

Agenda

Ordinary Meeting

Thursday, 23 March 2017

commencing at 9.00am

Council Chambers, 1 Omrah Avenue, Caloundra

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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING

On establishing there is a quorum, the Chair will declare the meeting open.

2 WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER**3 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE****4 RECEIPT AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting (SunCentral & Sunshine Coast Airport Quarterly Update) held on 23 February 2017 and the Ordinary Meeting held on 23 February 2017 be received and confirmed.

5 OBLIGATIONS OF COUNCILLORS**5.1 DECLARATION OF MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST ON ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS**

Pursuant to Section 172 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a councillor who has a material personal interest in an issue to be considered at a meeting of the local government, or any of its committees must –

- (a) inform the meeting of the councillor's material personal interest in the matter; and
- (b) leave the meeting room (including any area set aside for the public), and stay out of the meeting room while the matter is being discussed and voted on.

5.2 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST ON ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS

Pursuant to Section 173 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a councillor who has a real or perceived conflict of interest in a matter to be considered at a meeting of the local government, or any of its committees must inform the meeting about the councillor's personal interest the matter and if the councillor participates in the meeting in relation to the matter, how the councillor intends to deal with the real or perceived conflict of interest.

6 MAYORAL MINUTE**7 PRESENTATIONS / COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

8 REPORTS DIRECT TO COUNCIL**8.1 COMMUNITY SERVICES****8.1.1 NAMBOUR AQUATIC CENTRE PRECINCT DRAFT CONCEPT PLANS**

File No: F2015/9328

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PURPOSE

A key strategic project identified within the *Nambour Activation Plan 2015* was to undertake a feasibility study on the preferred option for the provision of a water splash park along the Petrie Creek leisure corridor. This action is also referenced within the adopted *Sunshine Coast Aquatic Plan 2011 – 2026* and the draft Petrie Creek Open Space Master Plan.

The Nambour Aquatic Centre Precinct Feasibility Study (the Feasibility Study, provided as Appendix A) and draft concept plans (Appendix B, C, D and E) are presented to council for consideration and endorsement.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council commissioned Otium Planning Group to undertake a feasibility study to investigate how the Nambour Aquatic Centre Precinct (the precinct) could be revitalised in a way that will:

- incorporate leisure water elements to appeal to a range of age groups and abilities;
- enhance the activation of the precinct as well as enhance the financial viability of the Aquatic Centre
- integrate the Aquatic Centre facility open space offerings to encourage community activation that maximises site aspect and topography
- repurpose or removal of the former skate park to incorporate uses that appeal to a range of age groups and abilities consistent with council policies and priorities
- improve the parking provision, ingress/egress for cars and formalise parking for coaches
- provide legible pathways that connect elements within and adjacent to the precinct, such as Petrie Park and Petrie Creek
- incorporate Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles, in particular enhancing passive surveillance, legibility, permeability, lighting and consider longer term management strategies.

This followed key actions identified within the adopted *Nambour Activation Plan 2015* and the *Sunshine Coast Aquatic Plan 2011-2026* (updated June 2016).

In recent years, the aquatic industry has seen a shift from demand for Olympic sized pools and lap swimming towards the incorporation of lifestyle elements and leisure water facilities, such as zero-depth splash pads and waterslides. Industry trends indicate well designed water play areas can attract up to 20% to 30% more visitations from children, family and adult users.

It is envisaged that the incorporation of a zero-depth splash pad/leisure water element will increase the activities available to the local community. Consistent with council's approach to Aquatic Centre management as endorsed through the Aquatic Centre Management Model Review undertaken in 2016, a competitive tender process will be run for the management of the Nambour Aquatic Centre inviting prospective lessees to submit proposals for capital investment toward Concept Plan outcomes.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Nambour Aquatic Centre Precinct Draft Concept Plans"**
- (b) endorse the "Nambour Aquatic Centre Precinct Feasibility Study" (Appendix A) including draft Concept Plan A (Appendix B - MP100), draft Concept Plan B (Appendix C - MP101), draft Water Play Concept Plan (Appendix D – MP200) draft Landscape Concept Plans (Appendix E)**
- (c) include the endorsed Concept Plans in the forthcoming Nambour Aquatic Centre tender package to attract contributions from the successful tenderer**
- (d) refer an amount of \$90,000 for detailed design works for consideration in the 2017/18 capital works budget and**
- (e) note the requirement for future capital works allocations associated with the proposal which will be assessed and prioritised against other projects in Council's 10 year capital works programs.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The estimated total cost of the project (Concept Plan A) is \$3,585,067 (excluding GST). This includes proposed future development works including an additional water slide (\$181,000) and redeveloped amenities (\$357,000). With future development works extracted, the estimated total cost is \$3,047,067 (excluding GST). Final cost estimations for Concept Plan B will require further investigation through detailed design, however it is estimated to be an additional cost of approximately \$259,000 (excluding GST).

Capital investment toward Concept Plan outcomes will be sought through the forthcoming Nambour Aquatic Centre tenure renewal process. It is proposed contributions sought through this process will be directed toward water play elements. The level of investment gained will be a competitive process, with outcomes known in May 2017.

At this stage there is no future allocations within the proposed forward Capital Works plan for water play embellishments.

In respect to the car park and road works, it is proposed that an amount of \$90,000 be allocated in the 2017/18 capital works program for detailed design works. Beyond this there is currently no future funding allocation.

Proposed Precinct Improvement Works

These include all works proposed to develop the new water play area and improvements to car parking, access and landscape including site preparation and services, car parks and roads, water play and slide and landscape improvements.

The following table summarises the indicative costs for the proposed works:

Table 1: Precinct Development Indicative Cost Summary (Concept Plan A)

Precinct Development Works	Indicative Cost (excluding GST)
Car park and roads	\$1,381,190
Water play and slide	\$1,665,877
Total estimated project cost	\$3,047,067

As indicated above, additional costs may be incurred should the proposed car park shift to the west as indicated in Concept Plan B. Further investigation of car park concepts will be necessary through the detailed design process.

Potential Future Precinct Improvement Works

These include additional future works that were identified as non-essential to the redevelopment but would improve customer experience and attract more users. These include:

- Future Building Development: Includes upgrades to entry building and kiosk/wet areas.
- Additional Waterslide: Allowance has been made in the design for a second waterslide to be added to attract more users and improve patron experience and choice.

The following table summarises the identified optional future works and associated costs for the proposed works:

Table 2: Precinct Future Development Indicative Cost Summary

Future Development Works	Indicative Cost (excluding GST)
Future building redevelopment	\$357,000
Future water slide	\$181,356
Total estimated future works project cost	\$538,356

Otium Planning Group commissioned Turner Townsend quantity surveyors to review the recommended precinct development and prepared an independent indicative cost plan for the various components of work. The elements of the preliminary cost plan are outlined in detail in Section 6.3 of the Feasibility Study. An analysis of the current and projected increased visitations and anticipated revenue and expenditure for the proposed concept are also detailed in Section 6 of the Feasibility Study.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *A strong community*

Outcome: 2.1 - Safe and healthy communities

Operational Activity: 2.1.3.7 - Undertake a feasibility study for establishment of a water splash park in association with Nambour Aquatic Centre

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

Councillor O'Pray – Portfolio Councillor for Tourism, Sport and Major Events.

Internal Consultation

The Division 10 Councillor, Cr Rogerson, was consulted at the commencement of the project to inform the development of the project brief, as well as at key milestones throughout the project. At the initial project scoping meeting, the Divisional Councillor recommended that the project brief should also investigate leisure play elements being located outside the aquatic centre lease area provided to the community at no cost. This was in line with preliminary discussions with stakeholders from the Nambour Community at the Nambour Place Creation Workshop in February 2015.

The Divisional Councillor also contributed to the preliminary design brief meeting along with the project team and representatives from Parks and Gardens Branch where three conceptual development options were presented by Otium Planning Group. Following this meeting, a preferred conceptual option was selected, which included the leisure water elements within the aquatic centre lease area. This was due to safety and surveillance issues, the cost associated with lifeguard services, required water testing and on-site management costs. The Divisional Councillor also hosted an information session for stakeholders who attended from the Nambour Place Creation Workshop in February 2015.

The following Branches were consulted as part of the internal consultation process:

- Community Planning and Development
- Parks and Gardens
- Civil Asset Management
- Transport Infrastructure Management
- Strategic Planning
- Transport and Infrastructure Policy
- Environment and Sustainability Policy
- Property Management

The Integrated Open Space Team (IOST) were also consulted on the proposed draft concept plan. Feedback from this meeting noted:

- The draft concept plan is comprehensive and explores a number of options for upgrade of the existing facility before providing a proposed final option. The design meets the majority of principles and desired outcomes of the Sunshine Coast Social Infrastructure Strategy 2011 and the Sunshine Coast Open Space Strategy 2011. However, the placement of the car park segments two open space parcels in the current form and could be moved to the west to consolidate open space.

The Parks and Gardens Branch noted the proposed plan to develop car parking within Petrie Park at Elder Street is not consistent with the Sunshine Coast Open Space Strategy which specifies – “Strategy 6.3.5: Actively seek to reduce space lost to secondary uses, especially in foreshore area (e.g. car parking, commuter paths, storage spaces)”. It was suggested to examine options to better integrate car parking (and bus parking/set-down) to retain flood free open space for park purposes, as well as to strengthen connections between Petrie Creek Park and the Nambour Aquatic Centre.

It should be noted that the *Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014* indicates the precinct is within a sport and recreation zone and as such, the purpose of the land is to provide for a range of organised sport and recreation activities and those uses and support facilities which are associated with those activities.

Concept Plan A was initially developed on the hardstand area of the skate park to minimise costs and disruption to adjoining parkland. Based on the feedback from the IOST and Environment and Sustainability Policy Branch, Concept Plan B has been developed. It is considered that Concept Plan B provides the better outcome for the community. However, Concept Plan B will require investigation with regard to cost and impact on adjoining property owners as part of the detailed design process.

With regard to the feedback from Parks and Gardens Branch, Concept Plan B achieves the objective to strengthen the connection to Petrie Creek Park and the aquatic centre.

External Consultation

Following the completion of the draft Nambour Aquatic Centre Precinct Concept Plan A and Feasibility Study, a community and stakeholder engagement process was undertaken. The draft Nambour Aquatic Centre Precinct Concept Plan A was made available to the community and internal and external stakeholders for review and comment from 18 January – 8 February 2017.

In accordance with the Community Engagement Plan for the project, the community of Nambour and surrounds and key stakeholders in the Nambour community were invited to review the draft Concept Plan and provide feedback during the public consultation period through:

- Media release;
- Print Media coverage in *My Weekly Preview* and *Nambour Weekly*;
- Council's website;
- Social media posts;
- Public Display and Consultation Session at Nambour Plaza;
- Public display at the Nambour Library; and
- Public display at the Nambour Aquatic Centre.

Feedback from the community and key internal and external stakeholders were collected through:

- Online surveys promoted through a community fact sheet and made available via council's Community Engagement 2017 page;
- Hard copy surveys completed at the Nambour Library; and
- Hard copy and online surveys completed at the public consultation session at Nambour Plaza.

Targeted consultation was also held with key external stakeholders to seek detailed feedback on the draft concept plans. This included:

- Meeting with Nambour Alliance;
- Meeting with Swimfit (current Nambour Aquatic Centre lessee);
- Direct email invitation to comment to Nambour Aquatic Centre members/ customer database; and
- Meeting with stakeholders from the local Nambour business community including those who participated in Council's Nambour Place Creation Workshop.

The key outcomes from the meetings with the existing lessee and the local Nambour business community discussions were:

- Generally strong support for the Draft Concept Plan A.
- Mixed reaction to the location of water play elements. Most stakeholders acknowledged the advantages of locating the water play elements in the Aquatic Centre whilst others voiced a preference for free water play outside the Aquatic Centre precinct in Petrie Park.
- Fees and charges for the water and adventure play elements need to be affordable.
- Need to ensure the facilities incorporate accessibility outcomes.

The Nambour Alliance provided a detailed submission which was not supportive of the concept plan in its current form, citing the following points:

- Insignificant scale of the project brief and Concept Plan outcomes – request to look at the budget for this project and ‘triple it’.
- Outcomes should be of a scale matching Nambour Alliance’s ‘Water Park and Lagoon’ concept located in Petrie Park. This plan is one which has been developed by the Alliance and is of a significantly larger scale and scope of that presented to Council in this report. In response to this proposal, officers can advise that the green space area further south across the creek, in which Nambour Alliance have identified as an area for a potential future lagoon precinct, has been identified in the draft Petrie Creek Open Space Master Plan as an important area for existing uses including the sport of hockey and as a dog off-leash zone. Furthermore, this area is highly flood prone with strong inundation levels under existing and future flood modelling.
- Should include a free access community facility as opposed to ‘a slide in the corner of the aquatic centre’.
- Design should look to future proof the town economically rather than perceived short term focus. Alliance is of the belief that an enhanced development could prove a tourism drawcard for Nambour.
- Perceived consultation approach during Concept Plan development as opposed to collaboration.
- Request to improve linkages between Town Centre and the Aquatic Centre. In response to this, officers can advise that the draft Petrie Creek Open Space Master Plan recommends a number of improvements for pedestrian and cycle connections through this area.

Community Engagement

Survey Responses

A total of 88 survey responses were received through online responses, the display at Nambour Library and the public consultation session at Nambour Plaza.

The majority of respondents were from Nambour and surrounds (67%), followed by Yandina and surrounds (6.8%) and Woombye and surrounds (8%). Over 85% of respondents were aged 30+ with 76% females. Over 74% of respondents have visited the Nambour Aquatic Centre in the last 12 months.

The aspects respondents most liked about the Draft Concept Plan in order of preference were:

1. Enhanced leisure water elements
2. Increased car and bus parking provision
3. Landscaping and parkland elements.

Generally, respondents indicated they liked most aspects of the draft Nambour Aquatic Centre Precinct Concept Plan A with more than 67% of respondents indicating “I like all aspects of the draft concept plan”.

The common aspects of the draft concept plan respondents indicated they would like to see changed were:

- Further improvement/ expansion of the Nambour Aquatic Centre
- More car parking and
- Ensure accessibility.

A large proportion (83.7%) of respondents indicated they were more likely to visit the Nambour Aquatic Centre Precinct if the proposed improvements in the draft concept plan are made. A large proportion (75.9%) of respondents indicated they see the waterslide element as an important addition to the concept plan, despite being informed the waterslide will attract an additional fee to the general pool admission fee. Just over half of all respondents (57%) indicated they were prepared to pay an additional fee for the waterslide to be included.

A matrix which outlines how the key themes from internal and external feedback have been considered and/or integrated into the draft concept plans is included at Attachment 1.

Demonstrating the extent of community interest and excitement about this project for Nambour and the Sunshine Coast region more generally, the draft concept plan received considerable social media coverage and reach from two social media posts, reaching 26,371 people and 638 reactions, comments and shares. The common themes on the draft concept plan from survey respondents, including extracts from social media commentary are included at Attachment 2.

PROPOSAL

A key strategic project identified within the Nambour Activation Plan 2015 was to undertake a feasibility study on the preferred option for the provision of a water splash park along the Petrie Creek leisure corridor. This action is also referenced within the adopted Sunshine Coast Aquatic Plan 2011 – 2026 and the draft Petrie Creek Open Space Master Plan.

At a preliminary development options meeting, Otium Planning Group presented three conceptual design options and associated cost estimates to the project team, the divisional Councillor and representatives of Parks and Gardens Branch. These options were:

- Option 1: develop water play/slides on former skate park site;
- Option 2: develop water play/slides in the aquatic centre car park; or
- Option 3: develop water play/slides within the aquatic centre site.

Options 1 and 2 required construction of new amenities, filtration system and plant room and the connection of these services. In addition, options 1 and 2 had operational budget requirements for additional staff for water testing and supervision. As option 3 proposed using the existing pool filtration and lower staff costs, option 3 was selected as the preferred option for further conceptual planning. Further detail on the analysis of the three development options are outlined in Section 4 of the Feasibility Study.

The draft concept plans are attached at Appendix B, C, D and E. They include

- Concept Plan A (Appendix B - MP100) – conceptual development plan for the Nambour Aquatic Centre Precinct;
- Concept Plan B (Appendix C - MP101) – conceptual development plan for the Nambour Aquatic Centre Precinct indicating the alternative car park option;
- Water Play Concept Plan (Appendix D - MP200) – conceptual plans for the water play elements and waterslides;
- Landscape Concept Plans (Appendix E) – conceptual plans for the landscaping and connectivity within the precinct.

