



# **AGENDA**

**Wednesday, 18 February 2026**

## **Ordinary Council Meeting**

**I hereby give notice that an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on:**

**Date: Wednesday, 18 February 2026**

**Time: 9:00am**

**Location: Council Chambers**

**Peter Franks**  
**Chief Executive Officer**



**Order Of Business**

|           |   |            |
|-----------|---|------------|
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- 1 MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**
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- 4 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**
- 5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**  
Ordinary Council Meeting - 28 January 2026
- 6 BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**
- 7 DEPUTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS**



**8 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**8.1 SUMMARY OF NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS & DELEGATED DECISIONS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2026**

**Date Prepared:** 4 February 2026  
**Author:** Planning Technical Support Officer  
**Attachments:** Nil

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**Summary of New Planning Development Applications and Delegated Decisions for January 2026**

| <b>New Development Applications</b> |                |   |   |   |                                 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|---|---|---|---------------------------------|
| Application #                       | Lodgement Date | Applicant                                   | Site Address & Property Description                                       | Application Type  | Status                          |
| MCU/26/0001                         | 15/01/2026     | John Hendle<br>C/- U&I Town Plan            | 29 Martin Tenni Drive,<br>Mareeba<br>Lot 215 on SP276129                  | MCU – High Impact<br>Industry<br>(Concrete Batching Plan) | Decision<br>Notice<br>Approval  |
| RAL/26/0001                         | 28/01/2026     | Avenol<br>Developments<br>C/- Brazier Motti | 147 Martin Avenue,<br>Mareeba<br>Lot 20 on SP237080                       | ROL - 1 Lot into 2 Lots<br>and Access Easement            | Public<br>Notification<br>Stage |
| RAL/26/0002                         | 28/01/2026     | FGF Developments<br>C/- Planning Plus       | Springmount Road<br>Arriga<br>Lot 14 on SP103361 &<br>Lot 113 on SP214840 | ROL - Boundary<br>Realignment and<br>Access Easement      | Application<br>Stage            |

| <b>Decision Notices issued under Delegated Authority</b> |                         |  |  |  |  |
|--|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Application #  | Date of Decision Notice | Applicant                              | Address                                  | Property Description   | Application Type   |
| RAL/25/0031  | 13/01/2026              | J & L Jennings                         | 64 Srape Road and<br>Srape Road, Mareeba | Lot 23 on RP708044<br>Lot 24 on RP708044<br>Lot 25 on RP708044<br>Lot 26 on RP708044 | ROL<br>Boundary<br>Realignment                                 |
| MCU/26/0001  | 21/01/2026              | J Hendle<br>C/- U&I Town Plan          | 29 Martin Tenni Drive,<br>Mareeba        | Lot 215 on SP276129  | MCU<br>High Impact<br>Industry<br>(Concrete<br>Batching Plant) |
| MCU/25/0019  | 28/01/2026              | C Eldred<br>C/- Scope Town<br>Planning | 27 Mason Street,<br>Mareeba              | Lot 26 on M35630   | MCU – Multiple<br>Dwelling (8 Units)                           |

| <b>Negotiated Decision Notices issued under Delegated Authority</b> |                         |           |         |                      |                  |
|---|-------------------------|-----------|---------|----------------------|------------------|
| Application #   | Date of Decision Notice | Applicant | Address | Property Description | Application Type |
| Nil   |                         |           |         |                      |                  |

| <b>Change to Existing Development Approval issued</b> |                  |   |                                 |                        |                       |
|---|------------------|---|---------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Application #   | Date of Decision | Applicant                                     | Address                         | Property Description   | Application Type      |
| REC/10/0023   | 15/01/2026       | Kristen Rankine<br>C/- Freshwater<br>Planning | 382 Bilwon<br>Road,<br>Biboohra | Lot 221 on<br>SP292117 | ROL – (1 into 3 Lots) |
| RAL/25/0015   | 15/01/2026       | V Vogel<br>C/- Freshwater<br>Planning         | 468 Bilwon<br>Road,<br>Biboohra | Lot 8 on RP731956      | ROL – (1 into 3 Lots) |

January 2026 (Regional Land Use Planning)

| Referral Agency Response Decision Notices issued under Delegated Authority |                  |           |         |                      |                  |
|--|------------------|-----------|---------|----------------------|------------------|
| Application #  | Date of Decision | Applicant | Address | Property Description | Application Type |
| Nil  |                  |           |         |                      |                  |

| Extensions to Relevant Period issued |                  |           |         |                      |                  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-----------|---------|----------------------|------------------|
| Application #                        | Date of Decision | Applicant | Address | Property Description | Application Type |
| Nil                                  |                  |           |         |                      |                  |

| Survey Plans Endorsed |      |           |         |                      |            |
|-----------------------|------|-----------|---------|----------------------|------------|
| Application #         | Date | Applicant | Address | Property Description | No of Lots |
| Nil                   |      |           |         |                      |            |

January 2026 (Regional Land Use Planning)



