

## **Media Release**

## Thursday 16 May 2024

## **Holtze Land Development**

Litchfield Council welcome recent announcements from the Northern Territory Government showing commitment to the development of Holtze as the next residential land development for the Greater Darwin Region.

"Seeing contracts awarded for site clean-up works and the announcement of the developer for the Holtze Land Release are exciting steps forward" said Mayor Barden.

"Council have long been excited at the prospect of land in Holtze and Kowandi being the next residential land release. These areas have, and should continue to, sit within the Litchfield Municipality and Council have been investing in preparations to service these areas for over four-years. Council is committed and well placed to service further urban developments within the municipality and looks forward to welcoming new residents to Holtze" Mayor Barden continued.

Recent statements made by the Chief Minister politicising the Holtze Land Release are disappointing and contrary to the assurance given to Council's from her Deputy and Local Government Minster Chansey Paech, that he had no intention of amending the boundary, "as long as I am the Minister for Local Government". Chief Ministers Lawler's commentary appears to view a boundary change removing Hotze from Litchfield as her preferred option.

Mayor Barden calls on the Chief Minister to "govern for the Territory, not to solely represent her own electorate and the Palmerston area. Media Releases eluding to Hotlze and Kowandi land releases having a direct impact on growth to Palmerston's population are premature and insulting to the residents of Litchfield".

So too is the insinuation that local government facilities and infrastructure are exclusively for the use of residents within that local government boundary. Litchfield is a lifestyle, somewhere that Council strives to be the best place to live in the Top End, and we will continue to take pride in sharing facilities and giving a warm welcome to the fellow Territorians that use them.

**ENDS** 

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