A summary of the scope of works that have guided the development and landscape plans includes:

- Site Preparation and Services: Includes demolition of skate park, existing toddler and program pool, clear landscape areas (as per the landscape plan) and complete site preparation/earthworks, retaining walls and site fencing replacement
- Car Parks and Roads: Includes new disability ramp and pedestrian stairs between upper and lower car parks, construction of lower car park, new bus drop off zone, upper car park modification for more disabled and family parking, realignment of access driveway and new car drop off zone.
- Water Play and Slide: Includes construction of a zero-depth splash deck with two linked zones of water play equipment including zone 1 with toddler slides and ground sprays/fountains and zone 2 (5 years+) with combination unit play fort with slide, sprays and fountains and tipping bucket. The development also includes an older child/youth adventure area with enclosed flume waterslide and tower that utilises the

adjoining bank and is linked by stairs to a slide take off tower and platform. The enclosed flume winds its way down to pool concourse ground level and includes a run out/exit open flume.

- Landscape Improvements: Includes remodelled public forecourt with new hard landscaping, new planting areas, new shelters/shading, new fully accessible pathways, new shade trees and lighting.

Other potential future works were identified as non-essential to the redevelopment but would improve customer experience and attract more users. These include future upgrades to entry/kiosk and wet areas and additional waterslide.

As part of the tendering process for Nambour Aquatic Centre, potential lessees will be invited to propose their level of capital contribution towards the design and construct of the Concept Plans. Delivery options as a result of this could include:

- Successful lessee takes on full capital, design and construction responsibility for the water play elements; or
- Successful lessee makes a contribution toward the Concept Plan outcomes, with council jointly contributing to the capital investment (pending budget availability), and subsequently taking on responsibility for design and construction.

The Nambour Aquatic Centre Precinct water play/slides development visitation review indicated that annual visitations are assumed to increase from 86,992 (2015/16) to 99,616 in year one of the new redevelopment. This is an estimated increase in visitations of 12,624. The breakdown in increased visitation per program is indicated in the table below:

User Category	2015/16 Visits	% Increase by Category for New/Increased Use	Future Base Case Total
Adult Multi-Pass*	5,300	+10%	5,888
Child Multi-Pass*	9,832	+25%	13,109
Adult Entry*	8,100	+10%	9,000
Child Entry*	15,000	+25%	20,000
Members	413	+10%	458
Aerobics	2,972	N/A	2,972
Learn to Swim	18,258	+5%	19,218
School Swimming	15,143	+5%	15,940
Swim School	7,311	+10%	8,123
Swim Squad	4,263	+5%	4,487
Misc. - Other	400	+5%	421
Total	86,992	N/A	99,616

Note: * based on estimated split of adult (35%) and child (65%) of total visits

Based on the visitation, income and expenditure projections as detailed in 5.3.1 to 5.3.3 of the attached feasibility study (Attachment 1), the net year one operating performance for the water play/slides is detailed as follows:

- Estimated New Visitations: 12,624 visits
- Estimated Total New Income: \$180,189
- Estimated Total New Expenditure: \$105,868
- Estimated Net Operating Profit/(Loss): \$74,321

The visitation and operating financial review indicates that based on all assumptions the proposed development will generate up to 12,600 more visits and after operating savings and new costs are met the development is projected to record an operating surplus of just under \$75,000 in year 1. This obviously does not take into account the upfront capital costs associated with the construction elements of this project.

Legal

The feasibility analysis has future implications on the development at the site and will be noted in the management agreement and tenure terms for the Nambour Aquatic Centre. The new agreement will be developed in conjunction with council's Legal Services and the Procurement and Contracts Branch during the impending tendering of this site.

Additionally, through the concept planning process it became apparent that an adjoining landholder on the northern boundary with the Aquatic Centre has an informal access driveway and a portion of a shed which appear to encroach on council freehold land. The Land Management team have contacted the land owner for further follow up regarding this matter.

Policy

The *Sunshine Coast Aquatic Plan 2011-2026* was developed to inform Council's policy on aquatic network provision throughout the region. This plan was recently revised and adopted by council in June 2016.

Risk

- Detailed planning reduces the risk of ad-hoc development, which may be to the detriment of future service provision and uses.
- Failure to maintain an adequate level of service for community facilities may result in increased future costs and lead to community dissatisfaction.
- It is envisaged that delivery of concept plan elements, particularly relating to internal water play elements, will occur largely through investment of the successful lessee appointed through the forthcoming tenure renewal process. Should this not be successful, additional allocations through Council's forward 10 year capital works program will be required to enable implementation of Concept Plan outcomes (pending budget availability).
- The encroachment on council freehold land with an adjoining landholder will require council resources to investigate and negotiate an outcome with the landholder. This matter is currently being addressed by Property Management and Development Services staff. Internal investigation has determined that an access easement through council's freehold land would not be a viable option, with the land owner advised unauthorised access off Petrie Park Road will need to be closed off in due course. The outcome of this negotiation is not expected to impact on Concept Plan outcomes as the parcel of land in question is in a separate location to the water play or water slide concept recommendations.

Previous Council Resolution

Adoption of the Sunshine Coast Aquatics Plan 2011 – 2026, Special Meeting 7 March 2011 (SM11/8)

That Council:

- receive and note the report titled "Sunshine Coast Aquatic Plan 2011-2026";*
- adopt the Draft Sunshine Coast Aquatics Plan 2011-2026 (Appendix A);*
- develop a detailed and prioritised multi-year implementation plan based on councils' long term financial model and other revenue sources;*

- (d) refer an annual budget bid of \$80,000 towards the introduction of standard software and benchmarking mechanisms across the council aquatic network to the appropriate operational budget and sub-program for implementation from 2011/2012;
- (e) prepare a report to council which reviews and assesses the performance of the existing aquatic network against standards and benchmarks and makes recommendations to inform future council decision making as part of council's value and success program;
- (f) acknowledge and thank the wider community for their contribution in the development of the Sunshine Coast Aquatics Plan 2011-2026; and
- (g) acknowledge and thank the staff from the Active and Healthy Communities branch of the Community Services Department for their contribution to the Draft Sunshine Coast Aquatic Plan 2011-2026.

Update of the Sunshine Coast Aquatic Plan 2011-2026, Ordinary Meeting 16 June 2016 (OM16/100)

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Update of the Sunshine Coast Aquatic Plan 2011 - 2026" and
- (b) endorse the 2016 edition of the Sunshine Coast Aquatic Plan 2011 – 2026 (Appendix A as amended).

Adoption of the Nambour Activation Plan, Ordinary Meeting, 15 October 2015 (OM15/174)

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Nambour Activation Plan"
- (b) adopt the Nambour Activation Plan (Appendix A) and
- (c) refer a funding request to undertake a feasibility study for the establishment of a water splash park in association with the Nambour Aquatic Centre to the 2016/17 budget considerations.

Related Documentation

- Sunshine Coast Council Corporate Plan 2014-2019
- Sunshine Coast Aquatic Plan 2011-2026 (June 2016 edition)
- Nambour Activation Plan 2015
- Sunshine Coast Social Infrastructure Strategy 2011 (August 2014 edition)
- Sunshine Coast Open Space Strategy 2011 (August 2014 edition)
- Sunshine Coast Social Strategy 2015
- Sunshine Coast Access and Inclusion Plan 2011-2016
- Sunshine Coast Sustainable Transport Strategy 2011 – 2031
- Draft Petrie Creek Open Space Master Plan

Critical Dates

This report has been presented to Council noting the forthcoming Nambour Aquatic Centre tenure renewal process. This coincides with a further six aquatic centre tenures that fall due for renewals commencing in June 2017. Adequate planning and activation will be required prior to April 2017 to allow time for tender notifications and to meet the Contract and Procurement tender timelines and committee meeting dates where contracts will be awarded. The feasibility analysis and associated concept plans will be an inclusion in the Nambour Aquatic Centre invitation to tender.

Implementation

Further to the key plans included in the precinct feasibility as outlined in the Proposal section above, the following actions are recommended for implementation:

- Include endorsed concept plans as part of the forthcoming Nambour Aquatic Centre tenure renewal process inviting potential lessees to put forward capital investment proposals toward Concept Plan inclusions.
- Refer an amount of \$90,000 for detailed design works for consideration in the 2017/18 capital works budget.
- Finalise the encroachment issue with the adjoining landholder with the expectation of there being no compensation cost to be borne by council.

8.1.2 SUNSHINE COAST RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN 2017-2019

File No:	F2016/271293
Author:	Coordinator Community Planning & Strategy Community Services Department
Appendices:	App A - Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019.39
Attachments:	Att 1 - Reconciliation Action Plan 2011-2016 Implementation Summary45

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present the Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019 to council for consideration and adoption (provided as Appendix A).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Action Plan 2011-2016* (RAP) was council's first Reconciliation Action Plan. It set out a vision for regular engagement and support initiatives to enable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to enjoy social and economic opportunities through the values of respect and equality. The Plan also helped establish and promote our reconciliation commitment, protocols and outcomes, whilst providing guidance for building respect, and promoting social inclusion and equality.

In August 2015, council resolved to seek to develop a 'Stretch' Reconciliation Action Plan post the expiry of the adopted *Reconciliation Action Plan 2011-2016*. Whilst there has been significant success and steps taken towards advancing reconciliation with the implementation of the *Reconciliation Action Plan 2011-2016*, there are some gaps in the key action areas that would essentially prevent the organisation from moving towards a 'Stretch' Reconciliation Action Plan for this next iteration.

The Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019 addresses such gaps at an 'Innovate' level, and outlines the practical actions council and its partners will take to foster meaningful partnerships and relationships, enhance respect, and provide equitable opportunities between the Region's Kabi Kabi and Jinibara First Nation peoples and our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

The formation and operation of the proposed internal and external working groups will be instrumental in the strategic coordination, implementation and review processes of the document's delivery.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019"**
- (b) adopt the Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019 (Appendix A)**
- (c) refer the Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019 to Reconciliation Australia for endorsement**
- (d) refer resource implications for consideration to future budget processes and**
- (e) authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make minor amendments as required to finalise the Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

At council's Ordinary Meeting on 20 August 2015, council endorsed that a three year position and associated Materials and Services budget be considered as part of the 2015/16 budget review process. As a result, a three year contracted position and a Materials and Services budget to the value of \$50,000 was allocated in 2016/17.

The Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019 is intended to be delivered over two years at a total cost of \$105,000 for new initiatives beyond core budget. This will be funded by the remaining 2016/17 budget (total spend to date \$345), in addition to the presentation of budget bids for 2017/18 to access funds to implement new program actions – the bulk of which being allocated to support the development and delivery of cultural awareness training for the organisation.

CORPORATE PLAN

- Corporate Plan Goal:** *A strong community*
Outcome: 2.3 - Culture, heritage and diversity are valued and embraced
- Corporate Plan Goal:** *A strong community*
Outcome: 2.1 - Safe and healthy communities
Operational Activity: 2.1.7 - Develop partnerships and programs which encourage residents to lead more active healthy lifestyles
- Corporate Plan Goal:** *A strong community*
Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service
Operational Activity: S4 - Community and cultural development and partnerships - providing planning, partnering and supporting the community through a range of community development, civic and cultural programs and grants
- Corporate Plan Goal:** *An outstanding organisation*
Outcome: 5.4 - Productive, professional partnerships
Operational Activity: 5.4.5 - Build and maintain productive working relationships with governments, industry and community bodies

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

- Councillor J McKay – Portfolio Councillor for Community and Environment

Internal Consultation

The Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019 was presented to the following Councillors for discussion and comment:

- Councillor M Jamieson - Mayor
- Councillor R Baberowski
- Councillor T Dwyer
- Councillor J McKay
- Councillor C Dickson
- Councillor E Hungerford
- Councillor J O'Pray
- Councillor S Robinson
- Councillor G Rogerson.

The Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019 was presented and discussed at an internal forum with council Manager's in November 2016, with all Departments represented. Following this initial conversation, the final draft Plan was circulated during December 2016 to all Branches seeking review and comment.

The comments received through these consultation processes have informed the finalisation of the Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019 as presented. Council's Senior Advisor for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships has been instrumental in the development, consultation and finalisation of the Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019.

External Consultation

Between January and February 2017, consultation on the draft RAP 2017-2019 was undertaken with key community and government stakeholder organisations, including representatives of the Region's Traditional Owner group organisations, via an electronic questionnaire and phone interviews. The draft RAP was distributed to 19 representative groups for comment and further distribution throughout their networks. From this, 17 individual submissions were received, including feedback from Reconciliation Queensland and Reconciliation Australia.

Predominantly, the feedback received supported and commended the directions and deliverables of the RAP 2017-2019, with the suggestions submitted mainly helping to inform the operational delivery of stated actions.

Generally, key matters raised for consideration included:

- Education and promotion surrounding the RAP and pathways to enhanced reconciliation
- Training initiatives and recommendations on programs and resources
- Advice surrounding the construct, membership and projected priorities of the proposed external Advisory Committee, and
- Matters surrounding Cultural Heritage and compliance.

It should be noted that whilst 'Duty of Care' and compliance matters are managed under the legislative requirements of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*, and not specifically addressed within the scope of Reconciliation Action Plans, the significance that land holds for local Traditional Owners is duly acknowledged and as such, our commitment to continue to work collaboratively to protect the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage of the Sunshine Coast is recognised within the document.

As mentioned, the RAP 2017-2019 details an action to establish a First Peoples Advisory Committee, with representation from the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and key stakeholder groups. It is proposed that this Committee will meet regularly to assist council in delivering on the actions of the RAP and with the development of the next iteration of the Reconciliation Action Plan post its 2019 expiration.

PROPOSAL

Sunshine Coast Council values its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' rich contribution and connection to the history, heritage and culture of this region. Council has been committed to reconciliation between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through the fulfilment of our statutory Native Title and Cultural Heritage obligations, and through the implementation of the *Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Action Plan 2011-2016* (RAP).

Council's *Reconciliation Action Plan 2011-2016* has provided a solid foundation for our ongoing commitments to support local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community organisations, programs, events, and the implementation of respectful protocols. It has achieved this in parallel with raising awareness of reconciliation across our local communities. A summary of its implementation is provided as Attachment 1.

As the *Reconciliation Action Plan 2011-2016* expired in 2016, the next iteration of the Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019 (Appendix A) provides an opportunity for our organisation and community to continue to build its capacity to support and sustain reconciliation outcomes for the region.

The Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019 commits to advancing reconciliation by fostering meaningful partnerships and relationships, embracing diversity and enhancing respect, and providing equitable opportunities for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

In August 2015, council resolved to:

- Confirm its commitment to building strong relationships with the Traditional Owners of the Sunshine Coast; and
- Seek to develop a 'Stretch' RAP and aspire to an improved strategic framework and a deeper understanding and relationship with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups.

As per the council resolution on 20 August 2015, a three year contracted position and Materials and Services budget of \$50,000 was allocated to the Reconciliation Action Plan in the 2016/17 financial year.

Broadly, Reconciliation Action Plans provide a guide for council's vision for reconciliation to create social change and economic opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. For clarity, Reconciliation Action Plan's do not specifically address any Duty of Care or compliance action taken under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*. It also does not cover formal agreements such as Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUA's) or the like.

Reconciliation Australia are the lead body on reconciliation in the nation. Reconciliation Australia produce RAP templates for consideration by organisations, which align under four frameworks. Each RAP framework sets out the minimum elements required to build strong relationships, respect and opportunities within organisations through designated templates.

Framework	Explanation
Reflect	For organisations just starting out on their reconciliation journey and who need to build the foundations for relationships, respect and opportunities. A Reflect RAP gives an opportunity to raise internal awareness and support for your RAP and develop a governance model and business case for future commitments to cultural learning and practising cultural protocols.
Innovate	For organisations that have developed relationships with their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders and are ready to develop or implement programs for cultural learning, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment and supplier diversity. An Innovate RAP gives the freedom to develop and test new and innovative approaches, and embed the RAP in your organisation
Stretch	For organisations ready to challenge themselves by setting targets for the actions outlined in their RAP. A Stretch RAP will give your organisation the opportunity to focus on tried and tested strategies and programs and set clear and measurable targets to deepen its impact.
Elevate	For organisations with a long, successful history in the RAP Program; a current Stretch RAP and a willingness to significantly invest in reconciliation.

Whilst there has been significant success and steps taken towards advancing reconciliation with the implementation of the *Reconciliation Action Plan 2011-2016*, there are some gaps in the key action areas that would essentially prevent the organisation from moving towards a 'Stretch' Reconciliation Action Plan for this next iteration, including employment and

procurement related actions. These actions were not included in the initial *Reconciliation Action Plan 2011-2016* as no formalised templates were available at the time of adoption.

The Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019 now identifies and addresses such gaps at an 'Innovate' level, and outlines the practical actions council and its partners will take to build strong relationships and enhanced respect between the Region's Kabi Kabi and Jinibara First Nation peoples, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from other First Nations groups, who play an important role in the social, economic and cultural growth of our Sunshine Coast communities.

Legal

Council is legally obliged to meet the requirements of the *Native Title Act 1993*, *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* and *Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003*. As the Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019 does not specifically include legislative or compliance matters within its scope, there are no legal implications relevant to this report.

Policy

The Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019 articulates council's commitment to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community living on the Sunshine Coast. The Plan is consistent with appropriate national and state policies and the template options presented by Reconciliation Australia.

Risk

Without the adoption of the Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019, council does not have a strategic or coordinated position regarding its commitment to reconciliation.

Previous Council Resolution

Council Resolution (OM11/257) – 26 October 2011

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "Draft Sunshine Coast Council Reconciliation Action Plan 2011-2016"; and*
- (b) *endorse the Draft Sunshine Coast Council Reconciliation Action Plan 2011-2016 (Appendix A) for community consultation.*

Council Resolution (OM11/302) – 7 December 2011

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Plan 2011-2016"; and*
- (b) *adopt the "Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Action Plan 2011-2016" (Appendix A) as amended.*

Council Resolution (OM15/136) – 20 August 2015

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "Reconciliation Action Plan Review"*
- (b) *confirm its commitment to building strong relationships with the Traditional Owners of the Sunshine Coast*
- (c) *endorse Option 3 in relation to the extension of Council's Reconciliation Action Plan activities, and*
- (d) *refer the resource implications of Option 3 to Council for consideration as part of the 2015/2016 budget review processes.*

Related Documentation

- Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Action Plan 2011-2016
- Sunshine Coast Corporate Plan 2017-2021
- Sunshine Coast Social Strategy 2015

Critical Dates

With the expiration of the *Reconciliation Action Plan 2011-2016*, a new action plan is required to guide officers and key stakeholders regarding council's position on reconciliation matters.

Implementation

If adopted, officers will progress the identified actions and measurable targets noted within the Reconciliation Action Plan 2017-2019. The formation and operation of the proposed internal and external working groups will be instrumental in the strategic coordination, implementation and review processes of the document's delivery.

8.1.3 50TH ANNIVERSARY CATEGORY B RECOMMENDATIONS FEBRUARY 2017

File No:	Council Meeting - 23 March 2017
Author:	Team Leader Civic and Community Events Community Services Department
Appendices:	App A - 50th Anniversary Celebration Fund - Category B Recommendations53
Attachments:	Att 1 - 50th Anniversary Category B Recommendations_Additional InformationConf 5 / 10

PURPOSE

This report responds to the Council Resolution (OM15/154) and seeks Council endorsement of funding recommendations for the 50th Anniversary Category B funding program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 50th Anniversary of the Naming of the Sunshine Coast program offers an opportunity for the community to celebrate its history in a regional context. Towards that end, a 50th Anniversary Fund was endorsed by Council Resolution (OM 15/154) in September 2015.

The 50th Anniversary Fund provides one-off grants to not-for-profit community organisations to support projects, activities or events that primarily celebrate and commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the naming of the Sunshine Coast. These projects, activities or events will become part of the official 50th Anniversary program of celebrations in 2017.

There are two types of 50th Anniversary Fund grants available:

- Category A (two rounds): Up to \$2,000 to enhance activities, projects or events; and
- Category B: Up to \$20,000 to create new commemorative activities, projects or events.

The 50th Anniversary Category B grant program closed on 31 January 2017. Council received 10 applications requesting a total of \$182,100.

Funding totaling \$117,000 for nine projects, events, or activities is recommended for Council's endorsement (Appendix A).

The recommended program reflects Council's main objectives of the celebrations as described in the Ordinary Meeting Report dated 17 September 2015, being to:

- strengthen the community by developing community spirit and promoting pride in the Sunshine Coast region through recognising and celebrating our identity, and
- enhance the region's profile nationally to attract increased visitor numbers from across the nation to the Sunshine Coast.

The recommended applications were approved for council consideration, by the Sunshine Coast 50th Anniversary Organising Committee.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- receive and note the report titled "50th Anniversary Category B Recommendations February 2017" and**
- endorse the 50th Anniversary Category B Recommendations (Appendix A).**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The 50th Anniversary grants program has an endorsed budget of \$150,000 to support two rounds of Category A funding of up to \$2,000, and one round of Category B of up to \$20,000.

This report relates to Category B where a total of \$117,000 is being recommended for endorsement.

One of the applications was identified as suitable to be supported through the Heritage Levy budget for small hall activation as outlined in the table below.

Table 1. Budget implications

Funding Source	Funding recommended
50 th Anniversary	\$98,000
Heritage Levy	\$19,000
TOTAL	\$117,000

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *A strong community*

Outcome: 2.3 - Culture, heritage and diversity are valued and embraced.

Operational Activity: 2.3.4 - Develop and implement an events program to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the naming of the Sunshine Coast, including a grants program to support community groups to participate in these celebrations.

CONSULTATION

Applications were submitted following a flexible and efficient Expression of Interest process. This process is designed to save time for potential applicants, allowing those applicants with limited opportunity for a successful funding outcome to be aware of this prior to completing a full application. It also provides an opportunity for applicants to receive advice and support in the development of their projects to ensure it contains all required information.

To achieve this, the 50th Anniversary team and grants team provided the successful EOI applicants that were identified as aligning with the Category B Criteria, with assistance in project development, preparation of application content and guidance throughout the application process.

Councillors and representatives of the 50th Anniversary Organising Committee (including Mayor Mark Jamieson, Cr Jason O'Pray and Cr Jenny McKay) were involved in assessing the applications to proceed from EOI to full application. The Committee were then advised of the final successful applicants via memo and provided with an opportunity to provide feedback.

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

- Councillor J McKay – Portfolio Councillor for Community and Environment
- Councillor J O'Pray – Portfolio Councillor for Tourism, Sport and Events

Internal Consultation

Councillor's on the 50th Anniversary Organising Committee (Mayor Mark Jamieson, Cr Jason O'Pray and Cr Jenny McKay) were involved in assessing the applications to proceed from EOI to full application.

The final full applications were assessed by key Council staff on a Panel and recommendations provided to the Organising Committee for final approval. The panel included:

- Coordinator, Advocacy & Collaboration, Office of Mayor and CEO
- Manager, Community Relations, Community Services
- Coordinator, Community Programs and Events, Community Relations, Community Services
- Coordinator, Cultural Heritage, Community Relations, Community Services
- Team Leader, Civic and Community Events, Community Relations, Community Services
- Team Leader, Community Connections, Community Relations, Community Services
- Communications Officer, Communications Branch, Economic Development and Major Projects

External Consultation

The below external representatives of the 50th Anniversary Committee assessed the applications:

- Ralph Devlin – Sunshine Coast Events Board (QC AOM)
- Jak Hardy – Stand Up Engage (Sunshine Coast's Australia Day Young Australian of the Year)
- Michael Shadforth – Combined Chambers Alliance Sunshine Coast

Community Engagement

Broad community engagement was not required to inform this report.

PROPOSAL

The name 'Sunshine Coast' was launched in December 1958 at the inaugural dinner of the Sunshine Coast Branch of the Real Estate Institute of Queensland, held at the Hotel Caloundra. The Branch had begun a drive to popularise and obtain recognition for the name, to replace the term 'Near North Coast', which was not considered distinct enough, and had 'no significance for southerners.'

The name 'Sunshine Coast' was officially endorsed by the then Landsborough, Maroochy and Noosa councils in November, 1966 when it was agreed to utilise the name to cover the three Shires. The name tied in with the decision to also form the Sunshine Coast Promotion Bureau to promote the district covered by the three Shires. It gave the district 'a great start in developing a tourist industry'; 'Sunshine', signifying 'brightness and warmth' (and providing a different but complementary attraction to the Gold Coast).

A "Notification of Decision to Adopt a Place Name" under the Queensland Place Names Act of 1958 appeared in the Queensland Government Gazette in July 1967. The name was endorsed by the Minister for Lands, Alan Fletcher, who advised that the decision would take effect from 1 August 1967.

The 50th Anniversary of the naming of the Sunshine Coast offers an opportunity for the community to celebrate its history and how that history has formed who we are today in a regional context. Towards that end, a 50th Anniversary Fund was endorsed by Council Resolution (OM 15/154) in September 2015.

Council recognises the vital contribution that community organisations make to the economic, environmental, social and cultural wellbeing of Sunshine Coast communities.

Through the provision of the 50th Anniversary Fund, council is committed to supporting the implementation of 50th Anniversary projects and events to celebrate and commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the naming of the Sunshine Coast.

The 50th Anniversary grant of \$150,000 was approved at the Ordinary Meeting on 17 September 2015 to support the Anniversary program of events, projects and activities to be delivered as part of the 50th Anniversary program.

The 50th Anniversary Fund provides one-off grants to not-for-profit community organisations to support projects, activities or events that primarily celebrate and commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the naming of the Sunshine Coast.

There are two types of 50th Anniversary Fund grants available:

- Category A: Up to \$2,000 to enhance activities, projects or events (two grant rounds – 5 September to 31 October 2016 and 6 March to 19 May 2017); and
- Category B: Up to \$20,000 to create new commemorative activities, projects or events (one grant round 17 November 2016 to 31 January 2017).

Assessment process of Category B is a three stage process:

1. Council officers reviewed each EOI and application for eligibility and alignment with program criteria.
2. The 50th Anniversary of the Naming of the Sunshine Coast Organising Committee, made up of delegates representing council and external organisations, review each EOI and application and recommend outcomes.
3. Their recommendations of the applications are reported to council for endorsement.

Promotion and Support

A wide range of traditional and social media channels were used to promote the 50th Anniversary Fund to the community. These included:

- An official media launch of the 50th Anniversary Fund
- Council's website, Facebook, Twitter and a dedicated 50th Anniversary landing page
- Horizon Facebook and e-newsletter
- Scene e-newsletter
- Visit Sunshine Coast Facebook and channels
- Promotion to community groups within the Sunshine Coast Council region
- Spotlight radio, Council's e-news and message on hold
- Grant factsheets were available in libraries and customer service centres.

The 50th Anniversary team and internal working group liaised widely with the community by:

- Responding to telephone enquiries, emails and action requests
- Providing assistance with project or event development
- Providing advice on the preparation of application content and the application process
- Assisting applicants with identifying other grant and funding opportunities.

Applications

The 50th Anniversary Category B grant program closed on 31 January 2017. Council received 10 applications requesting a total of \$182,100. Funding totaling \$117,000 for nine projects, events, or activities is recommended for Council's endorsement (Appendix A).

Recommendation

A total of \$117,000 is being recommended for endorsement to fund the major events and projects for the 50th Anniversary program.

Table 2. Funding recommendations

Applications received	Funding requested	Applications recommended	Funding recommended	% Applications recommended
10	\$182,100	9	\$117,000	90%

The recommended program reflects Council's main objectives of the celebrations as described in the Ordinary Meeting Report dated 17 September 2015, being to:

- strengthen the community by developing community spirit and promoting pride in the Sunshine Coast region through recognising and celebrating our identity; and
- enhance the region's profile nationally to attract increased visitor numbers from across the nation to the Sunshine Coast.

Funding provided by Council will support projects to the total value \$365,190.

Legal

There are no legal implications relevant to this report.

Policy

The recommendations are in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*, *Local Government Regulation 2012* and adopted *Community Grants Policy*.

Risk

Risk of legal liability is mitigated by having the successful funding applicants enter into agreements, which clearly set out the relationship between the parties and obligates them to hold levels of insurance and reporting requirements relevant to the funding agreement.

Previous Council Resolution

Ordinary Meeting 17 September 2015 – Council Resolution (OM 15/154)

That Council:

- receive and note the report titled "Naming of the Sunshine Coast - 50th Anniversary Celebrations"*
- endorse the proposed program of celebrations to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the naming of the Sunshine Coast as outlined in the report*
- refer an amount of \$150,000 budget request to the 2016/17 budget process for consideration for an additional community grant program relating to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the naming of the Sunshine Coast and*
- refer an amount of \$126,000 budget request to the 2016/17 budget processes for consideration.*

Related Documentation

There is no related documentation relevant to this report.

Critical Dates

The next 50th Anniversary Category A fund round will open on 6 March 2017 and close on 19 May 2017.

Implementation

If endorsed, the following actions will be implemented:

- Applicant notification – 23 March 2017
- 50th Anniversary Category B project and events promotion commences 23 March 2017
- Category B Project and Event Activation Dates – 1 August 2017 to 31 December 2017

8.2 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

8.2.1 SHELLY BEACH DUNE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT TRIAL

File No:	F2015/105410
Author:	Senior Natural Areas Operations Officer Infrastructure Services Department
Appendices:	App A - Shelly Beach Dune Vegetation Management Trial draft implementation plan..... 67
Attachments:	Att 1 - Draft vegetation management proposal assessment flowchart 71

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present a draft implementation plan for a three year Vegetation Management Trial Project at North Shelly Beach as result of Councillor Dwyer's notified motion, council resolution (OM 16/224). Council's endorsement of the plan is required to proceed to community consultation and statutory due diligence referrals.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council was approached by the North Shelly Beach Group (the Proponents) and requested to consider a proposal to provide a change in management of the dune vegetation landscape between Russell St and William St, Shelly Beach.

The Proponent's objective in submitting the proposal is to provide for improved scenic amenity without adversely impacting dune stability, biodiversity values or the marine turtle rookery at Shelly Beach. Council Officers have reviewed the Proponents proposal and provided feedback seeking further information particularly with regards to potential impacts on turtle nesting. Further investigation was undertaken by the Proponents and incorporated into an updated proposal.

The revised proposal has been reviewed by Council Officers and the Divisional Councillor with a number of recommended changes that have been incorporated into the implementation plan. The key changes in relation to the vegetation management zone is that the view establishment is to be undertaken primarily through tree pruning rather than tree removal (except for several Pandanus that were planted without authorisation from Council – these will be transplanted or removed). The second key change is that no pruning of vegetation is to be undertaken outside of the vegetation management zones.

Given the change of established management practice for this dunal area and the degree of community interest in the outcome, if approved by council, it is intended to undertake targeted community consultation with the local catchment of residents along with key interest groups such as the local Turtle Care and Community Nature Conservation Volunteer groups. Further, to ensure that council has addressed all statutory obligations the proposal will be referred to relevant Federal and State Government Agencies for a determination on the proposals consistency with governing legislation.

Subsequent to the consultation process and responses from State and Federal Governments a further report will be presented to Council for its consideration of the implementation of the plan.

There is risk of public perception that Council is managing vegetation for the benefit of a select group and that Council may receive further proposals from other localities to undertake vegetation view management. To attempt to mitigate this risk the implementation plan and

report for a vegetation management trial is limited to this location at Shelly Beach, is for a three year trial only and no other proposals will be reviewed by Council until this trial is completed and reported on.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “North Shelly Beach Dune Vegetation Management Trial”**
- (b) proceed with community consultation for the Shelly Beach Dune Vegetation Management Trial draft implementation plan (Appendix A)**
- (c) note a further report will be presented to Council at the June 2017 Ordinary Meeting with results of community consultation and agency referrals and**
- (d) note that the proposed 3 year trial project is limited to the location at north Shelly Beach as defined in Appendix A and that no other proposals will be considered during the trial period.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

If Council resolved to continue with the trial vegetation management proposal following community consultation, given the limited community benefit ascribed to the proposed works as submitted by the proponents, it is recommended that the costs of those actions will be disbursed to the proponent signatories of the proposed trial plan.

It is proposed that any subsequent financial arrangement and agreement would be developed as follows:

- A legal agreement between participating residents and council is signed by all parties, the agreement will detail the extent of works, the time period of the trial, review arrangements, operational delivery arrangements, quality control conditions and financial arrangements that defines how contractors are engaged and subsequent invoicing arrangements directly to the proponents
- Upon receipt of the signed agreement council officers will engage contractors providing scope of works, legal constraints. The works and contractor will be engaged under Council procurement arrangements and in line with the relevant established contract arrangements for this type of work
- Council officers will be present to supervise all required works
- Contractors will invoice proponents directly (how the proponents share these costs is a matter for the proponents)
- Follow up maintenance requirements and costs will be addressed in the same manner

The estimated costs of the intended works are detailed below in Table 1. It is noted that the costs outlined below do not include council officer time. It includes only direct contractor or application fee costs.