**8.2 COUNCIL POLICY REVIEW**

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Date Prepared:</b> | <b>13 January 2026</b>  |
| <b>Author:</b>        | <b>Senior Advisor Governance &amp; Compliance</b>                 |
| <b>Attachments:</b>   | <b>1. Revenue Policy</b> <a href="#">↓</a>                        |
|                       | <b>2. Public Interest Disclosure Policy</b> <a href="#">↓</a>     |
|                       | <b>3. Procurement Policy</b> <a href="#">↓</a>                    |
|                       | <b>4. Delegations and Authorisations Policy</b> <a href="#">↓</a> |

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

As part of the ongoing organisation-wide compliance policy review work, amended and newly created instruments, along with instruments marked for repeal, are presented to Council for consideration.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Repeals the:
  - Revenue Policy – adopted 19 February 2025
  - Public Interest Disclosure Policy – adopted 15 February 2023
  - Procurement Policy – adopted 18 June 2025
  - Delegations and Authorisations Policy – adopted 15 February 2023
2. Adopts the:
  - Revenue Policy
  - Public Interest Disclosure Policy
  - Procurement Policy
  - Delegations and Authorisations Policy

**BACKGROUND**

1. **Revenue Policy**
2. **Purpose**

To provide for a principled and consistent approach to the assessment, approval and provision of loans as a form of assistance offered to community organisations.

**Summary of amendments**

Nil content amendments applied. All content continues as relevant for a further term.

3. **Public Interest Disclosure Policy**
4. **Purpose**

- acknowledge Mareeba Shire Council's ("Council") obligations as a Public Sector Entity as defined in the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2010* (Qld) ("PID Act");

- establish Council's commitment to the proper management of Public Interest Disclosures;
- Declare a high level framework for Councillors and employees of Council to make appropriate disclosures.

### Summary of amendments

- a. Header matrix – Responsible Officer field; omit Manager Development & Governance, insert Manager Information Systems & Governance, Review Officer field; omit Manager Information Systems & Governance, insert Director Corporate & Community Services;
- b. Section 1 Purpose – bullet point one (1); omit "Council" entity short reference declaration, bullet point three (3); insert "Council" entity short reference declaration;
- c. Section 7 – update responsible review officer assignment;
- d. Apply minor grammatical, formatting and footnote reference amendments throughout.

All remaining content continues as relevant for a further term.

### **Procurement Policy**

#### **Purpose**

To set out Council's position on the acquisition of goods and services and carrying out of the procurement principles to ensure all Council officers adhere to sound contracting principles in the course of day-to-day operations to achieve value for money for Council and in accordance with requirements under the *Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld)* (LGR).

#### **Summary of amendments**

On 12 December 2025, Chapter 6 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld)* was amended through the *Local Government Legislation (Empowering Councils) Amendment Regulation 2025 (Qld)*. These amendments are intended to modernise procurement thresholds, improve clarity within the regulatory framework, and provide Councils with greater flexibility while maintaining strong governance and accountability.

- a. Section 4.3 Purchase of Goods and Services table – column one (1), line four (4); omit ex GST amount \$15,000, insert ex GST amount \$21,000; column two (2), line four (4); omit Incl GST amount \$16,500, insert incl GST amount \$23,100; column one (1), line five (5); omit minimum ex GST amount \$15,000, insert minimum ex GST amount \$21,000, omit ex GST maximum threshold amount \$200,000, insert ex GST maximum threshold amount \$280,000; column two (2), line five (5); omit minimum incl GST amount \$16,500, insert incl GST minimum threshold minimum amount \$23,100, omit incl GST maximum threshold amount \$220,000, insert incl GST maximum threshold amount \$308,000; column one (1), line six (6); omit ex GST 'greater than' amount \$200,000, insert ex GST 'greater than' amount \$280,000; column two (2), lines six (6); omit incl GST 'greater than' amount \$220,000, insert incl GST 'greater than' amount \$308,000
- b. Section 4.5 sub-heading – omit ex GST maximum threshold amount \$15,000, insert ex GST maximum threshold amount \$21,000; para two (2), omit ex GST maximum threshold amount \$15,000, insert ex GST maximum threshold amount \$21,000
- c. Section 4.6 sub heading Medium Sized Contracts – omit ex GST minimum amount \$15,000, insert ex GST minimum amount \$21,000, omit ex GST maximum threshold amount \$200,00, insert ex GST maximum threshold amount \$280,000

- d. Section 4.6 sub-heading Large Sized Contracts – omit ex GST maximum threshold amount \$200,000, insert ex GST maximum threshold amount \$280,000
- e. Section 4.8, para two (2), sentence one (1) – omit greater than amount \$200,000, insert greater than amount \$280,000
- f. Section 4.9 para one (1), sentence one (1) – omit exceed amount \$200,000, insert exceed amount \$280,000
- g. Section 4.10 para one (1) – omit maximum procurement amount \$15,000, insert maximum procurement amount \$5,000
- h. Section 6 Definitions – ‘Large sized contracts’, omit ex GST threshold amount \$200,000, insert ex GST threshold amount \$280,000; ‘Medium sized contracts’, omit ex GST minimum threshold amount \$15,000, insert ex GST minimum threshold amount \$21,000, omit ex GST maximum threshold amount \$200,000, insert ex GST maximum threshold amount \$280,000.

