

Mark these exciting 2018 events in your diary

14, 17 and 24 February

Three pre-season trials at Sunshine Coast Stadium – two NRL Canterbury Bulldogs v Canberra Raiders (February 17) and Gold Coast Titans v New Zealand Warriors (February 24) – and the Super Rugby Brumbies v Chiefs on February 14.

22 March

Neil Diamond to perform at Sunshine Coast Stadium – picture 15,000 people singing along to “Sweet Caroline”.

27 March

Queen's Baton Relay for Gold Coast 2018 - carried by 24 locals, the Queen's Baton will make its way from Caloundra to Golden Beach. For times and exact routes visit gc2018.com/qbr

29 April – 5 August

Sunshine Coast Lightning will defend their title in the Suncorp Super Netball League, playing regular home games at the USC Sports Stadium.

24 August – 2 September

Third HORIZON festival of Arts and Culture is set to shine region-wide over 10 arts-fuelled days.

28 September – 1 October

Caloundra Music Festival another fantastic family friendly weekend of sun, surf and soul.

Head to www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au for more details.

Set and forget your rates payment

Did you know you can set up a direct debit to have your rates paid in full on the due date? That way, you can set and forget your payment and guarantee receiving your early bird discount.

You can also help our environment by receiving your rates notice by email.

And no matter whether you are travelling or have moved house, you'll know when your rates are due.

Simply go to council's website and select 'Request my rates by email' on the left hand side to get this started.

Check out MyCouncil

You can register animals, enter and track a service request, view and pay council accounts quickly and get your rates notice on *MyCouncil* – a secure online gateway to council's services.

Find MyCouncil on council's website.



www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
mail@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
T 07 5475 7272 F 07 5475 7277
Locked Bag 72 Sunshine Coast Mail Centre Qld 4560

State of our Region 2017



72330 01/18



Message from the Mayor



A landmark 12 months for our Sunshine Coast in 2017 has set us up for a very bright future.

What we are achieving in our healthy, smart, creative region is envied around the country and has attracted wide interest globally.

As we start the new year, our unemployment levels continue to be below the State average, building approvals are at an eight-year high and we have more than \$10 billion in public and private projects being delivered or in the pipeline.

In very positive news for residents and business, our average household income is rising, which is a major goal of my mayoralty and this council, and we will continue to encourage more high-value industries, with higher paid jobs, to establish in our region.

This year our new greenfield CBD at Maroochydore will take more major steps forward and we will start construction of the new runway at our Sunshine Coast Airport, which remains the fastest growing airport in the country.

Our Sunshine Coast will continue to be recognised as Australia's leading hub for entrepreneurs thanks to its reputation for innovation, creativity and stimulating new ideas, which has been highlighted with our inclusion in the World Smart21 communities list for 2018.

We will also remain dedicated to enhancing and protecting our environment and lifestyle through our excellent range of programs and initiatives.

That's just a small snapshot of our Sunshine Coast as we start 2018.

You can see why we can look forward to what's to come with great confidence.

Cr Mark Jamieson
Sunshine Coast Mayor

2017 snapshot of achievements



The State Government's **Sunshine Coast University Hospital** opens to patients, fulfilling its role as the catalyst for the Health Hub.



Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve Rainforest Discovery Centre opens and receives five awards for its design, construction and contribution to sustainability.



An average annual economic growth rate for the region of **4.09%** a full percentage higher than the nation's rate.



Another **179 hectares** of conservation land is acquired thanks to the Environment Levy, taking the total to 3050 hectares purchased through the Environment Levy since the early 1990s.



Sunshine Coast Solar Farm is switched on and power is generated into the grid.



Sunshine Coast Lightning the only regional team in the competition, **wins** the inaugural season of the national Suncorp Super Netball League.



Palisade Investment Partners is confirmed as Sunshine Coast Airport's **commercial partner** to operate the asset under a **99-year lease**.



The **50th Anniversary** of the Naming of the Sunshine Coast is celebrated in style. Almost **35,000 people** enjoy **98 events**, supported by over 1650 volunteers.