Table 1. Estimated costs for implementation and maintenance.

Item	Establishment	Annual Maintenance
Survey (alignment & height)	\$4000	
Bollard installation	\$1200	
Site safety management	\$1000	\$1000
Vegetation management	\$8000	\$2000
Pandanus transplanting	\$3000	
Vegetation offsets	\$200	
EPBC referral	\$7000	
EVNT Flora Survey	\$3000	
Total	\$27400	\$3000

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *A healthy environment*

Outcome: 3.1 - Healthy natural ecosystems and protected remnant vegetation

Operational Activity: 3.1.1.2 - Maintain and manage Council's existing environmental reserves

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

Cr Jenny McKay – Division 5 / Community and Environment Portfolio was consulted, support to progress the report for community consultation was indicated particularly in regards to pruning of vegetation as opposed to removal of vegetation.

Internal Consultation

- Cr Tim Dwyer - Division 2 Councillor was consulted, supported the decision to prune vegetation where possible in preference to vegetation removal.
- Environment and Sustainability Policy Branch – review of proponents plan and feedback provided
- Environmental Operations Branch
- Parks and Gardens Branch
- Manager Procurement and Contracts

External Consultation

Northern Shelly Beach Group (the Proponents) – consulted to review the implementation plan, supported pruning rather than removal of vegetation
 Department of Natural Resources and Mines – advised by email on 10 January 2017 that pruning is not regulated under the *Vegetation Management Act 1999 (Qld)* as this activity does not constitute 'clearing'.

Community Engagement

Council has to date received a number of requests for information regarding this proposal.

Community engagement will be undertaken on the basis that Council resolves to progress to community consultation. The community to be engaged includes residents of Shelly Beach and local interest groups including Turtlecare Sunshine Coast, Wildlife Preservation Society Qld (Sunshine Coast Branch) and Shelly Beach Conservation Volunteers.

The community engagement process to be followed is below

- Mail out to residents within the Shelly Beach locality and coordinators of interested parties. Mail out to include copy of plan, information sheet (including link to plan and report on website) and questionnaire proposed for 24 March
- Council Report, plan, information sheet and questionnaire on Council website 24 March
- Public information session 8 April
- Community consultation closes 10 April

PROPOSAL

The Northern Shelly Beach Group (a group of residents residing on the eastern side of Ocean Ct and Beachside Ct) have been in contact with Council since April 2015 regarding their proposal for a change in management of the section of dune vegetation between Russell St and William St, Shelly Beach.

The site, formerly Shelly Beach Caravan and Holiday Village, was developed in the late 1990's into eight residential allotments and the remainder of the site (1.96 hectares) was transferred to State Of Queensland as Reserve for Parks and Gardens Under Control of Council as Trustee. At the time of development canopy vegetation on the dune was minimal; it is thought that this could be attributed to previous management of this dune by the caravan park. The Proponents have indicated that since building their homes in and after 2001 the dune vegetation has grown and is now affecting their scenic ocean views.

Since receiving the initial proposal Council Officers have provided ongoing review and feedback seeking further information; in particular the potential impacts on marine turtle nesting from increased light glow and further detail regarding vegetation removal and offsetting.

The proponents undertook investigation into lighting impacts by engaging consultants to undertake 3D terrain survey and reviewed information relating to turtle nesting on Shelly Beach. The terrain survey indicates that direct light impact on the foredune and beach is not possible due to the dune height.

In July 2016 GHD were commissioned to undertake a peer review of the proposal and subsequent queries raised by Council Officers. The review noted in regards to lighting "*The incidence of indirect light shed on the beach is not able to be determined as a result of the information provided, and it is not known whether the removal of any vegetation will increase the exposure of nesting areas to additional light glow*". It also stated that "*In this regard, the nature and extent of existing indirect lighting impacts may not vary significantly as a result of the proposal, based on the existing dune height*".

In response to the exposure to light glow in November 2016 the proponents provided an assessment of light glow from Queensland University of Technology (QUT) PHOTOMETRIC Laboratory. The study of light glow impact determines that light glow will not be significantly increased. It is noteworthy that no external expert advice has been sought from marine turtle scientists and the lighting assessment was not undertaken with the light horizon mapping recommended by Council officers.

The proponent's most recent proposal "A Plan to Improve the Dunal Habitat and Landscape Amenity at North Shelly Beach" seeks to enable the retention of scenic ocean views to residents whilst aiming to determine a vegetation management plan that: does not impact on dune stability; improves biodiversity of dunal vegetation; does not impact on marine turtle nesting.

Council resolution OM16/224 directed Council Officers to provide an implementation plan for a 3 year vegetation management trial project for Council's consideration.

Council Officers review of the most recent proposal identified a number of amendments to be included in Council's implementation plan Appendix A. This implementation plan has been drafted in consultation with the Divisional Councillor who has indicated preference for tree

pruning rather than removal to provide scenic amenity whilst maintaining dune stabilisation. Table 2 lists the issues identified within the Proponent's submission as well as Council officer review comments and implementation plan recommendations.

Shelly Beach is identified in Council's Shoreline Erosion Management Plan as a small pocket beach with rocky outcrops that provide sand transport control points and offer stability to the beach. Council Officers believe that the natural stability of the beach combined with the implementation plan process of pruning vegetation will not significantly impact on dune stabilisation.

Table 2. Council Officer Review and Recommended Changes

Issue	Proponents recommendation	Council Officer review comments	Implementation plan recommendations
Vegetation management <u>within</u> view shed zones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> removal of all cotton trees prune and tidy existing trees (other than cotton trees) transplant alleged planted juvenile Pandanus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> removal of trees "clearing" may be undertaken via exemption from VMA 1999 provided that Council, as the trustee of the land, deems that it is consistent with achieving the purposes of the trust removal of cotton trees will require extensive revegetation with native ground covers some Pandanus not suitable for transplanting due to location within dune and access for machinery, not considered to be cost effective 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> prune cotton trees to a height determined by survey in consultation with Proponents selective pruning of other tree species where filtered views can be achieved removal and offsetting of trees that do not allow filtered views transplant selected Pandanus, 1 Pandanus to be removed and offset with advanced plant stock annual maintenance of cotton trees trees that are pruned or lopped are to be monitored during the three year trial period by a qualified arborist to determine effects on tree health
Vegetation management <u>outside</u> of view shed zones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> deadwood removal and understorey tidy up of all cotton trees generally as per precedence at Golden Beach and Moffat Beach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> understorey pruning of cotton trees is not supported, sites where this action is being undertaken currently are 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> no change to existing vegetation management outside of view shed areas vegetation offsetting and transplanting of

		<p>within Recreation Parks not Foreshore Reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> potential to impact on direct light spill and sky glow has not been assessed or considered for this action 	<p>Pandanus to be undertaken within these zones</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vegetation to be pruned adjacent to existing fence lines annually to reduce impacts on fence and open space (e.g. inability to mow grass due to low hanging branches)
<p>Determine boundaries of view shed zones</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GPS points to be identified and drawing to be produced to assist in future maintenance photo montage to be conducted at 3m and 5m levels from ground taken from residents perspective to be collated and establish agreed and accepted outcome 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GPS will be undertaken however does not allow for visual inspection Photo montage not required by Council Cadastral survey will achieve the above points 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> cadastral survey undertaken to determine boundary and vegetation pruning height in consultation with Proponents install bollards based on survey to delineate zone boundaries bollards will also delineate vegetation pruning height
<p>Offset planting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> offset applied to all vegetation indicated for removal and 30% area for trees to be pruned offset applied at 1.5:1 total offset in area = 12,83m² relocation of fences to align with coastal pathway in two locations to provide required offset area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> some trees indicated for 30% pruning may not provide for the intended views and may be required to be removed, these trees are to be offset offset zones B, C and D will not support canopy tree species other than cotton tree offset zones A, F and G requires relocation of fences into recreation park zone, impact on park area is approximately 700m² fences require a minimum set back of 500mm from 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> offset applied to area trees removed at 1:1 retain existing fences on current alignments offsetting to be undertaken within Shelly Beach Foreshore Reserve at locations which require and will support canopy species establishment

		coastal pathway which would reduce area available for offsetting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • existing “turtle nursery” located in offset planting zone 	
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Council has a duty of care to ensure that the implementation of a vegetation management trial is consistent with State and Commonwealth Government legislation. There remains some uncertainty whether the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)* will be triggered in regards to impacts on the known loggerhead turtle rookery at Shelly Beach. The recent extreme weather events that impacted nesting success at the Mon Repos Rookery, Bundaberg demonstrated that the availability of shade was important factor for nest successful nesting outcome and consideration of vegetation changes needs to be carefully considered.

To ensure all due diligence is followed the plan will be referred to the Federal Department of the Environment and Energy to assess the plan in terms of potential impacts on nesting turtles and turtle hatchlings. The Department of Natural Resources and Mines has been consulted and has confirmed that tree lopping and pruning is not regulated under the *Vegetation Management Act 1999 (Qld)*. To satisfy the *Nature Conservation Act 1992 (Qld)* a flora assessment report will need to be submitted to Department of Environment and Heritage Protection. The plan, if endorsed for community consultation, will be submitted to relevant agencies to determine any approvals required. This information as well as results from community consultation will be submitted as a further Council report to provide the relevant information for Council to make a determination on whether to support the proposal as a three year trial.

Council receives a number of requests across the region to undertake vegetation management to provide views, these requests are managed through investigation and consideration of risks through appropriately qualified arborists. Council also investigates on a regular basis unauthorised vegetation pruning and clearing resulting in occasional compliance action.

If the dunal vegetation management trial were to proceed it may provide guidance for similar requests in the future if Council found merit in adopting a position that moves beyond the operational management of vegetation at defined scenic lookouts or viewing points for greater community benefit and accommodate the management of vegetation on council land for the purposes of providing scenic amenity for a resident, residents or businesses. With this in mind a process flowchart has been developed to guide assessment of future proposals. It is important to note that the Shelly Beach trial is limited to the site as described in the implementation plan and that Council will not consider any other proposals during the trial period.

If the dunal vegetation management trial was not to proceed beyond the three year trial period the costs to reinstate the vegetation to pre-trial status would be minimal with replanting and establishment of the trees originally removed, planting of ground covers to protect from any site disturbance and maintenance ceasing on pruning allowing natural regrowth to occur of managed vegetation. It is estimated that the costs would be no greater than \$500 inclusive of materials and council officer time.

Consideration is also given to the application of this process if it was to be endorsed after the three year trial in regards to ongoing maintenance costs being borne by the proponents. This would be considered as part of any ongoing arrangements.

Attachment 1 provides the draft flowchart that will be utilised as part of this trial. This will be assessed for its application for this proposal.

Legal

The implementation plan will require referrals to relevant State and Federal Government Agencies to be assessed against the *Nature Conservation Act 1992 (Qld)* and *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)* respectively.

Department of Natural Resources and Mines has provided advice that tree pruning is not regulated under the *Vegetation Management Act 1999 (VMA)* as the activity does not constitute 'clearing'.

Policy

The practice of managing native dunal vegetation for the maintenance of view amenity for either private residents or from designated scenic lookouts utilised by the greater community is not explicitly noted in policies, strategies or operational guidelines and procedures. There is no clearly articulated and formalised council endorsed position that neither approves nor disapproves this practice. There are references to alternative management practices for greater community benefit, livelihoods, lifestyles and recreational and social opportunities which could be perceived as tacit acknowledgement of the issue, for example:

The Sunshine Coast Waterways and Coastal Management Strategy 2011-2021 notes the overarching intention of the strategy is "the Sunshine Coast's waterways and coastal foreshores are ecologically healthy, well managed assets that underpin our livelihoods and lifestyles.

Similarly the Coastal Management Policy (Public Lands) seeks through Council's coastal management activities to preserve and enhance coastal public lands; protect natural and cultural values; support recreational and social opportunities; and maintain the economic value of beaches and parks.

Operationally the Draft Tree and Native Vegetation Management Policy (Infrastructure Services) indicates that generally native vegetation should be managed predominately for ecological values however some flexibility should be considered in circumstances where an alternative management approach is supported by, and of greater benefit for the wider community. This draft policy also notes that offset planting is required to compensate for the loss of trees or native vegetation that has been removed, killed or irreparably damaged through man-made causes. Offsets will be located to achieve the best possible benefit, such as to enhance wildlife corridors in urban environments, increase the street tree population or to enhance environmentally strategic locations.

Finally, the Tree Management Procedure (Infrastructure Services) notes tree maintenance is determined in accordance with the recommendations of the Visual Tree Assessment and will be carried out in accordance with AS 4373 Pruning of amenity trees.

Risk

A number of perceived risks have been identified that are associated with the proposed dunal vegetation management trial.

From the proponent's perspective, if the trial were not to proceed, there is an articulated view that the if no vegetation management action is undertaken the residents in the immediate vicinity will (a) have reduced amenity with the continued intrusion of natural dunal vegetation into the ocean views experienced from their residences and, as a result of this (b) the capital values of the proponent properties are compromised.

From a community perspective there is a perceived risk that the dunal vegetation management works are being undertaken for the benefit of a small portion of the community and that council could be seen to be responding to the interests of individual residents without due regard to broader ecological functions and welfare of endangered species such as marine turtles. This risk will be attempted to be mitigated through an open and transparent community engagement process.

The proposal requires referral to, and the approval from, both Commonwealth and State agencies. There is a risk that these agencies may not support the proposal and deny approvals or place conditions that erode the intent of the plan. This information will be investigated during the public consultation period by referral of the plan to relevant agencies.

In relation to State referral this is associated with protected flora through the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*. It is expected that based on species noted by council officers, which through the formal flora survey and application there is low risk that the proposed works would be declined.

In relation to the Commonwealth referral this is triggered through the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* to ensure that the actions proposed do not have or likely to have a significant impact on matters of environmental significance. For this proposal it is in relation to the listed Loggerhead turtle. In submitting the referral application council officers will provide the details associated with proposed works and other relevant information for a decision to be made. The timelines for any advice from the Department of Environment and Energy will be 20 business days from receipt of the application and payment.

Upon receipt of the signed legal agreement to initiate the works program council officers will engage contractors providing a detailed scope of works including any conditions provided by relevant government organisations. The contractor engaged for vegetation works will be from council's relevant contract ITT1434 and works will be monitored to comply with that arrangement. Council officers will attend site to supervise and monitor these works as they are implemented.

While council is aware of the need for managing vegetation at defined scenic lookouts for greater community benefit the proposal to undertake vegetation management on council land for the benefit of a limited number of private residents or businesses risks establishing a precedent across the region, not only in coastal areas but any other potential view sheds through Council managed lands. This potentially raises the risk of perceived inequity in terms of defining which residents or businesses are eligible to apply for consideration in terms of proximity to view lines.

If Council endorses the trial project it is also proposed that during the period of the trial, further landscape assessment investigations be conducted across the region to identify the scale and implication of adopting the practice of vegetation management on council managed lands for the benefit of a single resident, aggregation of residents or businesses outside of those defined scenic lookouts that provide for greater community benefit.

Previous Council Resolution

Council Resolution (OM16/224)

That Council request the Chief Executive Officer to:

- (a) provide an implementation plan (plan) for a Vegetation Management Trial Project at north Shelly Beach*
- (b) develop a plan in collaboration with the divisional Councillor and aligned with
 - (i) the preliminary discussions already conducted on the subject,*
 - (ii) the relevant information related to the subject, and**
- (c) provide the plan to council at the February 2017 Ordinary Meeting.*

Related Documentation

GHD Shelly Beach Northern Group, Assessment of Dune Habitat and Landscape Amenity, Sept 2016
Dune Habitat and Landscape Amenity Management Concept Plan North Shelly Beach – Jan 2016
Queensland University of Technology (QUT) PHOTOMETRIC Laboratory Shelly Beach Northern Group Assessment of Dune Habitat and Landscape Amenity Proposal – Nov 2016

Critical Dates

There are no critical dates relevant to this report.

Implementation

Implementation of this plan will involve progressing to community engagement and feedback as outlined above. The plan will be referred to Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (State) and Department of the Environment and Energy (Commonwealth) to determine any approvals required.

Feedback from community engagement and agency referrals will be collated into a further report to Council to enable a decision on whether to progress the vegetation management trial.