### ***Delegations and Authorisations Policy***

#### **Purpose**

To provide a framework for the exercise and administration of delegations, sub-delegations and appointment of authorised persons, ensuring Council effectively and efficiently meets its legislative requirements under the *Local Government Act 2009* (LGA) and related Acts.

#### **Summary of amendments**

- a. Header matrix – update officer positions to align with established organisational naming conventions;
- b. Section 3 – insert new bullet point four (4) relevant to defined limitations to the exercise of delegated power;
- c. Page one (1) footnotes – footnote one (1); insert ‘see especially’ introductory signal; omit ss 257A, 257A(3) signals; footnote 2; update LGA/LGR reference delineation;
- d. Section 5 definitions – ‘Acts’ definition; insert terms ‘Council Local Laws’;
- e. Page three (3) of three (3) Appendix – Insert new table ‘Limitations to exercise of delegated power’;
- f. Apply minor formatting and grammatical amendments throughout.

#### **Financial and Resource Implications:**

##### ***Capital***

Nil

##### ***Operating***

Nil

#### **LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN**

**Financial Sustainability and Governance:** A financially sustainable Council that applies strategic decision making and good governance to deliver cost-effective services.

**IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION**

Upload instruments to Council's internal Policy Library and publish to Council's website in accordance with applicable policy type and audience.



## Revenue Policy

|                     |   |                |            |
|---------------------|---|----------------|------------|
| Policy Type         | Governance Policy                       | Version:       | 7.0        |
| Responsible Officer | Manager Finance                         | Date Approved: | 18/02/2026 |
| Review Officer:     | Director Corporate & Community Services | Review Due:    | 18/01/2027 |
| Author:             | Manager Finance                         | Commencement:  | 18/02/2026 |

### 1. PURPOSE

To identify the principles used by Council for making and levying rates and utility charges, exercising powers to grant rebates and concessions, for recovering unpaid amounts of rates and charges and the setting of miscellaneous fees and charges.

### 2. POLICY STATEMENT

The provisions of the *Local Government Act 2009* (Qld) and *Local Government Regulation 2012* (Qld), requires Council to prepare and adopt this policy as part of Council's budget each year. The policy contains principles that will be used for the development of Council's Budget.

### 3. PRINCIPLES

#### 3.1 THE MAKING OF RATES AND UTILITY CHARGES

- a) In general, it is Council's policy that a user pays principle applies to all specific services provided to ratepayers and other users in Mareeba Shire Council.
- b) Exceptions to the *user pays principle* include general services to the community as a whole when it is in the community interest to do so.
- c) Council will have regard to the principles of:
  - Transparency in the making of rates and charges;
  - Having in place a rating regime that is as simple and inexpensive as possible;
  - Equity by ensuring the fair and consistent application of lawful rating and charging principles, without bias, taking account of all relevant considerations, and disregarding irrelevancies such as the perceived personal wealth of individual ratepayers or ratepayer classes;
  - Responsibility in achieving the objectives, actions and strategies in Council's Corporate and Operational Plans;
  - Meeting the needs and expectations of the general community; and
  - Flexibility to take account of changes in the local economy.
- d) In pursuing the abovementioned principles Council may avail itself of the following:
  - A system of differential general rating
  - Minimum general rates
  - Utility charges
  - Special rates and charges

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| Revenue Policy |
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- Separate charges
- Limitation of rate increases (rate capping)

### 3.2 LEVYING OF RATES AND CHARGES

In levying rates Council will apply the principles of:

- making clear what is the Council's and each ratepayer's responsibility to the rating system (Council may allow a discount for prompt payment);
- making the levying system as simple as possible to administer;
- timing the levy of rates where possible to take into account the financial cycle of local economic activity, in order to assist smooth running of the local economy; and
- equity through flexible payment arrangements for ratepayers with a lower capacity to pay.

### 3.3 CONCESSIONS FOR RATES AND CHARGES

In considering the application of concessions, Council will be guided by the principles of:

- equity,
- the same treatment for ratepayers with similar circumstances;
- transparency by making clear the requirements necessary to receive concessions, and
- flexibility to allow Council to respond to local economic issues

The purposes for granting concessions are to relieve economic hardship and provide rebates to eligible pensioners and not-for-profit community, recreation and sporting groups. In addition, Council may grant concessions on a case-by-case basis if it is satisfied that any one or more of the other criteria in section 120(1) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (Qld) have been met.

### 3.4 THE RECOVERY OF RATES AND CHARGES

- a) Council will exercise its rate recovery powers in order to reduce the overall rate burden on ratepayers.
- b) It will be guided by the principles of:
  - transparency by making clear the obligations of ratepayers and the processes used by Council in assisting them meet their financial obligations;
  - making the processes used to recover outstanding rates and charges clear, and as simple to administer and as cost effective as possible (refer to Council's Debt Recovery Policy);
  - capacity to pay in determining appropriate arrangements for different sectors of the community;
  - equity by having regard to providing the same treatment for ratepayers with similar circumstances; and
  - flexibility by responding, where necessary, to changes in the local economy.

