



Petition

Registration No.	3
Title	CYCLIST AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ON CHARLES EATON DRIVE
Presented on	27 November 2012
Presented by	Mr Giles
Referred to	Lands, Planning and Environment (Hon. Terry Mills) and Transport (Hon Adam Giles)
Date referred	27 November 2012
Response due	26 March 2013
Response received	18 January 2013
Response to be presented	12 February 2013

Petition

Petition to the Ministers for Lands Planning and the Environment, and for Transport

Cyclist and pedestrian safety on Charles Eaton Drive

This petition concerns the safety of cyclists and pedestrians along Charles Eaton Drive. While Charles Eaton Drive is predominantly used by motorists including trucks and buses, a significant number of cyclists commute along this road. Pedestrians, including children, regularly walk along and across the road. There is no shoulder for most of the length of the Drive, and it is bordered by loose gravel. Consequently cyclists are forced to share the lane with motorists who often overtake dangerously close to cyclists. These actions force cyclists off the road and onto the unstable gravel which in some areas drops to a sloped gradient. Such actions can typically result in a cyclist being seriously injured. The recent tragic death of a cyclist who was hit by a car while crossing at the McMillan Road - Charles Eaton Drive intersection, highlights a black spot for users of Charles Eaton Drive.

The undersigned therefore call on the Ministers responsible for road safety to:

1. Make Charles Eaton Drive safer for cyclists and pedestrians by providing a cycle path along its full length, or at least, properly constructed (non-erodable) shoulders of sufficient width for safe cycling, on both sides of the road; and
2. Install traffic lights to service pedestrians and cyclists who need to cross at the McMillan Road - Charles Eaton Drive intersection.

Response

Works have already been planned to seal the shoulders on Charles Eaton Drive on both sides. This will alleviate the immediate concerns of the petitioners and provide a safer cycling and pedestrian experience on Charles Eaton Drive.

Tenders for this work were opened in late October 2012 and closed on 10 November 2012. Works should commence in early January 2013 and be complete by late January 2013, weather permitting.

A strategic plan for this area is being developed with all parties, which will incorporate the airport, Marrara Sporting Complex and future developments in the airport area with strong linkages to the McMillans Road shared path. Meetings held in September 2012 with Darwin Airport Corporation, City of Darwin and the Department of Transport have commenced this planning process and will continue early next year. Once this plan is completed it will address the requirements for signalised crossings from McMillans Road shared path to the Airport and Marrara Sporting Complex.

The Department of Transport is working with stakeholders including Bicycle NT, and regularly meets with these groups to canvass issues, discuss plans and coordinate action.

The Northern Territory Government is continuing to develop shared off road paths to provide safe and convenient cycling opportunities for Territorians.