Youi's new \$73 million **global headquarters** at Sippy Downs opens. Youi is expected to inject **\$1.2 billion** into the local economy over the next 10 years.



Employment on the Sunshine Coast is up **11,500** in the 12 months to September 2017, with **6400 extra jobs** in construction alone.



Sunshine Coast Airport runway design contractor Beca Consultants Pty Ltd begins design of a **new 2450m long x 45m wide compliant runway**.



The **1000 Land for Wildlife** landholders are collectively protecting **7,569 hectares** of retained habitat with a further **703 hectares** under active restoration.



Maroochydore CBD installation of underground infrastructure is **95% complete**. Two new intersections on Maud Street are complete and these will improve road safety, connectivity and cater for Maroochydore's future growth.



Driving a healthy, smart, creative Sunshine Coast forward in 2018



1 International Broadband Submarine Cable gives us the edge

We will continue, in 2018, to progress bringing a new international broadband submarine cable to the Sunshine Coast. The cable will transform the Sunshine Coast and broader Queensland economy. It will be a catalyst for technology businesses and high value jobs on the Coast, and has the potential to add \$453 million annually to the Sunshine Coast economy.

2 Leading region for innovation

The strength of the region's reputation for innovation, creativity and entrepreneurialism continues to grow. We have a flourishing innovation eco-system that is a magnet for big thinkers, experienced leaders and world class talent, with exciting initiatives being delivered.

3 Airport Expansion moves from design to construction

The principal contractor will take possession of the new airport runway site in early 2018 to start the construction phase. Under the approved Environment Impact Statement the project was forecast to cost \$347 million – Council is very confident the project will be delivered for considerably less than \$347 million and will be operational by Christmas 2020. The new runway will open the Sunshine Coast to other Australian cities, to international markets in Asia and the Western Pacific, and drive significant economic growth.

4 Working hard for Light Rail

In 2018, council will continue to work hard to achieve State Government funding to deliver a sustainable and effective public transport system – a light rail route – along the coastal strip from the Sunshine Coast Airport south to Maroochydore through Kawana and onto Caloundra and west to Beerwah, so our community can access services and facilities and get to and from their destination easily.

5 Maroochydore CBD continues to take shape

Construction of the first park and the first section of a striking new waterway will start in 2018. The Aerodrome Road intersection upgrade is expected to be completed late-2018, providing a gateway to the new city centre.

6 Big boost for sporting facilities

Council will start a \$3.5 million upgrade of the Sunshine Coast Regional Tennis Centre in Caloundra and a \$4 million upgrade to netball and AFL facilities at Maroochydore Multi Sports Complex. Over the next two years \$3.5 million will also go towards sports field upgrades at Meridan Plains.

7 Welcoming the Commonwealth

More than 500 athletes will be training on the Sunshine Coast in preparation for the 2018 Commonwealth Games including Team Saint Helena, Team Scotland, Team Wales, Team Isle of Man, Team Niue and a number of other international athletes.

This is a great opportunity for our community to warmly welcome the visiting athletes, the training staff and their supporters and ensure their stay is productive and fondly remembered.

8 Protecting our environment for future generations

Improvements to the Sunshine Coast's beaches, expansion of our conservation estates and enhanced river catchments are just some of the benefits that will be delivered with support of Sunshine Coast ratepayers through our Environment Levy.

This program will see \$850,000 invested in coastal rehabilitation activities, \$3.2 million invested in land for environmental conservation and \$945,000 to support community partnerships and grants programs.



Solar Farm



> \$10 million economic benefit
100% of council's electricity offset by renewables

Proposed International Broadband Cable Protection Zone

Submarine cable

\$927 million per annum to Queensland economy
\$700m per annum to Sunshine Coast economy

Airport



2230 jobs
\$4.1 billion contribution to economy

Maroochydore

15,000 jobs by 2025
\$4.4 billion contribution to economy

Sunshine Plaza expansion
\$400 million creating 5200 construction and retail jobs