### 3.5 THE SETTING OF COST-RECOVERY FEES AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES CHARGES

Council will be guided by the following principles in the setting of cost-recovery fees on the one hand, and commercial services on the other:

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| Revenue Policy |
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- Fees associated with regulatory services will be set at the full cost of providing the service or taking the action for which, the fee is charged. Council may choose to subsidise the fee from other sources if it is in the community interest to do so.
- Commercial services charges will be set to recover the full cost of providing the service and, if provided by a Business of Council, may include a component for return on Council's investment.

### **3.6 THE EXTENT TO WHICH PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE COSTS FOR A NEW DEVELOPMENT ARE TO BE FUNDED BY CHARGES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT**

Developers are required to contribute towards the Council's infrastructure in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning Act 2016* (Qld). Infrastructure charges are required for roadworks, parks, drainage and water and sewerage head works where applicable.

In addition, social infrastructure costs are to be met by grants received from the Government and general revenue sources.

#### **4. SCOPE**

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This policy applies to Mareeba Shire Council and all related business activities.

#### **5. DEFINITIONS**

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**Council** refers to Mareeba Shire Council

#### **6. RELATED DOCUMENTS AND REFERENCES**

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*Debt Recovery Policy* (MSC)  
*Local Government Act 2009* (Qld)  
*Local Government Regulation 2012* (Qld)  
*Planning Act 2016* (Qld)

#### **7. REVIEW**

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It is the responsibility of the Director Corporate & Community Services to monitor the adequacy of this policy and recommend appropriate changes. This policy will be formally reviewed every year or as required by Council.



**Public Interest Disclosure Policy**

|                     |  |                |            |
|---------------------|--|----------------|------------|
| Policy Type         | Governance Policy                        | Version:       | 4.0        |
| Responsible Officer | Manager Information Systems & Governance | Date Approved: | 18/02/2026 |
| Review Officer:     | Director Corporate & Community Services  | Review Due:    | 18/01/2029 |
| Author:             | Coordinator Governance & Compliance      | Commencement:  | 18/02/2026 |

**1. PURPOSE**

To:

- acknowledge Mareeba Shire Council’s (“Council”) obligations as a Public Sector Entity as defined in the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2010* (Qld) (“PID Act”);
- establish Council’s commitment to the proper management of Public Interest Disclosures;
- Declare a high level framework for Councillors and employees of Council to make appropriate disclosures.

**2. SCOPE**

This policy applies across Council and to members of the public.

**3. POLICY STATEMENT**

Council is committed to fostering an ethical, transparent culture. In pursuit of this, Council values the disclosure of information about suspected wrongdoing in the public sector so that it can be properly assessed and, if necessary, appropriately investigated. Council will provide support to an employee or others who make disclosures about matters in the public interest.

**Public Interest Disclosures** are broadly defined in the PID Act as being all information disclosed to a proper authority about a public interest matter referred to within the PID Act.

A Public Interest Disclosure can be **made by any person**<sup>1</sup> about—

- a) a substantial and specific danger to the health or safety of a person with a disability; or
- b) the commission of an offence against a provision mentioned in schedule 2 of the PID Act,<sup>2</sup> if the commission of the offence is or would be a substantial and specific danger to the environment; or
- c) a contravention of a condition imposed under a provision mentioned in schedule 2 of the PID Act,<sup>3</sup> if the contravention is or would be a substantial and specific danger to the environment; or
- d) the conduct of another person that could, if proved, be a reprisal.

<sup>1</sup> See *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2010* (Qld) s 12.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid sch 2 - specifies particular statutory offences or contraventions involving endangering the environment.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

|                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| Public Interest Disclosure Policy |
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Alternatively, a Public Interest Disclosure can be made **by a public officer**<sup>4</sup> about—

- a) the conduct of another person that could, if proved, be—
  - (i) official misconduct; or
  - (ii) maladministration that adversely affects a person's interests in a substantial and specific way; or
- b) a substantial misuse of public resources (other than an alleged misuse based on mere disagreement over policy that may properly be adopted about amounts, purposes or priorities of expenditure); or
- c) a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety; or
- d) a substantial and specific danger to the environment.

Public Interest Disclosures made under the PID Act must:

- a) be made to a **proper authority**;<sup>5</sup> and
- b) be information about the conduct of another person or another matter if—
  - (i) the person honestly believes on reasonable grounds that the information tends to show the conduct or other matter; or
  - (ii) the information tends to show the conduct or other matter, regardless of whether the person honestly believes the information tends to show the conduct or other matter.

Council recognises the important role Councillors, Council employees and members of the public can play in the identification of cases of maladministration, official misconduct and the misuse of public resources or contraventions giving rise to dangers to public health and safety, the environment or to persons with disabilities.

In accordance with the objectives of the PID Act, Council will:

- a) promote the public interest by facilitating Public Interest Disclosures of wrongdoing in the public sector; and
- b) ensure that Public Interest Disclosures are properly made, assessed, and when appropriate, properly investigated and dealt with; and
- c) ensure that appropriate consideration is given to the interests of persons who are the subject of a Public Interest Disclosure; and
- d) afford protection from reprisals to persons making Public Interest Disclosures.