8.2.2 RECREATION TRAILS ACTIVATION PROGRAM

File No:	Environmental Management
Author:	Recreational Trails Activation Officer Infrastructure Services Department
Appendices:	App A - Recreation Trails Development Plan 201785
Attachments:	Att 1 - Recreation Trails Development Plan 2017 - Indicative Project Staging and Costing115 Att 2 - Recreation Trails Development Plan 2017 - Map Book ..117

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of a 15 Year Recreation Trails Development Plan and a new Recreation Trails Capital Works Sub-Program with the express purpose of developing a range of recreation trail opportunities across the Sunshine Coast.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sunshine Coast Recreation Trail Plan 2012 (the Plan) established a recreation trail network blue print and identified a wide range of opportunities to ensure a variety of trails are available for residents and visitors so they may safely enjoy the Sunshine Coast landscape on mountain bike, horse, canoeing or by walking.

The results of the Sunshine Coast online questionnaire undertaken during development of the Sunshine Coast Sport and Active Recreation Plan revealed that multi-use trails in natural areas and walk/cycle paths are the most important element of all sport and recreation infrastructure. The questionnaire also found that the provision of multi-use trails in natural areas is currently below the Sunshine Coast community expectations. Specifically, consultation on the Plan identified the following as priority actions to improve recreation trail opportunities on the Sunshine Coast:

- **Trail development & supply:** increase supply of trails to address short fall of trail networks in some areas and missing linkages to some key opportunities.
- **Infrastructure:** improve trail head facilities and adequate signage.
- **User Group Conflict:** remove trail conflicts by introducing single purpose trails for specialist user groups.
- **Environment:** protect areas of high environmental values and implement sustainable trail networks to ensure the natural values users come to experience are maintained.
- **Funding:** explore options to secure funding for trail maintenance and extension of the trail network
- **Information:** improve information quality and supply to users.

The Recreation Trails Activation Project was initiated in 2014/2015 to provide a cohesive and focused approach to achieve some of the larger outcomes identified by the Plan, whilst also developing and maintaining strong partnerships required to deliver multi tenure outcomes. The 15 Year Recreation Trails Development Plan (Development Plan) (Appendix 1) has been developed to outline a detailed works program to further progress the Recreation Trails Activation Project and deliver a number of projects identified in the Recreation Trail Plan. The Development Plan establishes a working program of investment based on the current state of trail development across the coast. It highlights a number projects that, when complete, will enhance outcomes from both a local and tourism perspective by providing iconic experiences that will encourage people to enjoy the coast on foot, bike, canoe or horseback.

While it is noted that further investigation of the landscape may reveal other trail opportunities, the following list is a brief summary of the identified areas that could be developed over the coming years with a focused investment. These represent the primary opportunities that have been investigated during the Recreation Trails Activation Project in accordance with the Recreation Trail Plan Network Blueprint and in consultation with a range of community groups, recreation user groups, and other land managers. The opportunities listed below have been shortlisted based on one or more of following criteria:

- demonstrated community demand
- notional feasibility based on land manager desire and/or
- assessment of the achievable potential outcomes and partnerships.

The Development Plan focusses on these potential priority recreation trail investment projects:

- Glasshouse Mountains 7 Peaks Walk and Regional Trail network
- Nambour to Coolumb Recreation Trail
- Parklands Conservation Park Recreation Trails (pending further consultation with the State Government)
- Sugar Bag Road Mountain Bike Park
- Northern Region Recreational Trail networks(Eumundi Conservation Park, Doonan, Lake Weyba)
- Buderim Recreation Trail/Pathway Activation
- Sunshine Coast Great Ride (bike tour route from Beerburrum to Eumundi)
- Mooloolah River Recreation Trail
- Improvement and development of a number of canoe trails(Maroochy River, Currimundi Lake, Mooloolah River, & Bells Creek)
- Horse riding access improvements at a number of known horse riding sites(Parklands, Beerwah, Ewen Maddock, Mapleton)

To progress the Development Plan funding is required for the Recreational Tracks & Trails capital works sub program to provide the base funding to progress these projects and develop new opportunities as they arise. It is intended to utilise this proposed capital investment in conjunction with operational resourcing and external funding sources to deliver high quality recreational trail developments while working with a range of partners.

Finally, it is noted the Development Plan (Appendix A) should be considered a dynamic document and will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that it remains current and responsive to emerging opportunities and partnerships.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Recreation Trails Activation Program”**
- (b) endorse the 15 year Recreation Trails Development Plan (Appendix A as amended) and the projects within this Development Plan for further scoping, planning, and delivery**
- (c) through the 2017/18 budget deliberations consider**
 - (i) the allocation of \$600,000 in the Recreational Tracks & Trails Sub-program of Environmental Assets section of the Capital Works Program**

- (ii) establishment of a community grants program for recreation trails or supporting infrastructure with an allocation of \$60,000 to be administered as per the Community Grants Policy by the Community Connections Team; and
- (iii) a further annual allocation of \$60,00 to be provided for operational trail maintenance and promotional activities.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

To initiate the Development Plan and incrementally plan and deliver recreation trail outcomes across the coast, funding is required. The Development Plan provides indicative costs, however it must be noted that there are a significant range of variables that will inform final forecast costs. Based on these indicative costs, it is estimated that \$600, 000 per year is required to progress these projects. This report recommends Council consider allocating this amount to a Recreation Tracks and Trail Sub-program of the 10 Year Capital Works Program.

The following table highlights the projects and forecast spend in the first three years of the program, for an indicative staging plan and costing over 15 year time period please see Attachment 1.

Project	Spending proposed over first three years
Glass House 7 Peaks Walk	\$ 450,000
Nambour to Coolum	\$ 450,000
Parklands Regional Park	\$ 50,000
Sugar Bag Road MTB Park	\$ 200,000
Eumundi/Doonan/Weyba Recreational Trails	\$ 100,000
Buderim Trails Master Plan & Implementation	\$ 180,000
Sunshine Coast Great Ride	\$ 90,000
Water Based(Canoe) Trails	\$130,000
Sunshine Coast Horse Trails	\$100,000
Total Spent First Three Years	\$1,800,000

It also recommended to increase the existing annual operational materials and services budget for trail activities to include:

- (a) an allocation of \$60,000 to support a new community grant program targeting specific nature based recreation user groups to assist the community leveraging further State Government funding, to be managed under councils community grants policy and administered by Community Services
- (b) a further \$60,000 to address known operational maintenance requirements and progress the development of marketing collateral.

It is acknowledged that future trail development will incur increased trail maintenance costs. It is understood that maintenance costs will be dependent on a wide range of variables relating to geology, topography, intensity and type of use, surface treatments etc. On that basis it can be expected that future budget submissions will be presented to council for its consideration to increase operational allocations to support the supervision and delivery of trail maintenance service levels. A conservative forecast of future operational costs associated with growth in trail infrastructure is estimated to be approximately 2% of the capital allocations invested on an annual basis.

The Recreation Trails activation program will aim to mitigate council's direct capital and operational costs by engaging in partnerships with funding agencies, fostering philanthropic investment, supporting and valuing volunteer contributions and, where possible, utilising employment programs such as Green Army and Skilling Queenslanders for Work.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal:	<i>A Healthy Environment</i>
Outcome:	3.3 - A reputation for innovative environmental practices
Operational Activity:	3.3.6 - Investigate the feasibility of appropriate and sensitively-managed nature based recreation activities including eco-tourism opportunities associated with key natural settings

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

Relevant Divisional and Portfolio Councillors have been briefed and involved in the consultation.

- Councillor R Baberowski (Division 1)
- Councillor T Dwyer (Division 2)
- Councillor E Hungerford (Division 7)
- Councillor S Robinson (Division 9)
- Portfolio Councillor G Rogerson (Division 10) have been briefed on particular project proposals and a strategic discussion forum has been held.

Internal Consultation

All relevant departments have been involved in the development of this plan as well as updates given to the integrated Open Space Team. Managers and representatives from the following branches have been involved:

- Economic Development
- Community Response
- Parks and Gardens
- Community Facilities and Planning
- Environmental Operations
- Environment and Sustainability Policy

External Consultation

With the exception of the focused Nambour to Coolum trail project, consultation to date has largely been focused on conceptualizing the various projects. A wide range of groups have been involved in numerous fact finding and concept conversations around the various projects proposed, the list below is not all inclusive but an indicator of the range and types of groups that have been involved:

- Caloundra Off Road Cycling Association
- Bushrangers Mountain Bike Club
- D'Aguilar Range Cycling Club
- Sunshine Coast Trail Alliance
- Women On Wheels Cycle Group
- Go Girls Cycle Group

- Glasshouse Mountain Bushwalking Club
- Sunshine Coast Bush Walking Club
- Sunshine Coast Sports Aviators Club
- Maroochy Athletics Club
- Sunshine Coast Paddle Sports club
- Australian Rock Climbing Association
- The Australian Trail Horse Riders Association
- Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
- Sport and Recreation Services
- HQ Plantations
- Glasshouse Mountains Advancement Network
- Yandina Creek Progress Association
- Queensland Outdoor Recreation Federation

All groups have expressed a strong desire to see continued development in the recreation trail space and have highlighted a number of issues around access and facilitation of their activities with increasing demand putting pressure on existing recreation trail infrastructure.

Each of these groups have participated in exploring one or more of the proposed projects in the development plan and have expressed strong support for some of the desired outcomes. Many of them are in a position to be able to apply for grant funding and/or provide volunteer and other support to these projects.

It is recognised that the landscape that these proposed trails transverse are mature landscapes and have evolved culturally over a long period of time. For this reason it is particularly important to ensure that the Kabi Kabi First Nation and Jinibara traditional peoples remain engaged to ensure that cultural heritage opportunities associated with recreation trails are maximised. This is exemplified by Council's engagement with both of these groups regarding specific trail development, alignment, and construction and interpretation opportunities.

Future Engagement

All of these projects will undergo further community engagement processes as part of the scoping and planning process prior to delivery. The recreation trails development program will establish working groups around the major projects that will allow for community input to a high level. It will aim to engage a range of interested parties such as Traditional Owners, local business, community & recreation groups, and external land managers in the development process with the ultimate goal of delivering a range of social, economic and environmental outcomes in the process of creating these regional opportunities.

It is also important to note that recreation trails are not constrained to the Sunshine Coast Council local government boundaries. It is on this basis that it is also imperative that in developing the recreation trails program consultation is required with Moreton, Somerset, Gympie and Noosa Regional Council's to identify existing or emerging cross boundary trail opportunities. It is also important to note that there are broader trail development opportunities that reside within South East Queensland landscape that have historically been advocated for by the Council of Mayors – South East Queensland. In developing recreation trails on the Sunshine Coast a focus and engagement will be maintained more broadly that ensures that the development of these trails is done so in a manner that is cognisant of the potential contribution that Sunshine Coast trails make to the broader regional opportunities.

PROPOSAL

Recreation trails and paths are generally provided for walking, horse riding, cycling, and mountain biking and canoeing. They may be multi-use or specialised user groups and the alignment may traverse through a range of land tenures.

In 2012 council endorsed the Recreation Trails Plan (the Plan) that clearly articulated and identified a range of investment opportunities for the development of a range of recreation trail experiences that would promote both tourism and local lifestyle outcomes across the coast. Its findings were based on assessing the quality and distribution of the existing 569 km of signed trails that exist in the Sunshine Coast region, 146 km of which are council managed. It highlighted that we have significant lengths of recreation trails that are at different levels of development and that coordination was needed to manage the multi-tenure nature of some of these trail experiences.

The Plan generated a list of 117 recommended actions to increase the quality and functionality of the region's recreation trails. These actions can roughly be summarised as:

- better promotion and branding to encourage use
- improving access to the networks via better signage and trail head facilities
- completing missing links
- developing new opportunities to cater for existing shortfalls and future growth, and
- coordinating the approach taken by the various land managers and community in the region.

The challenges associated with promoting trails, trail maintenance and coordinated design and delivery were compounded in 2014 when the State Government removed recreation trails as trunk infrastructure. This means that recreation trails are no longer eligible for the Local Government Infrastructure Planning funding. As a consequence, and with no dedicated council recreation trail development capital program, many of the identified opportunities could not be progressed.

In response to this, the Recreation Trails Activation Program was implemented in late 2015 to both reassess and begin the delivery of quality recreation trail outcomes across the coast by taking a more coordinated council approach to recreation trail planning and development. The first year of the program has primarily been focused on:

- exploring current and emerging recreation trail development opportunities
- establishing the relationships required to work across the multiple tenures that many of these trails traverse
- establishing foundational relationships with community organisations, peak industry bodies and government agencies.

The findings of the first year of this program have been used to develop the Recreation Trails Development Plan and establishes a platform to enter into further consultation with peak industry bodies, user groups, local businesses, government agencies and indigenous groups to progress the recommendations.

In addition to activation and maintenance of existing trails, the second year of the program aims to progress projects identified in the Development Plan via targeted trail delivery planning.

Recreation Trail Development Opportunities

While the list of projects included in the Development Plan are currently at varying levels of planning & development, it must be noted that for many of them there is a requirement for scoping, planning, and community consultation processes to identify potential partnerships and progress the options listed in a staged and cost effective manner. It should also be noted that future opportunities will be identified over time and that scoping investigations will be required in other locations on the Sunshine Coast, for example, areas such as the Halls

Creek Area, the Blackall Range, and the Mathew Flinders historical route may provide recreational outcomes for the growing Sunshine Coast community. As noted above, it is also imperative that trail development planning is undertaken with a consideration of the larger geographic scale to ensure opportunities are maximised to connect large landscape level trails into the Sunshine Coast network.

For further detail regarding indicative staged delivery timeframes and potential funding range for the following programs please see Recreation Trails Development Plan 2017 – Indicative Project Staging and Costing (Attachment 1).

See the Recreation Trails Development Plan 2017 – Map Book (Attachment 2) for indicative maps for the following proposals.

Glass House Mountains Region Trail/Great Walk (Map 1)

Potential for the development of c. 35 km of shared use multi-tenure trail linking the main national park units in the Glass House Mountains.

Summary:

- 2 day walk / 1 day ride
- Multi use: Bushwalking, MTB touring
- Connect 7 of the Main Peaks
- Connect Beerburrum, Glasshouse, Beerwah, and Peachester to Mountains,
- Train to Train experience possible from Brisbane
- Multi-tenure opportunity with council, QPWS and HPQ estate
- Potential to attract external funding
- Potential Partners: Queensland Parks and Wildlife, HQ Plantations, Glasshouse Mountain Bushwalking Club, Glasshouse Mountains Advancement Network.

Nambour - Coolum (Map 2)

Potential for the development of c. 20 km core trail that crosses the cane lands from Nambour to Coolum. A separate report on the strategic Nambour to Coolum trail will be tabled as a report to council, however initial funding for detailed planning and some local trail delivery have been included in the Recreation Trails Development Plan.

Summary:

- 1 day ride or various walking/runner options from community hubs
- Connects Nambour, Bli Bli, and Coolum
- Rail-Trail experience: good relatively flat experience that opens it to a wide range of users(walking, running, riding)
- Potential to help promote some form of additional use of cane lands(tourism stops for rail trail users)
- Great views of coastal peaks.
- Potential link to Mt Coolum
- Council tenure when alignment secured with potential link to state reserve (Parklands).
- Potential to attract external funding
- Potential Partners: DNPSR

Sugar Bag Road Mountain Bike (MTB) Trails (Map 3)

Local environment reserve on the edge of Caloundra Township with c. 12 km of purpose built MTB trails that provide a unique ride experience in SEQ.

Summary:

- Unique MTB offering for the coast compared to other current ride options
- Primary user group is MTB riders with some opportunity to have low-key walk loop.
- Council-wide park designation
- Central location to Caloundra CBD
- All skill levels in discrete MTB location
- Provides great tourism and small business opportunities for MTB tourism due to proximity to accommodation (note a new MTB dedicated small business has recently opened in Caloundra)
- Great partnership opportunities with local community of riders
- High interest level from local Sport and Recreation department, potential for \$100-150k in state funding through Caloundra Off-Road Cycling Association (CORCA) grant applications every year.

Parklands Conservation Park (QPWS) (Map 4)

Centrally located natural open space on the coast with c. 60 km of mix trail network, (20 km general use, 40 km MTB). It is noted that Parklands is a state government asset managed by the Department of National Parks, Sport, and Racing. It is included in the plan as it is recommended that with further investment, in partnership with the State Government, the potential of this regional asset could be achieved.

Summary:

- Strong use desire by trail running, horse riding and MTB users
- Quick access from Bruce Highway and Nambour, 20-30 minutes from coastal cities
- Potential adventure race location, potential links to Maroochy River that could facilitate multi-model Nambour-Maroochydore race (Run, Ride, and Paddle)
- QPWS managed estate
- Development of access, parking and facilities along with event staging areas would unlock its potential if a partnership with QPWS was developed around the trail development and management
- Currently attracting funding through state grants in 2017 via Bushrangers MTB club. 2017 saw \$149k of funding come through for further trail development.

