

## Media Release

28 November 2024

### November Council Meeting wrap up

Alice Springs Councillors met on Tuesday 26 November 2024 for their monthly Ordinary Council Meeting. The following is a summary of some of the matters discussed. To see full Council reports and minutes visit the ASTC website. A full video of the meeting is available on Council's [Vimeo channel](#).

#### Seven more parks slated for upgrades

Alice Springs Town Council is ready to get started on Year Two of our Park Upgrade Project, awarding the tender to upgrade seven parks in 2025. GSD Solutions have been awarded the tender to complete construction works at the following parks:

- Mercorella Park
- Spearwood Park
- Bowman Park
- Spicer Crescent Park
- Battarbee Park
- Kunoth Park
- Tucker Park

By enhancing recreational facilities and creating safe, engaging environments, this initiative will greatly improve liveability, foster stronger community connections, and encourage an active lifestyle for residents of all ages. Together, we are building a brighter future for Alice Springs.

#### William Edward Thompson Park

In more exciting park news, Council has accepted an offer from the Northern Territory Government to transfer ownership of William Edward Thompson Park, better known as Teague Park. Along with this transfer, the NT Government is contributing \$200,000 to upgrade the park, ensuring it becomes an even better space for residents to enjoy. These improvements will enhance our local amenities and provide a fantastic area for families and friends to gather, relax, and connect.

#### Technical Services update

Council's Technical Services team has been delivering new infrastructure for the Alice Springs community, as well as planning for some exciting future project. Some key achievements include:

- **In-Kind Support-** Council supports a range of groups host community events through the year by offering in-kind support in a variety of ways. Between August and October, Council officers dedicated a total of 418.5 hours on in-kind support to community events, including Red CentreNATS, Masters Games and the Desert Song Festival.

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- **Niche Wall-** Council have recently completed construction of a new Niche Wall at the Alice Springs Garden Cemetery.
- **Facility openings-** Finalyson and Oleander parks were opened in October with both parks receiving new play equipment. The Adventure Park was officially opened to the public in November with more than 1,350 attendees on the opening day.
- **Frances Smith Memorial Pump Track-** Council have engaged a contractor to develop concept and detailed designs of a new pump track and skill trail upgrade at Frances Smith Park. The design phase is targeted for completion in March 2025 and will include a public consultation process.

### Discussions to benefit the whole community

Discussions have been ongoing between Council and the Uniting Church regarding a land access agreement for Lot 73, Todd Street, as part of the Regenerating the Alice Town Centre project. This initiative aims to revitalize the CBD and create a vibrant, thriving heart for our community.

Recognizing that meaningful progress is only possible through collaboration, Council is inviting representatives of the Uniting Church to join Elected Members at a Council Forum to continue discussions on this important matter. We believe that working together in good faith with all key stakeholders is essential to delivering outcomes that benefit the entire Alice Springs community.

### Bringing Parliament down to Alice Springs

Alice Springs Town Council has decided to formally request the Speaker of the Northern Territory Parliament to hold a sitting in Alice Springs. Parliament has sat to Alice Springs four times in the past with the last occasion in 2009.

This proposal reflects the Council's commitment to addressing the unique challenges and opportunities facing our region while strengthening the connection between the community and its elected representatives.

Hosting a Parliamentary sitting in Alice Springs would not only bring our leaders closer to our community but also provides an invaluable educational opportunity for our young people. Experiencing how Parliament operates firsthand will inspire and empower the next generation. The economic benefits would also be substantial, with increased activity across local businesses, tourism, and hospitality sectors.

### Ends:

### For further information contact:

**Anthony Geppa-** Marketing and Communications Coordinator

0439 815 315 or [ageppa@astc.nt.gov.au](mailto:ageppa@astc.nt.gov.au)