These outcomes (including information regarding how a PID may be made) are achieved via Council's *Public Interest Disclosure Management Plan*.

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<sup>4</sup> Ibid s 13.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid s 5 - as defined.

|                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| Public Interest Disclosure Policy |
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Council recognises the sensitivities which can be associated with Public Interest Disclosures and the need to maintain public confidence in its process for managing Public Interest Disclosures. To this end, Council will:

- a) ensure that Public Interest Disclosures are managed appropriately in accordance with Council's *Public Interest Disclosure Management Plan*;
- b) maintain the confidentiality of Public Interest Disclosures received;<sup>6</sup>
- c) prosecute any person who provides a false or misleading statement or information to Council with the intention of it being processed as a Public Interest Disclosure;<sup>7</sup>
- d) prosecute and/or take disciplinary action against any Councillor or Council employee who takes or attempts to take a reprisal action;<sup>8</sup>
- e) ensure that the proper records of Public Interest Disclosures received are maintained,<sup>9</sup> and that the confidentiality of all records created during the investigation and reporting of Public Interest Disclosures is preserved.<sup>10</sup>

#### 4. REPORTING

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Refer to Council's *Public Interest Disclosure Management Plan* for reporting requirements.

#### 5. DEFINITIONS

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**Council** – means the Mareeba Shire Council including all elected representatives, employees, contractors, volunteers, a Standing or Joint Standing Committee, committee members and any entity under direct Council ownership, management, sponsorship or financial control.

**Proper authority** – includes a public sector entity as defined under the PID Act<sup>11</sup> if the information the subject of the disclosure relates to the conduct of the entity or the public sector entity has the power to investigate or remedy. A proper authority may include public sector entities<sup>12</sup> such as the Crime and Misconduct Commission, the Public Service Commission, the Queensland Ombudsman, Anti-Discrimination Commission or the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission; it may also include Council itself or another Government department that maintains relevant investigation and/or enforcement powers relating to the nature of the disclosure.

**Public Interest Disclosure** – means a disclosure by any person or a public officer as detailed in section 2 of this policy and includes all information and help given by the discloser.

**Public officers** – means an employee, member of officer of the entity. Public officers of local governments include both Councillors and employees (including persons engaged under a contract of employment).

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<sup>6</sup> Ibid s 65 - requirements for preservation of confidentiality.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid s 66.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid ss 40-41.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid s 29.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid s 65.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid s 5.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid s 6.

|                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| Public Interest Disclosure Policy |
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**6. RELATED DOCUMENTS AND REFERENCES**

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*Public Interest Disclosure Act 2010 (Qld)*  
*Public Interest Disclosure Management Plan (MSC)*

**7. REVIEW**

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It is the responsibility of the Manager Information Systems & Governance to monitor the adequacy of this policy and implement and approve appropriate changes. This policy will be formally reviewed every three (3) years or as required by Council.



### Procurement Policy

|                     |   |                |            |
|---------------------|---|----------------|------------|
| Policy Type         | Governance Policy                       | Version:       | 4.1        |
| Responsible Officer | Manager Finance                         | Date Approved: | 18/02/2026 |
| Review Officer:     | Director Corporate & Community Services | Review Due:    | 01/07/2026 |
| Author:             | Director Corporate & Community Services | Commencement:  | 18/02/2026 |

**1. PURPOSE**

This policy sets out Council’s position on the acquisition of goods and services and carrying out of the procurement principles to ensure all Council officers adhere to sound contracting principles in the course of day-to-day operations to achieve value for money for Council.

**2. SCOPE**

This policy applies to the procurement of all goods, materials, equipment and related services, construction contracts, service contracts (including maintenance) and consultant services.

The principles outlined in this policy must be followed by Council officers, labour hire, volunteers, contractors, and consultants when procuring any goods, services and works for any Council related activity or purpose and should be read in conjunction with the Guidelines for Procurement Administration.

**3. PROCUREMENT PRINCIPLES**

**3.1 CONTRACTING PRINCIPLES**

All Council purchases must be carried out in compliance with the *Local Government Act 2009* (“the Act”) and the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (“the Regulation”). In particular, Chapter 6, Part 3 – Default contracting procedures of the Regulation apply.

Council employees must have regard to the following contracting principles in all procurement activities:

**3.1.1 Value for Money**

Council must harness its purchasing power to achieve the best value for money. The concept of value for money is not restricted to price alone.

**3.1.2 Open and Effective Competition**

Purchasing should be open and transparent, and result in effective competition in the provision of goods and services. Council must give fair and equitable consideration to all prospective suppliers.

**3.1.3 Development of Competitive Local Business and Industry**

Council's policy is to support local businesses and industries where practicable to support the viability of local businesses in all townships within the Mareeba Shire Council area.