University

\$81 million expansion complete
20,000 students by 2020

Palmview
\$3 billion+ development
17,000 residents

Hospital

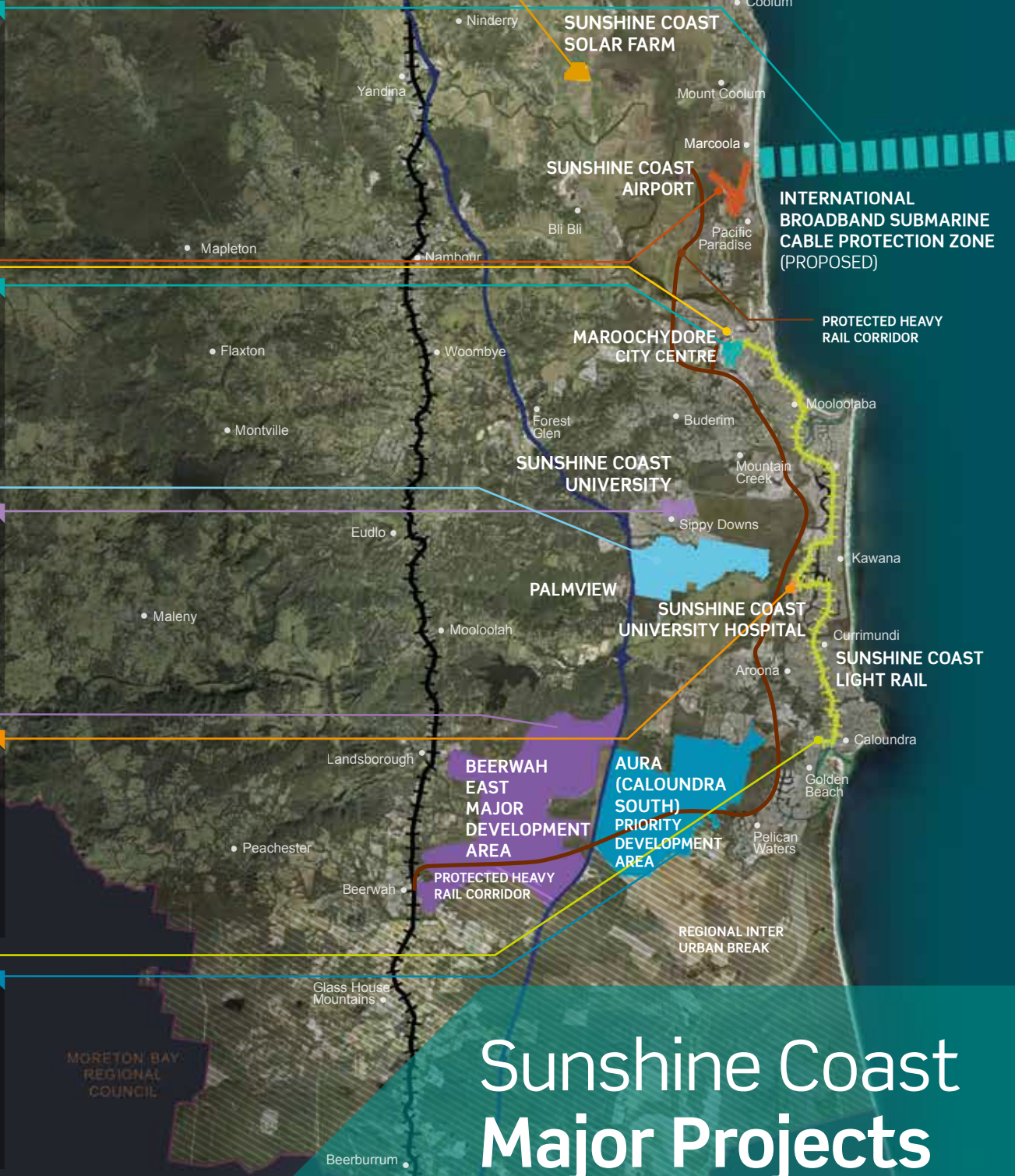
4600 jobs
\$1.8 billion investment

Beerwah East
44,000 residents
(Development ready by 2027)

Aura (Caloundra South)

50,000 residents
\$7 billion+ investment

Light Rail Project
Stage 1 by 2025
9000 jobs
\$3.6 billion contribution to economy



Sunshine Coast Major Projects