

Related Report / Additional Information

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------------|---|
| Meeting: | December Ordinary Meeting | Date: | 10 December 2020 |
| Item: | 11.1 CONFIDENTIAL – NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE – STRATEGIC LAND ACQUISITIONS – MERIDAN PLAINS | | |
| Circulation | 18/06/2021 | | |
| Officer (title): | Manager Environment and Sustainability Policy | Approving GE (title): | Group Executive Liveability and Natural Assets |

In response to Council Resolution OM20/135, item (c)

That Council:

- (a)** *note the discussion held in confidential session in relation to the strategic land acquisitions in Meridan Plains*
- (b)** *delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to enter into negotiations, execute all documentation and finalise the acquisition of the identified strategic land parcels and*
- (c)** *authorise the Chief Executive Officer to publicly release details relating to the site locations and contract prices for the identified strategic land parcels once the negotiations have been finalised and the transfer of ownership of land has been registered with the Titles Registry.*

Minute Action:

Council has acquired two properties at Honey Farm Road, Meridan Plains as per the above resolution.

| Property Address | Real Property description | Lot Size (hectares) | Contract Price |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Honey Farm Rd MERIDAN PLAINS QLD 4551 | Lot 1RP226627 | 74.66 | of \$2,234,000 (Excl GST and Stamp Duty) |
| Honey Farm Rd MERIDAN PLAINS QLD 4551 | Lot 14SP264093 | 34.35 | |

The two land parcels are strategically located in the Lower Mooloolah River Major Green Space area (LMRG), just north of the developing Honey Farm Road Sports and Recreation Precinct.

While the land acquired is mostly cleared, reflecting its historical land use, it also includes important riparian vegetation along the main Mooloolah River channel identified as Commonwealth listed *Critically Endangered Lowland Rainforest*. The broader floodplain area retains a number of significant individual habitat trees and grassland areas that support macropods (kangaroo and wallaby) and a suite of raptor bird species. The lots also include a number of potentially important wetland areas that will require some level of enhancement and restoration.

The acquisition of these land parcels is assisting to deliver a number of outcomes in Council's *Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017* including:

- expanding the Sunshine Coast conservation estate by 110 hectares
- protecting Matters of Local, State and National Environmental Significance, including, Commonwealth listed critically endangered Lowland Rainforest
- protecting a 1.5 kilometre section of Mooloolah River riparian habitat
- providing opportunity to deliver ecological restoration and accommodate vegetation /carbon offsets
- maintaining critical floodplain and wetland function in the Lower Mooloolah River floodplain
- a contribution to the planning and protection of part of the Lower Mooloolah River Major Green Space and
- providing future nature based recreational linkage opportunities to connect surrounding public lands (for example, Honey Farm Road Sport and Recreation Precinct).

The specific Transformational Actions associated with the *Environment and Liveability Strategy* that the acquisitions support the delivery of include:

Transformational Action 6 - Connecting nature and people

Connecting our valued habitat areas to acquisitions also support the delivery of strategic support our native flora and fauna and providing the community with opportunities to participate in conservation and to experience the natural environment.

These acquisitions have:

- expanded the Sunshine Coast conservation estate by 110 hectares
- provided opportunities for potential future community access, use and enjoyment.

Transformational Action 8 - Maintaining the blue by protecting the green

Delivering healthy waterways and beaches that continue to support our lifestyle and livelihoods through integrated catchment management.

The Lower Mooloolah River floodplain is an important component of integrated planning for this catchment. Rehabilitation activities on the properties will contribute to further reductions in catchment sediment loads and nutrients and protect a 1.5 kilometre section of the Mooloolah River.

Transformational Action 11 - A step ahead

Providing for the reinstatement of vegetation and habitats that locally offset the unavoidable vegetation clearing required for critical public infrastructure.

The Environment and Liveability Strategy sets a target to “maintain the 2016 extent of native vegetation (no net loss) by 2041”. These two land parcels provide opportunities for:

- the creation of new habitat through rehabilitation and restoration activities (subject to greenspace planning), and
- offsetting future vegetation clearance for critical public infrastructure by providing suitable land.

Transformational Action 14 - Expanding the green space

Securing and activating space for future generations through an accelerated strategic land program to improve conservation, flood mitigation and sport and recreation opportunities.

