



## **THE HON KATE ELLIS MP**

### **Minister for Sport**

**Member for Solomon, Damian Hale MP, & Senator Trish Crossin**

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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#### **Funding to upgrade Hidden Valley Motorsport Drag Strip**

The Hidden Valley Motorsport Complex outside of Darwin may be built for speed, but upgrades to the drag strip to be funded by the Australian Government will improve track safety and quality for both drivers and spectators.

The Minister for Sport, Kate Ellis, today visited the complex with the Federal Member for Solomon, Damian Hale, and Northern Territory Senator, Trish Crossin, to view the existing motor racing infrastructure.

“While the Hidden Valley Motorsport Complex is already a high quality venue for motor sports, the \$3 million redevelopment work to be funded by the Australian Government will help upgrade the drag strip track and facilities to an international standard,” Ms Ellis said.

Mr Hale said Territorians loved their motor sports and that upgrading Hidden Valley Motorsport Complex would help attract more big ticket race events to the region.

“Hidden Valley Motorsport Complex is an important sporting asset, and the Night of Thunder drag racing held last Saturday night demonstrates the quality of motor sports events Darwin can host,” Mr Hale said.

“The Australian Government’s commitment of \$3 million will see the drag strip resurfaced to an international standard and a purpose-built return road constructed to allow race cars to get off the main strip and return without additional wear to the main track surface.”

Senator Crossin said the Government’s funding commitment would also make Hidden Valley safer for drivers, their crews and spectators.

“Safety barriers will be upgraded to cater for top-class competition vehicles and new timing boards installed. A burnout pad will also be built to use as a skid pan for training for young drivers,” Senator Crossin said.

“Spectators will also benefit from the funding with an upgrade to the mounds and viewing areas, making it more accessible and comfortable.”

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