Northern Region Recreation Trails (Map 5 & 6)

Multiple opportunities to link trails and upgrade trails that could lead to northern east-west corridor between Eumundi and the coast.

Summary:

- Minor works to start with a focus on Eumundi Conservation Park with access and links that will connect two large state trail networks c. 20 km worth of trails.
- Lake Weyba trail upgrades to promote a relatively unknown lakeshore walk/ride. This will manage impacts currently occurring on the foreshore with informal trail network.
- Develop linkages between Doonan Environmental Reserve and Peregrian Springs along with surrounding rural communities based on desire users of the reserve.
- Long term potential to explore linking these networks together to develop east west recreation trail on the northern edge of the region.

Buderim Walking Community Plan (Map 7)

Potential for good trail/pathway activation by encouraging walking through the local community and linking to nature reserves. Multiple length potential offerings.

Summary:

- Good network of pathways and existing trails, Buderim Forest Park and Tramway Trail being key experiences.
- Develop missing links where required.
- Develop way-finding identity that links CBD to existing trail networks using best routes possible.
- High value add to local community by facilitating walking experiences by connecting urban and natural networks together with identifiable routes.
- Potential to promote and develop historical tourism opportunities to be fully explored.

Kawana Forest Recreation Trail Network (Map 8)

Potential for the development of a trail network for Sippy Downs and future Palmview communities to link to the coastal communities.

Summary:

- Approximately 2 km future link connects to existing 12 km of trail/pathway to local beaches.
- Connects Palmview/Sippy Downs to Currimundi Beach, Kawana Beach, Sports Precinct, Hospital precinct.
- Approximately 10 km ride Palmview to Beach (30-45 minunte ride) completely flat and user-friendly for all skill levels.
- Good bird watching and nature viewing opportunities in Kawana Forest & Lower Mooloolah Reserve.
- Existing trail is council tenure, potential new link alignment is freehold with utility easement).
- Active transport and recreation outcomes.

Sunshine Coast Great Ride (Map 9)

Regional bike touring route that blends of road and rural road routes to create a multi-day bike adventure.

Summary:

- Rural Sunshine Coast cycle tour, c. 125-150 km, 4-5 day ride.
- Mixed surface conditions using rural and forestry roads and potentially purpose built trails.
- Lots of vertical rise and fall along the route but daily distances are very achievable giving time to tackle the big climbs.
- 5 days riding from South to North:
- Day 1 Beerburrum to Maleny: c. 38 km, mostly uphill.
- Day 2 Maleny to Kenilworth: c. 35 km, mixed up and down route, solution to Mapleton - Witta connection priority for safety and experience due to busy nature existing road
- Day 3 Kenilworth to Mapleton: c. 16 km, mostly uphill, multiple potential routes up into Mapleton, easy day with scenic extensions possible inside national park
- Day 4 Mapleton to Eumundi: c. 34 km, mixed up and down route
- Day 5 Eumundi to Noosa/Coastline: Route undetermined
- Stage 1: Develop way-finding and information to promote ride using existing network of forestry and rural roads. Create a challenging cycle tour experience in its rough form.

- Stage 2: Find and implement solutions to key pinch points that would then broaden the experience to a larger user group.
- Long term goal: develop a route that is achievable by a cycle tourer with a moderate level of fitness.

It is important to note these are just some of the potential projects that exist across the coast and are a summary of those that seem to have the best potential for strong partnerships, external funding and/or outcomes for the local and visiting community and serve to highlight the potential that exists. As the program develops these opportunities would be prioritized based on external partnerships, funding opportunities, and the value of the experience.

Other Projects

The following programs are to allow for discrete projects that are smaller in nature and can be implemented to provide quick improvements to the targeted user groups.

Canoe Trail Rolling Infrastructure Program

This would allocate a rolling amount to develop new canoe trail level access points for the two existing canoe trails (Maroochy River and Currimundi Lake). And then in the outer years begin to develop two new canoe/paddle trails (Lower Mooloolah and Bells Creek). Focus would be on access point infrastructure that facilitates regional use of the trails.

Horse Trail Rolling Infrastructure Program

This part of the program would act to provide better access to known and new horse trails by improving turning circles and providing basic horse trail head features (tie-off posts, mounting blocks, troughs, etc) that would encourage regional use of these horse trails. Currently there is demand from the horse-riding community for improvements in the following areas:

- Beerwah – Roy's Road Area
- Ewen Maddock Dam & surrounding trails
- Parklands Regional Park, and
- Eumundi Conservation Park.

Community Grant Program - Nature Based Recreation Infrastructure

The intention of the grant is foster community leadership in contributing to nature-based recreation infrastructure projects. It is recommended that project funding would be capped at a maximum of \$20,000 per project per year thus allowing the community to maximise on the State Government sport and recreation grant process that could realise a further \$100,000 in co-contribution funding. This would allow council to flexibly meet community demand and maximise on the funding spent by leveraging state and volunteer contributions.

As with other council community grant programs, Community Services, Community Connections Team would administer the program with technical support provided by the Environmental Operations Branch and other interested stakeholders.

Advocacy for Trail investment and Development

The development of recreation trail opportunities are being limited by a number of legal and State Government policies that both make it harder, from a risk and financial perspective, to deliver the types of experiences that the community have articulated a demand for. In recognizing the value that these experiences can bring to our community it is proposed that the Sunshine Coast Regional Council take a leadership role in advocating for changes that will assist in activating appropriate and sustainable recreation opportunities across both the Sunshine Coast and the broader regional landscape. This can be done by advocating and

presenting in regional and State forums such as the Local Government Association's annual meeting or more directly through executive level engagement between Sunshine Coast Council and relevant State Government departments to explore potential partnership opportunities and mutually beneficial tenure arrangements that would facilitate regionally beneficial outcomes associated with the development of improved recreation trails and associated facilities.

Promotion: key to unlocking the investment

In conjunction with the above potential investments, one of the key elements to getting the most out of existing and future trails is promoting their use via a user-targeted campaign that both shares key information and generates excitement in getting out and active.

Furthermore, a key goal of the recreation trail activation program is to realise a viable information-sharing platform with a focus on mobile data delivery and the rise of track-able lifestyles.

One of the core deliverables is to establish a digital presence for our recreation opportunities that can facilitate use by making information readily available in a package that focuses on users. This platform needs to be mobile-focused, open source, and connected to the wider network of recreation information.

Improvements are also required for consistent signage along each experience combining a mix of standardized delivery of information along with unique themed identities that creates a sense of place while comfortably sharing way-finding and risk management information. This will give the users a trust in engaging with a trail experience as they easily navigate those trails.

Development Plan Annual Review

Finally, it is noted the Development Plan should be considered a dynamic document and will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that it remains current and responsive to emerging opportunities and partnerships.

Legal

While many of the proposed projects might need support and guidance from the legal department there are no legal implications relevant to this actual report.

Policy

Council's endorsement of this report is in line with the direction of the following organisational strategies:

- Open Space Strategy 2011
- Recreation Trail Plan 2012
- Sunshine Coast Social Strategy 2015

Additionally it aligns with the current intent and content of the draft Environment and Livability Strategy.

Risk

There are a number of risks associated with not progressing a cohesive approach to recreation trail planning and development some of which will be listed below:

- **Fragmented Networks:** There is a risk of fragmented networks forming that will reduce usability and thus uptake of the both existing and future trail networks.
- **Liability:** Poor planning and maintenance of trail networks to the appropriate standard could expose council to liability. Example: Mountain Bike Trails that don't meet known

international trail standards could expose council under the “inherent” risk clause of civil liability laws.

- Loss of potential tourism opportunities: regions across Australia are quickly recognizing the value of active tourism opportunities. The Sunshine Coast will lose out on a market share of this type of tourism without ongoing development, maintenance, and promotion of our active nature based recreation opportunities.

In summary, there is a risk of a number of lost opportunities to our region’s economy, health, lifestyle and environment if council does not pursue an active recreation trails development program.

Previous Council Resolution

Ordinary Meeting 31 January 2012 - Council Resolution (OM12/17)

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled ‘Sunshine Coast Recreation Trail Plan 2012’*
- (b) endorse the Sunshine Coast Recreation Trail Plan 2012 (Appendix A as amended) to guide Council and the community in trail planning, management and decision making, including the Capital Works Program subject to consideration in annual budget processes and*
- (c) authorise the Chief Executive Officer to finalise the mapping to clearly indicate those trails that are at planning stage (indicative only) to enable further planning to proceed.*

Related Documentation

Please see the following documents for detailed information:

- Recreation Trails Development Plan and Map Book 2017 (Appendix 1)
- Proposed Stage Delivery Table (Attachment 1)

Critical Dates

There are no critical dates relevant to this report.

Implementation

If endorsed by council and the Recreational Tracks & Trails capital sub-program is re-established, the program will be delivered as per the draft capital works and operational programs delivered by Infrastructure Services, Environmental Operations Branch, see attachment 2 for staged implementation of the proposed projects.

It is also recommended that the Chief Executive Officer engage with relevant Director Generals, within the State Government to explore potential partnership opportunities and mutually beneficial tenure arrangements that would facilitate regionally beneficial outcomes associated with the development of improved recreation trails and associated facilities on the Sunshine Coast.

The Development Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that it remains current.

8.3 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

8.3.1 DRAFT NAMBOUR TO COOLUM RECREATION TRAIL

File No: F2015/18820

Author: Coordinator Open Space and Social Policy
Planning and Environment Department

Appendices: App A - Draft Nambour to Coolum Strategic Recreation Trail Map
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PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the Draft Nambour to Coolum Strategic Recreation Trail as a Signature Trail to be developed as part of the Sunshine Coast Trail network.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following a feasibility concept assessment, Council endorsed the Draft Nambour to Coolum Strategic Recreation Trail (Draft Trail) for community consultation in 2016.

The Draft Trail comprises 48km of trail which includes three local area trails, a primary trail, trail extensions and long-term strategic links, the trail is predominantly on public land. Strategic links indicate sections where an alignment is yet to be determined. The Draft Trail is respectful of private land owners by not traversing their land unless there is a willingness by the land owner to participate in the trail development.

The Draft Trail provides the Sunshine Coast's first east-west recreational trail link, connecting the hinterland to the Coastal Path. It integrates and strengthens local trail networks and provides a unique opportunity to access a diversity of recreational, natural and historical experiences.

Community consultation on the Draft Trail was conducted in September / October 2016. Over 1200 people were engaged via information sessions and surveys. Responses indicated strong support of the Draft Trail and many respondents indicated a desire for the trail to be implemented as soon as possible.

There was strong support from recreation groups and outdoor enthusiasts who confirmed that the Draft Trail could deliver multiple user experiences. Strong interest was also demonstrated from cyclists seeking safe off-road options for recreation and commuting purposes. Some alternative alignments were recommended with strong support by local residents and potential trail users for an upgrade to the bicycle lane and footpath along Petrie Creek Road as a key strategic connection.

Some private land owners reiterated their ongoing concerns regarding perceived impacts on agricultural activities, security and privacy.

Some minor amendments to reflect private owner concerns and correct local information have been made to the final Draft Trail map (Appendix A – Draft Nambour to Coolum Strategic Recreation Trail).

This report recommends that the Draft Trail be endorsed as a long term strategic trail and implementation be considered as part of the broader planning and implementation through the 15 year Recreation Trails Development Plan under development.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Draft Nambour to Coolum Recreation Trail”
- (b) endorse the Draft Nambour to Coolum Strategic Recreation Trail as outlined in Appendix A and
- (c) refer planning and implementation of the Nambour to Coolum Strategic Recreation Trail for inclusion in the 15 year Recreation Trails Development Plan and subsequent budget considerations.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

Currently there are no funds allocated to the planning and delivery of this trail and it is recommended that the Nambour to Coolum Trail be referred to the budget consideration process as part of the establishment of a Capital Works Sub-program for Recreation Trails.

It is further recommended that the first 5 years be focussed on the planning and delivery of the three local links and that preliminary cost estimates be prepared once alignment and surfacing have been determined by Infrastructure Services.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal:	<i>A Healthy Environment</i>
Outcome:	2.1 - Safe and healthy communities
Operational Activity:	2.1.7 - Develop partnerships and programs which encourage residents to lead more active healthy lifestyles

CONSULTATION

In general, the consultation process demonstrated a strong positive response for the Draft Trail.

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

Relevant Divisional and Portfolio Councillors have been briefed and involved in the consultation.

- Councillor E Hungerford (Division 7), Councillor S Robinson (Division 9), Councillor G Rogerson (Division 10) attended consultation Information Sessions.
- Portfolio Councillors – Councillor C Dickson and Councillor J McKay have been briefed.

Internal Consultation

All relevant Managers were invited to nominate staff to attend an internal consultation session. Representatives from the following Branches attended:

- Community Response
- Parks and Gardens
- Community Facilities and Planning
- Environmental Operations
- Strategic Planning

Attendees were supportive of the Draft Trail and the proposed consultation process.

An internal project team comprising of the Open Space Project Officer and Recreation Trails Activation Officer have worked collaboratively on the trail's development.

External Consultation

External consultation was conducted between 17 September and 19 October 2016. A wide range of consultation mediums were utilised including Information Sessions, print and online resources.

Results of consultation:

- Approximately 50 people attended the Bli Bli and Nambour Information Sessions. Attendees were mostly supportive. Land owners reaffirmed their concerns in regard to privacy and impacts on current farming operations.
- 1140 people viewed the webpage.
- 114 people completed a feedback form - 105 (92%) were supportive, 6 were unsupportive and 3 were uncertain.

There was strong support from recreation groups such as mountain bike clubs, cycling groups and canoe trail paddlers and general outdoor enthusiasts. Responses from these groups and individuals supported opportunities the trail could deliver (e.g. off-road hiking and running trails, links into Parklands Conservation Park and canoe launch facilities). A common request of those who supported the Draft Trail was for links to active transport routes to extend the experience. Supporters also requested detailed planning to consider appropriate placement of toilets, parking and drinking water infrastructure. Numerous supporters questioned the proposed 20+ year delivery timeframe and requested it be delivered as soon as possible.

Many respondents identified Petrie Creek Road as an alternative route to deliver the Petrie Creek Strategic Link and requested Council consider completing the bicycle lane and footpath on Petrie Creek Road as a suitable link

Some land owners along Petrie Creek and rural areas of Bli Bli were unsupportive of the Draft Trail traversing their property due to privacy, security and disturbance to farming operations. Those who were unsupportive of the Draft Trail were not opposed to the idea of a recreation trail linking Nambour to Coolool if the trail followed roads or traversed land that did not impact their property.

State Government and Peak Agencies indicated support for the Draft Trail however, Nambour State College, Department of Education reiterated their concerns about child safety and were not supportive of the trail crossing the College without evidence that student safety could be assured. These concerns have been noted and further consultation is required to investigate options and to work with the school to determine how their concerns can be addressed.

Community Engagement

Following Council consideration of the report recommendation, participants who elected to be contacted will be provided with an update of the consultation outcomes and Council's decision.

Ongoing consultation with landowners, land managers and neighbouring property owners will be required to determine detailed trail alignments, infrastructure needs and design options.

PROPOSAL

The concept of a recreation trail from Nambour to Coolool was first identified when the Moreton Mill, Nambour closed in 2003 making the cane train line corridor redundant. The Sunshine Coast Recreation Trails Plan, 2012 included the Nambour to Coolool Trail as "Notional only, for further investigation" to reflect the trail demand and community intent.

In 2015 expert external trail planners "Inspiring Place" were engaged to undertake a feasibility study. The study concluded that a recreation trail from Nambour to Coolool had merit. As a result, the Draft Trail was prepared in August 2016 for endorsement by Council for community consultation.

Outcomes of the consultation program supported the Draft Trail proceeding with some minor amendments including the removal of the Strategic Link from Bli Bli Road to Parklands Conservation Area and minor street name corrections. (Appendix A – Draft Nambour to Coolum Strategic Recreation Trail).

The Draft Trail is approximately 48km in length and consists of 18km of Primary Trail (14km of which are within the local areas), 16km of Trail Extensions and 14km of Strategic Links. Criteria used to develop the Draft Trail were based on proximity to points of interest (including cane rail heritage), unique features, accessibility to town centres and existing trails, capacity to support a range of users, and proximity to public land.