In accordance with section 104(3)(c) of the Act, Council wishes to pursue the principle and objectives of enhancing the capabilities of local business and industry as part of the process of making its purchasing

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decisions. For this purpose, local suppliers shall be allowed certain concessions in respect to contracted arrangements:

**(i) Price**

Prices offered by local suppliers shall be considered to be comparable with non-local suppliers where the local supplier's offered price is no more than 10% higher (up to the tolerance of \$5,000) than the lowest priced offered. (E.g., the local supplier can be evaluated as price comparable when the local supplier price is less than or equal to the non-local supplier price, excluding GST + 10%, where the 10% margin is less than \$5,000).

**(ii) Local Business Development**

In the evaluation of tenders or offers, Council may attribute a portion of the selection criteria to local business preference. The score weighting applied to the local business preference criteria shall be no more than a 10% weighting within the overall criteria (100%).

In order to apply the Local Business Preference component, employees must seek and evaluate tenders and offers from non-local suppliers. It is not intended that this preference be granted at officer discretion.

**3.1.4 Environmental Protection**

Council promotes environmental protection through its purchasing procedures.

**3.1.5 Ethical Behaviour, Fair Dealing and Probity**

Council employees involved in purchasing are to behave with impartiality, fairness, independence, openness, integrity, and professionalism in their discussions and negotiations with suppliers and their representatives.

The use of probity advisors or probity auditors shall be considered where the large-scale procurement arrangement is sensitive, highly complex, of public interest or likely to be challenged.

**3.2 WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY PROCUREMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

Council employees involved in purchasing are to abide by Council's *Workplace Health and Safety Procurement procedures (WP3.6.1 Purchasing and Supplier Control Guidelines, and WP3.7.1 Contractor Management Procedure)*.

**4. PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES**

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**4.1 PURCHASING REQUIREMENTS**

The approved method for procurement is outlined in Council's *Guidelines for Procurement Administration*.

**4.2 MINOR AND PETTY CASH PURCHASES UP TO \$100 (EXCLUSIVE OF GST)**

Purchases of minor amounts of goods and services to the value of \$40 may be made from petty cash as an expense reimbursement. However, expense reimbursements of up to \$100 may be made by petty cash where an emergency or immediate payment is required.

Please refer to Council's *Petty Cash Procedure* for further information.

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**4.3 SUMMARY OF PROCUREMENT THRESHOLDS**

| Purchase of Goods and Services |                        |   |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Exclusive of GST               | Inclusive of GST       | Documentation required                  |
| Less than \$5,000              | Less than \$5,500      | One (1) Verbal Quote                    |
| \$5,000 to \$21,000            | \$5,500 to \$23,100    | Two (2) Written Quotes                  |
| \$21,000 to \$280,000          | \$23,100 to \$308,000  | Three (3) Written Quotes on VendorPanel |
| Greater than \$280,000         | Greater than \$308,000 | Tenders on VendorPanel                  |

**4.4 PURCHASES UP TO \$5,000 (EXCLUSIVE OF GST)**

Purchases of goods and services to the value of \$5,000 must be raised in Council's electronic purchase order system. There is no requirement for multiple quotes for purchases up to \$5,000.

Low value items (purchases valued at less than \$2,000) may be made by corporate credit card where purchases are irregular and where it is more cost effective to do so.

**4.5 PURCHASES BETWEEN \$5,000 AND UP TO \$21,000 (EXCLUSIVE GST)**

Goods or services to this value require a minimum of two (2) written (or emailed) quotes except where acquired under an exception as outlined in section 4.10 below. Details of quotes are to be input into the purchase requisition and the quote must be attached to the requisition.

VendorPanel is preferred to be used to source quotes for all purchases between \$5,000 and \$21,000. However, other written quotes will be accepted.

Please refer to the *Guidelines for Procurement Administration* for further information.

**4.6 MEDIUM SIZED CONTRACTS - PURCHASES BETWEEN \$21,000 AND \$280,000 (EXCLUSIVE OF GST)**

Section 225 of the Regulation states that a local government cannot enter into a medium-sized contract unless it first invites written quotes for the arrangement, and requires that:

- The invitation must be given to at least three (3) persons/entities who the local government considers can meet the requirements, at competitive prices.

VendorPanel should be used to source quotes for all medium sized contracts.

The local government may decide not to accept any of the quotes received. If the local government does decide to accept a quote, it must accept the quote most advantageous to the organisation, having regard to the sound contracting principles in section 104 of the LGA.

Please refer to the *Guidelines for Procurement Administration* for further information.

**4.7 LARGE SIZED CONTRACTS - PURCHASES ABOVE \$280,000 (EXCLUSIVE OF GST)**

Section 226 of the Regulation states that a local government cannot enter into a large-sized contract unless it first invites written tenders in accordance with section 228.

Section 228(2) requires that Council invite written tenders under section 228(4) or invite expressions of interest under section 228(5) before considering whether to invite written tenders.

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Please refer to Council's *Guidelines for Procurement Administration* for further information.

#### **4.7.1 Invitations to Tender**

Section 228(4) of the Regulation specifies the invitation must;

- be published on the local government's website for at least 21 days; and
- allow written tenders to be given to the local government while the invitation is published on the website.

