CREATING PLACES FOR PEOPLE
AN URBAN DESIGN PROTOCOL FOR AUSTRALIAN CITIES

‘I don’t think people realise how important urban design is in relation to human living spaces. It is doubly important to do this well in high growth periods.’

—Graeme Sawyer, Lord Mayor of Darwin

Growing towns and cities

Northern Territory towns and cities are experiencing some of the highest rates of population growth in Australia as people move from surrounding areas, interstate and overseas. The population of Darwin and Palmerston is predicted to grow 55% by 2030.

It is important to consider the future environments we are building for this growing urban population. The way we accommodate growth today will have a significant impact on the current and future economy and environment, and the lives of Territorians.

Urban design in a growing Territory

The Northern Territory Government has responsibility for strategic and statutory planning and has initiated a range of strategic planning documents to inform its city planning decisions.

The principle strategic planning document in the Territory is Territory 2030. This is underpinned by the land-use plan for greater Darwin – Greater Darwin Region Land-Use Plan – towards 2030.

These documents give broad direction for other mechanisms to ensure quality urban design outcomes such as the Capital City Charter, Capital City Committee and the Urban Design Advisory Panel.

The Urban Design Advisory Panel is required to advise the Northern Territory Government on specific matters and projects relating to the achievement of better urban design outcomes for the Central Darwin area, the Darwin and Palmerston Region and all other significant urban centres in the Northern Territory.

DARWIN WATERFRONT MASTER PLAN
2009 THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS AWARD FOR URBAN DESIGN (NT)

Award winning urban design in the NT

- Darwin Waterfront Master Plan, 2009 Australian Institute of Architects Award for Urban Design (NT)

- Darwin Entertainment Centre and Holiday Inn, 2008 Australian Institute of Architects Award for Urban Design (NT)

- Goyder Square Precinct, 2007 Australian Institute of Architects Award for Urban Design (NT)
Examples of urban design charters, guides and handbooks in Northern Territory

National
- COAG Objectives and Criteria for Capital Cities

State
- State Policies and plans

Region
- Territory 2030 Strategic Plan

Town/District
- Local Area Plan
  - Greenfield structure plan

Neighbourhood
- Neighbourhood Plan
  - Town Centre masterplan

Street
- Street-scale plan

Site
- Site Plan

Capital City Charter
- Alice Springs Central Activity District Built Form Guidelines