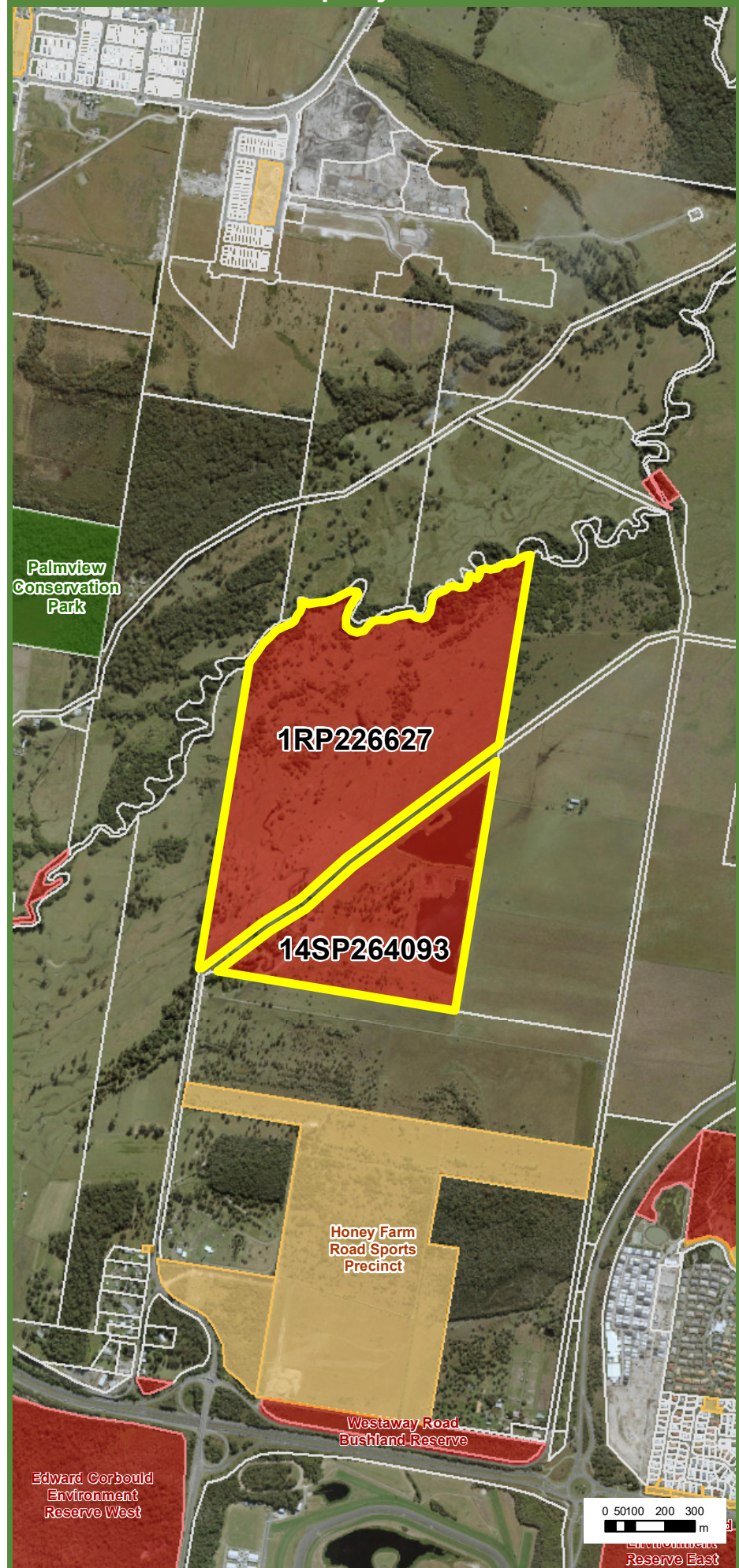
The acquisition of the two land parcels contribute to enhancing the Lower Mooloolah River Major Green Space, delivering integrated conservation, recreation and education outcomes and provide opportunities for significant ecological restoration programs.

Environment Levy Land Acquisition Program Update – New Acquisitions Lot 1 RP226627 and Lot 14 SP264093 Honey Farm Rd, MERIDAN PLAINS

Landscape Context



Property Context



TOTAL HECTARES: 110
CONTRACT PRICE: \$2.234M
STATUS: Settled April 2021

STRATEGIC LANDSCAPE AND BIODIVERSITY VALUES:

- Contributes to the planning and protection of part of the Lower Mooloolah River Major Green Space.
- Protects of Matters of Local, State and National Environmental Significance, including Commonwealth listed critically endangered Lowland Rainforest.
- Protects 1.5 kilometre a section of Mooloolah River riparian habitat.
- Provides lands to accommodate potential offsets.
- Maintains critical floodplain and wetland function in the Lower Mooloolah River floodplain.
- Provides future nature based recreational linkage opportunities connecting surrounding public lands (for example, Honey Farm Road Sport and Recreation Precinct).



- Legend**
- Acquired Land
 - Council Owned/Managed Environment Reserves
 - Other Council Open Space
 - State Protected Areas

Disclaimer
 While every care is taken to ensure the accuracy of this product, neither the Sunshine Coast Council nor the State of Queensland makes any representations or warranties about its accuracy, reliability, completeness or suitability for any particular purpose and disclaims all responsibility and all liability (including without limitation, liability in negligence) for all expenses, losses, damages (including indirect or consequential damage) and costs that may occur as a result of the product being inaccurate or incomplete in any way or for any reason.