Also, the local government must take all reasonable steps to publish the invitation for tenders or for expressions of interest in another way to notify the public about the tender process e.g. (relevant industry publication, eprocurement site or newspaper).

Tenders are to be submitted to the Electronic Tender Box (VendorPanel).

Council may decide not to accept any tenders it receives, however, if it does decide to accept a tender, it must be the most advantageous to Council having regard to the Sound Contracting Principles in Section 3 of this Policy document.

#### **4.7.2 Expressions of Interest Invitations**

Section 228(3)(a) and (b) of the Regulation, requires that where Council believes that it would be in the public interest to invite expressions of interest before seeking written tenders, this decision must be formally resolved and recorded in minutes.

The Expression of Interest invitation must:

- be published on the local government's website for at least 21 days; and
- allow written tenders to be given to the local government while the invitation is published on the website.

Also, the local government must take all reasonable steps to publish the invitation for tenders or for expressions of interest in another way to notify the public about the tender process e.g. (relevant industry publication, e-procurement site or newspaper).

Under section 228(7), if Council invites Expressions of Interest, the local government may prepare a shortlist and invite written tenders from shortlisted parties.

#### **4.8 VARIATIONS TO TENDER OR CONTRACT**

During the management of a contract, there may be occasions when variations occur. A variation is when there is a change to the agreed scope of works, due to a variety of factors such as time or delays, methodology changes or latent conditions or cost implications.

For an original purchase order involving a cost of more than \$280,000 if the cumulative value of variations exceeds 20% of the value of the original purchase order or \$200,000, whichever is the lesser, the variation and all further variations must be considered by Council's Executive Management Team.

Please refer to Council's *Guidelines for Procurement Administration* for further information.

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#### 4.9 ASSESSING PROCUREMENT VALUE

Where it is *likely* that the value of the contractual arrangement *could* exceed \$280,000, employees shall invite tenders or expressions of interest, subject to the exceptions outlined in 4.10 below.

The **entire contract value** includes contracted sum, possible variations, possible project overruns, project contingencies, retainers and retentions.

#### 4.10 EXCEPTIONS TO REQUIREMENTS TO INVITE WRITTEN QUOTATIONS AND TENDERS

Chapter 6, Part 3, Division 3 of the Regulation identifies exceptions for medium and large-sized contracts. The following exceptions apply to all procurement over \$5,000.

##### 4.10.1 Pre-Qualified Suppliers - Section 232 of the Regulation

The organisation may enter into an arrangement without first inviting tenders or quotations if it is entered with a supplier from a register of pre-qualified suppliers (ROPS) only where a register of pre-qualified suppliers has been determined by Council resolution.

A register of pre-qualified suppliers of particular goods or services may be established only if:

- the preparation and evaluation of invitations each time the goods or services are needed would be costly; or
- the capability or financial capacity of the supplier of the goods or services is critical; or
- (the supply of the goods or services involves significant security considerations; or
- a precondition of an offer to contract for the goods or services is in compliance with particular standards or conditions decided by Council; or
- the ability of local business to supply the goods or services needs to be identified or developed.

Please refer to Council's *Procedure for Procuring Pre-Qualified Suppliers* for further information.

##### 4.10.2 Sole Supplier/Preferred Supplier Arrangements – Sections 235/233 of the Regulation

Section 235 of the Regulation specifies that Council can only enter a medium or large sized contract without first inviting quotes or tenders if:

- Council resolves that it is satisfied that there is only one supplier reasonably available to it; or
- Council resolves that, because of the specialised or confidential nature of the services that are sought, it would be impractical or disadvantageous for the local government to invite quotes or tenders; or
- a genuine emergency exists; or
- the contract to purchase goods is made at an auction; or
- the contract is for the purchase of second-hand goods; or
- the contract is made with, or under an arrangement with a government body.

The organisation may also enter into an arrangement without first inviting tenders or quotations only where a preferred supplier arrangement has been determined by Council resolution, section 233 of the Regulation, however Mareeba Shire Council does not utilise Preferred Supplier Arrangements.

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**4.10.3 LOCAL BUY/LGA Arrangement – Section 234 of the Regulation**

Under this provision, the organisation may enter into an arrangement without first inviting written quotes or tenders if the contract is an LGA arrangement.

The term *Local Buy* does not mean Council's local business preference described in section 3.1.3 of this policy.

**4.10.4 Tender Consideration Plan – Section 230 of the Regulation**

The Council may enter into a contract without first inviting written quotes or tenders if Council decides, by resolution, to prepare a quote or tender consideration plan and formally prepares and adopts the plan.

**4.10.5 Contractor on an Approved Contractor list – Section 231 of the Regulation**

The exception to seek written quotations and tenders from Contractors is available if Council has an Approved Contractor list.

Mareeba Shire Council does not utilise Contractor lists.

**4.11 ELECTRONIC TENDERING**

Tender submissions are to be made electronically via the Electronic Tender Box (VendorPanel).

