Convener- PLan: the Planning Action Network, Inc.