

# Fears flood in over rezoning of land plan

**DANI McDONALD**

DARWIN council will strongly object to the proposal to rezone a lot of land illegally cleared, because of fears it could result in flooding of one of Darwin's busiest arterial roads.

The site at 1 Boulter Rd was cleared of native flora without authorisation.

Since then, a rezoning proposal was submitted to the Department of Lands and Planning to rezone the 7.5ha block from community purpose to multi dwelling.

Darwin council voted last night to strongly object the proposal stating that, among other things, the development

**“The applicant has not submitted any details”**

could result in the flooding of Amy Johnson Avenue, Boulter Road or adjoining properties.

“The applicant has not submitted any details of the hydraulic modelling to demonstrate stormwater will be appropriately detained and managed within the boundaries of the site,” strategic town planner Cindy Robson wrote in a letter to the Department of Lands, Planning and the Environment.

Other concerns included the site being part of a Biting Insect Buffer. The environmental report submitted with the application acknowledges there has been increased numbers of mosquitoes in the area, including higher numbers of the species that carry Ross River virus.

It also stated increased urbanisation in the Marrara Swamp catchment could see more mosquito-breeding habitats forming more often during the year. With 178 units proposed, the risk of further mosquito-borne diseases spreading would be greater.

The application is on exhibition for public comment until December 18.