The Draft Trail provides recreational opportunities for local walkers, runners and bicycle riders (some sections could be suitable for horse riding). Consultation highlighted strong appeal from mountain bike riders (particularly the link to Parklands Conservation Area) and canoe paddlers. Consultation also confirmed interest by some to use the trail to commute between Bli Bli, Nambour and Coolum via bicycle.

The Draft Trail provides significant outdoor recreation opportunities for local residents in Nambour, Bli Bli and Coolum as well as visitors to the region due to its connectivity between these towns and key natural and historical sites of interest (e.g. Dunethin Rock, Maroochy Wetlands, Historic Cane Bridges, Coastal Path, and Mount Coolum). When established, the trail would be the first east-west recreation trail on the Sunshine Coast.

Proposed delivery

The Nambour to Coolum Trail is anticipated to be a long term project delivered in stages whilst the region grows and recreation demands increase. In the short term, it is proposed that Local Area Trails in Nambour (Quota Park to Saltwater Bridge), Coolum (Depot to Twin Bridges) and Bli Bli (Town Centre to Maroochy Wetlands and Stoney Wharf Boat Ramp) would be delivered first.

This report recommends that Council endorse the Draft Trail as a Signature Trail on the Sunshine Coast as a long term strategic link.

Legal

Negotiations are to be undertaken with State Government Department and land owners to establish tenure arrangements to secure ongoing public access to sections of the trail as the planning progresses and approvals are gained.

The three historical bridges which were used as railway crossings (Maroochy River Lift Bridge, Saltwater Bridge and the Twin Bridges) are identified as elements of the trail experience, however they are not proposed to be used as trail crossings. Previous legal advice has confirmed that ownership of these bridges does not lie with Council.

Policy

The Sunshine Coast Open Space Strategy 2011 and Sunshine Coast Recreation Trails Plan 2012 form Council's policy position on the development of trails on the Sunshine Coast. The Sunshine Coast Recreation Trails Plan identifies the Nambour to Coolum Trail as a Notional Only (Potential Future Link/Trail) with local sections at Nambour identified as a Short/Medium Term Planning Priority.

Risk

If access cannot be secured across State Government land at Nambour State College or on public land where Strategic Links are identified, alternate alignments in these areas will need to be investigated. There is a risk that the staged approach may result in a fragmented trail network for long periods of time whilst Strategic Links are resolved and delivered.

The majority of the Draft Trail lies on flood prone land. Design and construction of the trail will need to be considerate of flooding impacts. Public safety will be the priority when determining flood impact mitigation and access points.

Previous Council Resolution

Ordinary Meeting – 18 August 2016 – Council Resolution (OM18082016 – 8.2.5)

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled “Draft Nambour to Coolum Recreation Trail”*
- (b) *endorse the Draft Nambour to Coolum Strategic Trail for the purpose of stakeholder and community comment as outlined in (Appendix A) Draft Nambour to Coolum Strategic Trail and (Appendix B) Nambour to Coolum Recreation Trail Project Update, and*
- (c) *note that the outcomes of the consultation phase will be used to prepare the final Nambour to Coolum Strategic Trail report for Council consideration.*

Ordinary Meeting – 31 January 2012 – Council Resolution (OM12/17)

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled “Sunshine Coast Recreation Trail Plan 2012*
- (b) *endorse the Sunshine Coast Recreation Trail Plan 2012 (Appendix A as amended) to guide Council and the community in trail planning, management and decision making, including the Capital Works Program subject to consideration in annual budget processes and*
- (c) *authorise the Chief Executive Officer to finalise the mapping to clearly indicate those trails that are at planning stage (indicative only) to enable further planning to proceed.*

Special Meeting (Strategies) – 7 March 2011 – Council Resolution (SM11/11)

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled “Sunshine Coast Open Space Strategy 2011”*
- (b) *adopt the Sunshine Coast Open Space Strategy (Appendix A) to guide Council and the community in future open space planning, management and decision making subject to consideration in annual budget processes*
- (c) *request the Chief Executive Officer to develop a detailed implementation and staging plan based on Councils long term financial model and other revenue sources, for future consideration by Council and*
- (d) *thank the 47 submitters for their contribution to the preparation of the Sunshine Coast Open Space Strategy 2011.*

Related Documentation

- Sunshine Coast Open Space Strategy 2011
- Sunshine Coast Recreation Trails Plan 2012
- Nambour Showgrounds Master Plan 2013-2023
- Nambour Activation Plan 2015
- Draft Petrie Creek Master Plan

Critical Dates

There are no critical dates relevant to this report.

Implementation

Subject to Council approval:

- implementation of this project would transfer to Environmental Operations Branch
- inclusion into the 15 year Recreation Development Plan being prepared
- referral to the sub-program for ‘Recreation Trails’ in the Capital Works Program.

Broadly, it is proposed that the trail would be delivered in stages over a 20+ year timeframe.

8.4 CORPORATE SERVICES**8.4.1 MAKING OF AMENDMENT SUBORDINATE LOCAL LAW NO. 1 (ANIMAL MANAGEMENT) 2017**

File No:	Statutory Meeting	
Author:	Manager Corporate Governance Corporate Services Department	
Appendices:	App A - Amendment Subordinate Local Law No.1 (Animal Management) 2017	141
Attachments:	Att 1 - Community Consultation Submissions	145

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek a council resolution to make Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Animal Management) 2017.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The first Sunshine Coast Council suite of Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws were adopted in December 2011.

Since the adoption of council's suite of local laws a number of amendments have been presented to council for consideration. These amendments ensure our local laws remain responsive and flexible to changes in our community and the environment.

At the Ordinary Meeting held on 8 December 2016, council agreed to commence the local law making process to propose to make amendments to *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011* to include a new dog off-leash area at The Avenue Park, Peregrin Springs and the reconfiguration of the existing dog off-leash area at Petrie Park, Nambour.

The draft amendments were referred to community consultation on 9 December 2016 through to 21 January 2017. During the consultation period 33 submissions were received with the majority of submitters in support of the proposed amendments. Full details of the submissions received are outlined in Attachment 1.

This report presents to council the next stage in the local law making process for proposed Amendment Subordinate Local Law No.1 (Animal Management) 2017 wherein a resolution resolving to make the amendment local law is required in order to move to the final notification and gazettal stage.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Making of Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Animal Management) 2017"**
- (b) hereby resolves that proposed Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Animal Management) 2017, has been reviewed in accordance with section 38 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and that, taking into consideration the circumstances of the Sunshine Coast Regional Council area, the law does not**

contain any possible anti-competitive provisions as the amendments relate to the management of domestic animals and do not relate to commercial activity

- (c) resolve to make Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Animal Management) 2017 and
- (d) authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make any necessary administrative and formatting amendments to the document as part of the final proof reading and cross referencing.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The cost of drafting the amendment local law was \$1950 and this has been funded through existing budget allocations within the Corporate Governance Branch.

Community consultation activities for the amendments cost approximately \$2500. As some community consultation had already occurred in relation to the proposed amendments, a conservative consultation strategy was undertaken which was funded through the existing Corporate Governance Branch budget.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal:	<i>Service excellence</i>
Outcome:	4.1 - Customer focused services
Operational Activity:	4.1.5 - Administer and review council's local laws and relevant State legislation in a manner that supports council's economic, community and environmental goals for the region and is consistent with statutory obligations

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

The divisional Councillors for the relevant areas have been consulted and were actively involved in the development of the proposed amendments:

- Division 9 Councillor S Robinson
- Division 10 Councillor G Rogerson.

Internal Consultation

Internal consultation occurred with the following:

- Chief Legal Officer
- Manager Community Response
- Manager Corporate Governance
- Senior Technical Design Officer
- Coordinator Landscape Design Planning
- Coordinator Response Services.

External Consultation

Community consultation was undertaken from 9 December 2016 to 21 January 2017.

A number of initiatives were used to advise the community that proposed amendments were available for public comment. These included:

- Media Releases
- Website Information Pages "Have Your Say" for proposed changes
- Public Notice advertisements in the Sunshine Coast Daily

- Several print articles within the Sunshine Coast Daily during consultation period
- Messaging through Councils social media channels
- Local Paper print advertisements in Nambour Weekly, Caloundra Weekly, Buderim Chronicle, Coolum and North Shore News

During the community consultation period, council received 33 submissions:

- Petrie Park, Nambour (16 submissions)
- The Avenue, Peregrin Springs (17 submissions)

Further details on the submissions are detailed in Attachment 1 of this report.

PROPOSAL

Draft Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Animal Management) 2017

Following is a short summary of the proposed local law amendments to *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011* (refer to Appendix A for further details of proposed changes).

The Avenue, Peregrin Springs – New dog off-leash park

In consultation with Division 9 Councillor Steve Robinson, Parks and Gardens Branch were tasked with assessing demand and investigating potential locations for a dedicated fenced dog off-leash area at Peregrin Springs.

The fenced off-leash area has now been completed and is available for community use. The final stage in the process is to include the new dog off-leash area in Schedule 6 of *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011* and include a visual map representing the new area.

Submissions received during community consultation highlight the community's support of this new dog off-leash park at Peregrin Springs. Full details of the submissions received during the local law community consultation is attached to this report (see Attachment 1).

Petrie Park, Nambour – reconfiguration of existing dog off-leash park

Following requests from the community and Division 10 Councillor Greg Rogerson, Parks and Gardens were asked to review maintenance, use and future planning for the dog off-leash area at Petrie Park Nambour.

Under the existing *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011*, Petrie Park is a timed off-leash area. The review identified that the function of the dog exercise area needed to be improved to encourage dog park users away from exercising dogs on the hockey field.

Construction for the dog off-leash park has now been finalised and the final stage in the process is to amend the subordinate local law to include the dog off-leash area in Schedule 6 of *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011* and include a visual map representing the new area.

While the majority of submissions received during community consultation support a dog off-leash area at Petrie Park, some safety concerns were raised by the community. Further improvements to the dog off-leash area in Petrie Park are currently being investigated and assessed by the Parks and Gardens Branch in consultation with Response Services. Full details of the submissions received during the local law community consultation is attached to this report (see Attachment 1).

Of the 16 submissions received for the Petrie Park Nambour proposal, nine (9) of the submitters completely agreed with the proposed amendment and seven (7) partly disagreed based on safety concerns. These safety concerns included proximity to the road, speeding motorists, wildlife, and the area not being adequately fenced.

Local Law Making Process

The following table outlines the statutory requirements in accordance with council's local law making process. Table 3 outlines these and other requirements below:

Table 3 – Local Law Making Process

Statutory Requirement	Action taken	Date	Status
Propose to make local law amendments	Report to council to propose to make Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Animal Management) 2017	8 December 2016	Completed
Community Consultation	Undertake community consultation (conservative / low level) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media Releases • Website Information Pages "Have Your Say" for proposed changes • Public Notice advertisements in the Sunshine Coast Daily • Several print articles within the Sunshine Coast Daily during consultation period • Messaging through Councils social media channels • Local Paper print advertisements in Nambour Weekly, Caloundra Weekly, Buderim Chronicle, Coolum and North Shore News 	9 December 2016 – 21 January 2017	Completed
Council Website Updated	All relevant information and documentation placed on and available through council's website on " <i>Have your say</i> " page.	December 2016	Completed
Report to council to make the amendment local laws	Report to be presented to council to make the local laws	23 March 2017	Current
Gazette Notice Publication	Preparation of Government Gazette notice for publication in the Government.	31 March 2017	To be prepared
Consolidation of Local Laws	Preparation and adoption of the consolidated local laws.	20 April 2017	To be prepared

Legal

The proposal has been considered in accordance with the following legislation:

- Section 29-32 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 15 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*
- Sunshine Coast Council's suite of Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws
- Proposed Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Animal Management) 2017

Policy

There are no new policy implications in the following proposed local law amendments.

Risk

Risks associated with the making of amendment local laws will be managed by:

- ensuring effective implementation of the amendment local law
- utilising robust systems and processes to monitor the performance of the local laws.

Previous Council Resolution

Council considered a report titled "Proposed Amendment to Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011" at the Ordinary Meeting held on 8 December 2016 where it was resolved to propose to make Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Animal Management) 2017 for the amendments proposed to *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011* as attached.

Related Documentation

- *Local Government Act 2009* and Regulations
- Sunshine Coast Regional Council Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws 2011
- State Government Guidelines for Making Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws
- Corporate Plan 2014-2019.

Critical Dates

It is beneficial for council to commence the local law making process as soon as possible in order for the local law amendments to take effect by 31 March 2017.

Implementation

Following consideration of this report, actions relevant to the recommendation will be implemented and include:

- Preparation and publication of the Gazette notice - 31 March 2017
- Notification to the Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning - 7 April 2017
- Preparation of the website notice on local law change
- Certification by the Chief Executive Officer, Sunshine Coast Council
- Consolidation of all local law changes at a future Ordinary Meeting

8.4.2 JANUARY 2017 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

File No:	Financial Reports
Author:	Coordinator Financial Services Corporate Services Department
Attachments:	Att 1 - January 2017 Financial Performance Report161

PURPOSE

To meet Council's legislative obligations, a monthly report is to be presented to Council on its financial performance and investments.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This monthly financial performance report provides Council with a summary of performance against budget as at 31 January 2017 in terms of the operating result and delivery of the capital program.

The operating result at 31 January 2017 shows a positive variance of \$7.6 million compared to the forecast position.

Operating Performance**Table 1: Operating Result as at 31 January 2017**

January 2017	Current Budget \$000	YTD Current Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Variance %
Operating Revenue	419,648	334,542	341,689	7,146	2.1
Operating Expenses	394,723	223,223	222,778	(446)	0.2
Operating Result	24,925	111,319	118,911	7,592	6.8

Achievement of the full year budgeted operating result will allow Council to meet its debt repayments and capital expenditure commitments.

As at 31 January 2017, \$108 million (40%) of Council's \$267.2 million 2016/17 Capital Works Program was financially expended.

The core Council Capital Program has progressed 50% of budget, an actual spend of \$68.5 million.

Council's investment portfolio remains within the guidelines established under the Investment Policy.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report titled "January 2017 Financial Performance Report".

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

There are no finance and resourcing implications from this report.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *An outstanding organisation*
Outcome: 5.2 - A financially sustainable organisation
Operational Activity: 5.2.2.1 - Ensure Council's finances are well managed and systems are in place to analyse performance, generate revenue and reduce costs

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

Consultation has been undertaken with the Portfolio Councillor

Internal Consultation

All departments and branches participated in the formation of the recommendations associated with this report.

External Consultation

No external consultation is required for this report.

Community Engagement

No community engagement is required for this report.

PROPOSAL

Achievement of the full year budgeted operating result of \$25 million will allow Council to meet its debt repayments and capital expenditure commitments.

The operating result at 31 January 2017 shows a positive variance of \$7.6 million compared to the forecast position.

Operating Revenue

Year to date revenues as at 31 January 2017 of \$342 million shows a positive variance of \$7.1 million.

Table 2: Substantial Revenue variances as at 31 January 2017

Operating Revenue Large Variances	YTD Current Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Variance %
Fees and Charges	40,469	43,480	3,011	7.4
Net Rates and Utility Charges	256,265	258,659	2,394	0.9
Other Revenue	6,910	7,960	1,051	15.2

Fees and Charges

Fees and charges revenue of \$43.5 million, is \$3 million ahead of year to date budget. Significant variances include:

- \$651,000 relates to increased revenues at the Sunshine Coast Holiday Parks with some associated increased expenditure. These net to an operating result which is \$378,000 favourable to budget.
- \$735,000 is attributable to development service revenue being ahead of budget. This relates to market driven volumes being above expectation and compensating for the adjustment for superseded planning scheme applications last financial year.

- \$807,000 across the Community Response Branch, predominantly relating to infringements. Some of this fee revenue will cover slightly higher employee costs.

Net Rates and Utility Charges

The January 2017 rate run has resulted in a favourable variance of \$2.4 million. This is mainly attributable to 2.6% growth which is higher than forecast by 0.7%.

Other Revenue

Other revenue has exceeded the year to date budget by \$1.1 million this is made up of:

- Increase in the sale of recoverable materials at the Waste facilities of \$245,000.
- \$198,000 across the organisation for recoupment of expenditure
- \$174,000 associated with fleet operations and the sale of minor, non-capital equipment.

Operating Expenses

Year to date expenditure as at 31 January 2017 of \$222.8 million shows a variance over budget of \$446,000.

Employee Costs

As at 31 January 2017 employee costs were above budget by \$186,000. Employee expenditure to deliver projects across capital, operating and region making is above budget by \$569,000, whereby funding is balanced at project level.

