



Dr Tanzil Rahman MLA

Member for Fong Lim

Newsletter Issue 2 | May 2025



P2. Parliamentary Work

| P3. Electorate Updates

| P4. Events & Engagement



NEW SIGNAGE & WEBSITE

Our new office signage reflects the fact that Fong Lim is a unique and large 52km² area – it covers inner-city urban suburbs, light and heavy industrial zones, and even a national park! I'm committed to serving the breadth of the electorate, and not just the densely populated places. To help with this goal, we're working on digitising our operation to provide constituents who don't get to visit the office regularly with access to a range of services online. Our website www.tanzilrahman.com is a new place where you can find out how I'm representing you, issues we're tackling, and projects and initiatives we're championing. The website offers information and practical help to do things like book our community room, but also ways to get actively involved, communicate with us, and contribute to decision-making. Visit now to register and receive full access to all the services being offered!

MESSAGE FROM TANZIL

Welcome to my second electorate newsletter. In this issue you'll find a wrap up of what's taken place during February and March 2025 Legislative Assembly Sittings, plus a summary of some recent developments on migration and defence that will affect the Territory. There's also an extended look at how plans are progressing for the reinvigoration of the Stuart Park High Street, plus some community engagement highlights from the last quarter.

Thanks to everyone who supported my charity swim for the Starlight Foundation – I'm pleased to report I managed the 15km and hit the fundraising goal! This month I'm shifting indoors and undercover while the wet season passes, to get involved with some great **community musical groups**. Look out for fantastic performances by the Darwin Chorale, Vocalective, and Arafura Music Collective, amongst others. Or for something jazzier, check out the Patron's Jazz Session at Dinah Beach Yacht Club, with friends from the new Royal Australian Navy Band NT! A great lead into the dry season, Darwin's forthcoming festivals, and Parliamentary budget and estimates sittings...

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In **March** the Parliament recognised the profound public service of two recently departed Territorians, the Hon Austin Asche AC KC, and Grant Tambling AM. The ICAC Operation Apollo Investigation Report (regarding senior police recruitment) was tabled, as were reports by the Legislative Scrutiny Committee regarding bill inquiries. The most contentious agenda item, the Territory Coordinator Bill, was passed following thorough consideration in detail. Bills to amend the *Local Government Act* 2019, the *Water Act* 1992, the *Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act* 1989, and repeal the *Portable Long Service Leave Act* 2024, were introduced. Ministerial reports on Asian relations, public housing reform, and the Federal Budget were discussed, and an independent motion passed regarding the Aboriginal Justice Agreement. Other legislation passed included a police administration bill, an education bill (to enshrine school attendance officers), a bill to remove third party merits review (for petroleum, planning and water decisions), and a bill to repeal the \$15B debt ceiling. Significant debates were also held regarding investment in education, investment in healthcare, and economic development and infrastructure programs.

PARLIAMENTARY SITTING CALENDAR

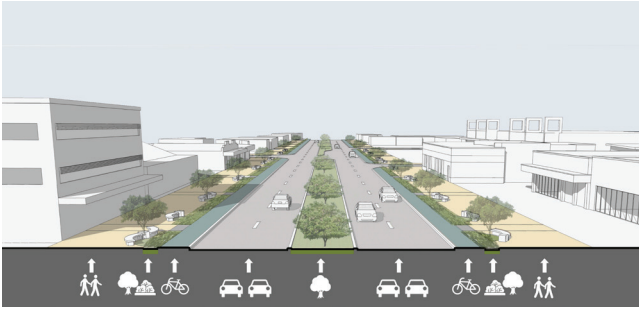
House meeting dates Estimates Hearings

DAMA III - NEW MIGRATION AGREEMENT

STUART PARK HIGH STREET – DRAFT PLANS



I have been systematically consulting with land and business owners operating along the SPHS since coming to office, to gain feedback and advice on what might be desirable and possible to reinvigorate this important, historic area. The images adjacent reflect the broad consensus **starting concept**. The aim is to improve amenity by promoting a high street with character, a sense of place, and well-thought-out access for pedestrians and cyclists, locals and visitors.



Traffic management will be the initial focus, to make the promenade safer, parking easier, and frequenting the area more desirable. Using the existing parameters of the *NT Planning Scheme 2020*, we then hope to gradually develop gateway locations, improved buildings, laneway accesses, active street frontages, and balanced options for commercial and residential **mixed-used development**.



I am driving this initiative because it represents one of the best ready-to-go areas of Darwin with scope for **high return on investment** for the Territory, and support for CBD growth. Rest assured, public consultation on any suggested changes will be thorough – we are just beginning to consider ideas and there will be ample opportunity to have your say.

SCHOOL BUS ROUTES – DELIVERED

I'm pleased to have resolved the issue of the absence of any school buses for kids in **Berrimah Northcrest**. Revised routes 100 and 206 now operate from Reuben Avenue, connecting the area to a dozen schools in the northern suburbs, Nightcliff and the city. Likewise, Route 464 has been expanded to cover Tipperary Waters and Dinah Beach Road northwards, to help students at **Stuart Park Primary School** with their travel.



EAST ARM – DEFENCE WEEK

NT Defence Week showcases the vital role of the Territory in supporting national security. It was launched at an East Arm marine logistics business currently servicing our defence sector. It's critical that we continue to lobby the Federal Government to maintain defence industries in the Territory – defence investment produces a disproportionately large **economic multiplier effect** for our local economy.



EVENTS ENGAGEMENT

Harmony Celebrations February, March and April were filled with occasions celebrating our cultural and religious diversity – like Lunar New Year, Holi, Ramadan, Lent, and Idul Fitri. It was a delight to emcee the enormous ‘Celebration of the NT’s Multi-Faith Communities’ in Parliament House, and likewise attend events throughout Harmony Week. A special thanks to Australian Regional & Remote Community Services for sharing Harmony Day with me. We’re lucky to have such a socially cohesive multicultural society – let’s keep working together to keep it that way.



Darwin Comedy Festival It was a joy to launch this inaugural three-day event, showcasing top-tier visiting headliners but also amazing local talent! Congratulations to everyone involved in putting on the sold-out shows, and especially the Darwin Entertainment Centre team for bringing the CBD alive with laughter! Fingers-crossed, this will become a regular feature of the NT Arts calendar.



International Women's Day Thanks to a powerhouse group of ladies for joining me in the Fong Lim Community Room to celebrate International Women's Day! All of them have made notable contributions to the Territory, and it was a privilege to share some time together recognising their social, educational, cultural, judicial, and political achievements. I look forward to hosting similar events.



Territory Proud Thanks to Territory Proud and Darwin Motor Group Mitsubishi in Stuart Park for hosting a fantastic networking event for local business – I'm proud to support Territory Proud! Keep up the good work promoting Territory businesses as a first-choice option for consumers, businesses and government – ‘Working Together, Helping Territorians Achieve Their Goals’.



Order of Australia I was honoured to address the Order of Australia Association NT on behalf of the Chief Minister, wearing my late grandfather's OAM medal. Thank you to Her Honour Vicki O'Halloran AO, Chair Alan James OAM, and the OOA Membership for the privilege, and for your collective service towards advancing and enriching the Northern Territory.