This is offset by core employee costs below budget by \$383,000, or less than 1%. Following on from December, January also experienced an increased instance of leave taken which reduced the expenditure in employee costs.

Materials and Services

As at 31 January 2017, materials and services costs were below budget by \$1.3 million.

Project materials expenditure is under budget by \$866,000 which is partially offset by project employee expenditure as explained above.

Waste management have incurred contract expenses below budget year to date due to contract rises below expectations. Some operational and general site improvements have also resulted in savings for budgeted contingent activities. Additional costs will however be incurred later in the year for legal advice on legislative changes and revisions to concrete crushing contracts.

Finance Costs

Finance costs are ahead of budget by \$702,000 as a result of further interest associated with Region Making Projects being expensed to operating. This will be addressed at the next budget review and will still be funded from project budgets, through a transfer from capital.

Capital Revenue

Capital revenue is currently 88% of the full year budget as at 31 January 2017. Contributed assets account for a large portion of this with \$76.4 million recognised to date against a full year forecast budget of \$75 million.

Capital Expenditure

As at 31 January 2017, \$107.9 million (40.4%) of Council's \$267.2 million 2016/17 Capital Works Program was financially expended.

The core Council Capital Program is progressing well with an actual spend of \$68.6 million, which is 49.6% of the \$138.1 million program.

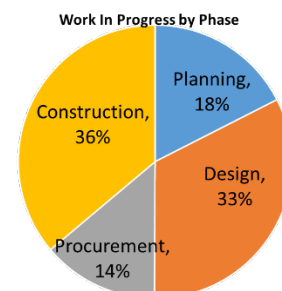
The Maroochydore City Centre Project has incurred some delays for the period to January, which will be reforecast and likely result in deferrals during budget review 3. Construction work for the Solar Farm has recommenced and delivery caught up to previous forecasts. Corporate Major Projects will also recognise deferrals in the upcoming budget review.

Table 4: Capital expenditure variances by program as at 31 January 2017

Capital Works Program	Forecast Budget \$000	YTD Forecast Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance	% Variance on YTD budget
Aerodromes	372	81	72	(9)	(10.6)
Buildings and Facilities	10,916	5,509	5,452	(57)	(1.0)
Coast and Canals	1,590	737	745	8	1.1
Divisional Allocations	3,765	978	869	(109)	(11.1)
Environmental Assets	4,905	4,034	4,539	505	12.5
Fleet	3,000	737	877	139	18.9
Holiday Parks	2,576	1,556	1,685	130	8.3
Information Technology	3,144	1,092	1,223	131	12.0
Parks and Gardens	16,180	11,225	10,730	(494)	(4.4)
Quarries	674	95	147	52	55.5
Stormwater	4,623	1,981	1,413	(568)	(28.7)
Strategic Land and Commercial Properties	10,093	5,416	7,507	2,092	38.6
Sunshine Coast Airport	4,746	1,864	1,678	(186)	(10.0)
Transportation	58,840	27,493	26,570	(923)	(3.4)
Waste	12,680	6,581	5,041	(1,541)	(23.4)
Total SCC Core Capital Program	138,106	69,377	68,550	(827)	(1.2)
Corporate Major Projects	18,461	120	62	(58)	(48.1)
Maroochydore City Centre	52,808	14,962	7,997	(6,965)	(46.6)
Solar Farm	31,645	28,426	28,746	321	1.1
Sunshine Coast Airport Runway	26,223	2,799	2,542	(257)	(9.2)
Total Other Capital Program	129,136	46,307	39,347	(6,960)	(15.0)
TOTAL	267,242	115,684	107,897	(7,787)	(6.7)

Table 5: Projects by status (SCC Base Only)

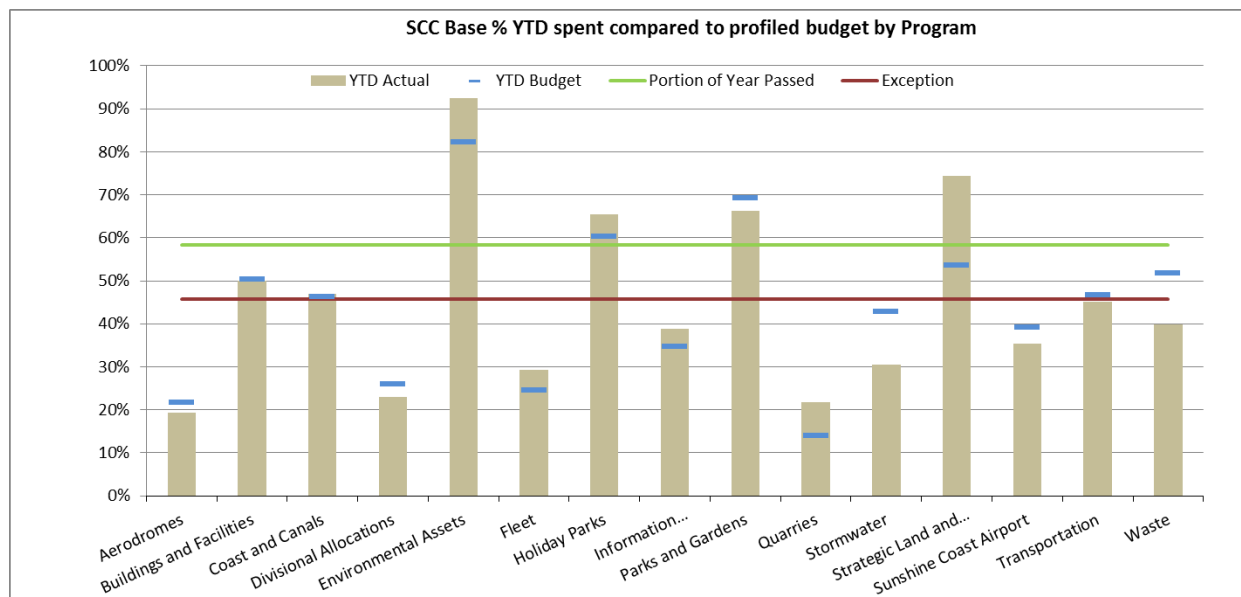
Project summary by Job status (SCC Base only)	Number of Capital Jobs	%	Current Budget \$000	%
Not Started	59	5.4	2,331	1.7
Works in Progress	617	56.5	101,132	73.2
Complete	383	35.0	33,480	24.2
On Hold/Cancelled	34	3.1	1,163	0.8
Total	1,093		138,106	



The targeted capital completion rate for 2016/17 is 81.3%. This is due to a number of multi-year projects and whole of region accounts.

At the end of January 617 jobs were in progress equating to 73.2% of the core capital budget. The additional chart above indicates the phase these projects have progressed to. An additional 96 projects were completed during the month.

Table 6: Capital Exceptions Graph



Aerodromes

The aerodromes program is scheduled for works to occur in the second half of the year. Procurement activities completed to date have identified savings on some project that will be recognised during Budget Review 3.

Environmental Assets

Significant budget allocation for the program relates to Mary Caincross which has been substantially completed. The program is expected to deliver to budget for the year

Fleet

Fleet is progressing ahead of schedule with the first major acquisitions occurring in December. Significant commitments have been raised indicating that the 2016/17 program will be finalised by the end of the financial year.

Information Technology

The information technology program has suffered some delays during the scoping and tender phases while seeking better understanding of costs and timeframes for delivery. Whilst some minor deferrals are anticipated during the next Budget Review the majority of the program is on schedule for full year delivery.

Quarries

Expenditure to date reflects the completion of projects commenced in 2015/16. Replacement of the weight bridge software is one of the larger projects for 2016/17 and is currently progressing through procurement with implementation anticipated in April/May. Resource modelling and drilling is also scheduled for May.

Stormwater

Some savings have been identified within the stormwater program that are required for reallocation during Budget Review 3 to address emergent works before the end of financial year. The most significant project for relining of damaged stormwater is currently progressing through procurement for the second phase of these works.

Waste

There are four major projects which make up the majority of the waste program for 2016/17. The Caloundra Landfill Cell 10 and Nambour Landfill Cell 5.3 are progressing well to forecast. Significant commitments were raised for Nambour Landfill Sewer Connection in January following the finalisation of procurement and construction is scheduled to commence in February. Design is completed on the Maroochydore City Centre Underground Waste project however some deferral will be recognised during Budget Review 3 to meet delivery schedule for the wider project site.

Investment Performance

- All investment parameters remain within the guidelines established by the Investment Policy.
- For the month ending 31 January 2017 Council had \$301.9 million cash (excluding Trust Fund) with an average interest rate of 2.74%, being 0.91% above benchmark. This is compared to the same period last year with \$296.6 million cash (excluding Trust Fund) where the average interest rate was 3.42%, being 0.67% above benchmark.
- The benchmark used to measure performance of cash funds is Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index (BAUBIL) and the Bank Bill Swap Rate (BBSW) for term deposits.

Legal

This report ensures that Council complies with its legislative obligations with respect to financial reporting in accordance with Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Investment of funds is in accordance with the provisions of the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982* and the associated Regulations and the *Local Government Act 2009*.

Policy

Council's 2016/17 Investment Policy.

Risk

Failure to achieve the budgeted operating result will negatively impact Council's capacity to complete its capital expenditure program.

Previous Council Resolution

Special Meeting Budget 16 June 2016, Council adopted the 2016/2017 budget - Council Resolution (SM16/16)

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Adoption of the 2016/2017 Budget and Forward Estimates for the 2017/2018 to 2025/2026 Financial Years"*
- (b) adopt the 2016/2017 Budget Schedules (Appendix A) including Forward Estimates and*
- (c) adopt the 2016/2017 Capital Works Program, endorse the indicative four-year program for the period 2017/2018 to 2020/2021, and note the five-year program for the period 2021/2022 to 2025/2026 (Appendix B).*

Ordinary Meeting Budget 15 September 2016, Council adopted the Budget Review 1 2016/2017 (OM16/163)

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Budget Review 1 2016/17 " and*
- (b) adopt the amended 2016/17 Budget Financial Statements to include the identified operating and capital budget adjustments (Appendix A).*

Ordinary Meeting Budget 8 December 2016, Council adopted the Budget Review 2 2016/2017 (OM16/221)

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Budget Review 2 2016/17"*
- (b) adopt the amended 2016/17 Budget Financial Statements to include the identified operating and capital budget adjustments (Appendix A) and*
- (c) in addition to (b), amend the 2016/17 budget to include the additional sum of \$50,000 for the Maroochy Basketball Extension.*

Related Documentation

2016/17 Adopted Budget

Critical Dates

There are no critical dates for this report.

Implementation

There are no implementation details to include in this report.

8.5 OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CEO**8.5.1 AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING 30 JANUARY 2017****File No:** Council meetings**Author:** Manager Audit and Assurance
Office of the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer**Appendices:** App A - Audit Committee Minutes 30 January 2017..... 173
App B - Audit Committee Charter..... 201
App C - Internal Audit Charter 205

PURPOSE

To provide Council with information on matters reviewed at the Audit Committee Meeting held 30 January 2017 (*Section 211 Local Government Regulation 2012*) and make recommendation to Council on any matters that the Audit Committee considers need action or improvement (*Section 105 of the Local Government Act 2009*).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Audit Committee is a mandatory Advisory Committee of Council established in accordance with Section 105 of the *Local Government Act 2009*. The Committee is comprised of Mr Peter Dowling (External Chair), Mr Len Scanlan (External Member), Cr Tim Dwyer and Cr Christian Dickson.

The Audit Committee agenda was distributed electronically to all Councillors on 23 January 2017 with agenda reports categorised as Chief Executive Update, External Audit, Audit and Assurance, Governance and Risk reports.

In addition to the standard Audit Committee reporting, the findings associated with KPMG Fraud Risk Assessments across Rates, Procurement and Accounts Payable were presented.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**That Council:**

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Audit Committee Meeting 30 January 2017” and
- (b) endorse the Audit Committee Minutes 30 January 2017 (Appendix A), Audit Committee Charter (Appendix B) and Internal Audit Charter (Appendix C).

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

There are no finance and resourcing issues associated with this report.

CORPORATE PLAN**Corporate Plan Goal:** *An outstanding organisation***Outcome:** 5.2 - A financially sustainable organisation

Operational Activity: 5.2.2.1 - Ensure Council's finances are well managed and systems are in place to analyse performance, generate revenue and reduce costs

CONSULTATION

Internal Consultation

Executive Leadership Team

External Consultation

External members of the Audit Committee.

Community Engagement

There has been no community engagement.

PROPOSAL

The Audit Committee is a mandatory Advisory Committee which meets four times each year and is established in accordance with *Section 105 Local Government Act 2009*. The Committee has no delegated authority and is a source of independent advice to Council and to the Chief Executive Officer.

The Committee is comprised of Mr Peter Dowling (External Chair), Mr Len Scanlan (External Member), Cr Tim Dwyer and Cr Christian Dickson. The Audit Committee agenda was distributed electronically to all Councillors.

The overall objective of the Audit Committee is to assist the Council and the Chief Executive to discharge their duties, in particular:

- Corporate Governance and responsibilities in relation to the organisation's financial reporting, internal control structure, risk management systems and the external and internal audit functions
- maintain an independent and objective forum promoting transparency, accountability and an ethical culture throughout council
- maintain by scheduling regular meetings, open lines of communications with Council, Executive Management, External Audit and Internal Audit, to exchange information and views
- oversee and appraise the quality and efficiency of audits conducted by both the Internal and External Audit functions and
- ensure both the Internal and External Audit functions are independent and effective.

In accordance with *Section 211 of the Local Government Regulation 2012*, the Audit Committee must provide Council with a written report about the matters reviewed at the Audit Committee Meeting and make recommendation to Council on any matters that the Audit Committee considers need action or improvement (*Section 105 of the Local Government Act 2009*).

The matters reviewed at the 30 January 2017 Audit Committee Meeting were as follows.

Chief Executive Officer's Update

- Update on significant issues being addressed by Council.

External Audit Reports

- Finalisation of Council's 2015/16 Audited Financial Statement Process
- 2016/17 Planning for Financial Statements

Audit and Assurance Reports

The following internal audit reports were presented at the meeting.

- KPMG Fraud Risk Assessment Plan
- General Rates and Separate Levies
- Community Services Procurement and Caloundra Art Gallery
- Disaster Management
- Asset Management and System
- Buderim Waste Resource Recovery Contract Management
- Audit and Assurance Status Report
- Audit Committee performance Assessment
- Audit Committee and Internal Audit Charters

Governance Reporting

- Work Health and Safety Report
- Governance Report

Legal

Compliance with the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Policy

There are no policy implications with this report

Risk

Specific risks have been detailed in the various agenda reports.

Previous Council Resolution

Audit Committee and Internal Audit Charters were previously endorsed at Council Ordinary Meeting 16 June 2016.

Related Documentation

Audit Committee Agenda for 30 January 2017 was issued to Councillors 23 January 2017.

Critical Dates

There are no critical dates associated with this report.

Implementation

Implementation of both the Audit Committee resolutions and the internal and external audit recommendations are monitored by the Audit Committee.

8.6 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MAJOR PROJECTS

Nil

9 NOTIFIED MOTIONS

10 TABLING OF PETITIONS

Petitions only eligible for submission if:

- * Legible
- * Have purpose of the petition on top of each page
- * Contain at least 10 signatures
- * Motion limited to:
 - Petition received and referred to a future meeting
 - Petition received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for report and consideration of recommendation
 - Petition not be received

11 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

11.1 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MAJOR PROJECTS

11.1.1 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - SUNSHINE COAST AIRPORT - LEASE SITES

File No: F2016/257666

Author: Commercial Property Officer
Economic Development and Major Projects Department

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (e) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to contracts proposed to be made by Council.

11.1.2 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - MAJOR AND REGIONAL EVENTS SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION

File No: Statutory Meetings

Author: Senior Major Events Liaison Officer
Economic Development and Major Projects Department

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (e) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to contracts proposed to be made by Council.

11.2 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT**11.2.1 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - SUNSHINE COAST
COUNCIL PARKING**

File No: EDDIE
Author: Coordinator Transport Strategy and Policy
Planning and Environment Department

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (h) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to other business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.

**11.2.2 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - CALOUNDRA CENTRE
MASTER PLAN**

File No: EDDIE
Author: Coordinator Regional Planning and Advocacy
Planning and Environment Department

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (h) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to other business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.

11.3 CORPORATE SERVICES

Nil

11.4 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Nil

11.5 COMMUNITY SERVICES

Nil

11.6 OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CEO

Nil

12 NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting will be held on 20 April 2017 in the Council Chambers, Corner Currie and Bury Streets, Nambour.

13 MEETING CLOSURE