**4.12 AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS REGISTRATION NUMBER (ABN)**

Council will only procure from suppliers who can provide an ABN. The only exception to this will be where a supplier is eligible to complete the Australian Taxation Office Statement by a Supplier form and provides the completed form to Council prior to making the supply or providing the service to Council.

**4.13 DISPOSAL OF LAND AND NON-CURRENT ASSETS**

As per Section 227 of the Regulation, Council must not enter into a valuable non-current asset contract (disposal of a valuable non-current asset) unless it first invites written tenders for the contract under Section 228 or offers the non-current asset for sale by auction or offers the non-current asset for sale by auction.

Council may dispose of a valuable non-current asset other than by tender or auction in accordance with Section 236 of the Regulation.

**4.14 CORPORATE CREDIT CARDS**

In some instances, a credit card will be issued for one or a number of specific uses only, in these cases the cardholder must adhere to stringent guidelines. When this occurs, the specific guidelines will be clearly stated and included on the Corporate Credit Card Agreement form assigned to that employee.

Please refer to Council's current *Corporate Credit Card Policy* for further information.

**4.15 BUDGETARY PROVISIONS**

It is expected that all goods and services acquired are in accordance with the adopted annual budget and/or a Council Resolution, and sufficient funds must be available to meet the full cost of the proposed procurement.

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**4.16 FINANCIAL DELEGATIONS**

The Chief Executive Officer has the delegated authority to expend funds as provided for in the budget, taking into account all other limitations as set out in this policy. The Chief Executive Officer will establish the positions and authorised financial delegation limits assigned to each department.

The positions are authorised to contract on behalf of Council and/or approve purchase orders, for expenditure up to their financial delegation limits. By approving a purchase order, all employees are confirming that they have taken full notice of this policy and will comply with all of the requirements of this policy.

**4.17 LIMITATIONS**

There are limitations, notwithstanding the financial delegation, in regard to the type of purchases permitted by individuals.

The restricted purchases and approved methods for this procurement is outlined in Council’s *Guidelines for Procurement Administration*.

**5. REPORTING**

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Council must comply with reporting requirements set out in both the *Local Government Act 2009* and the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

**6. DEFINITIONS**

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**Contract** – means a formal legally binding instrument between Council and a Contractor which details the terms which govern the performance of work

**Contractor** – means the entity who enters into a formal contract to perform work for Mareeba Shire Council

**Electronic Tender Box** - Council's chosen online portal for receiving quotes and tender submission is VendorPanel.

**Emergent works** - late notice of requirements to purchase but still require the full provisions of the purchasing policy. Emergent works that are urgent due to a genuine sudden state or condition considered a risk to public safety, the environment, workplace health and safety or legislative requirements which requires a significant and immediate response.

**Large sized contracts** - contracts of value above \$280,000 exclusive of GST.

**LGA arrangement** - one that has been entered into by LGAQ Ltd or an associate entity which LGAQ Ltd is the only shareholder, such as *Local Buy* which is the Local Government Association of Queensland’s procurement services company.

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**Local Supplier** is a supplier that:

- a) is beneficially owned by persons who are residents or ratepayers in the Mareeba Shire Council; or
- b) has its principal place of business/registered office within the Mareeba Shire Council; or
- c) otherwise has a place of business within the Mareeba Shire Council which solely or primarily employs persons who are residents or ratepayers of the Shire.

**Medium sized contracts** - contracts of value between \$21,000 to \$280,000 exclusive of GST.

**Non-Local Supplier** is a supplier that does not fit the definition of local supplier.

**Preferred supplier arrangement (PSA)** - An arrangement for the supply of goods or services under agreed pricing conditions for a stated period. A PSA is different from other arrangements as it ranks the suppliers. The first preference has first right of refusal.

**Pre-Qualified** supplier is a supplier who has been assessed by the local government as having the technical, financial and managerial capability necessary to perform contracts on time and in accordance with agreed requirements.

A **quote or tender consideration plan** is a document stating:

- the objectives of the plan; and
- how the objectives are to be achieved; and
- how the achievement of the objectives will be measured; and
- any alternative ways of achieving the objectives, and why the alternative ways were not adopted; and
- the proposed terms of the contract for the goods or services; and
- a risk analysis of the market from which the goods or services are to be obtained.

**Register of pre-qualified suppliers (ROPS)** - A pre-qualified supplier is a supplier who has been assessed by Council as having the technical, financial and managerial capability necessary to perform contracts on time and in accordance with agreed requirements. The ROPS is compiled after a tender process.

**Sole Supplier** - a supplier of goods or services that no other suppliers can provide or with the constraints of distance it not being viable for other suppliers to compete for the supply of goods or services.

**Principal contractor** – holds the meaning assigned under section 293 of the WHS Reg.

**Site** – means a workplace as defined under section 8 of the WHS Act

## 7. RELATED DOCUMENTS AND REFERENCES

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*Advertising Spending Policy (MSC)*  
*AS/NZS ISO 31000:2018 Risk Management - Guidelines (Standards Australia)*  
*Council's Standard Terms and Conditions for Goods and Services (MSC)*  
*Council's Standard Terms and Conditions for Professional Services (MSC)*  
*Corporate Credit Card Policy (MSC)*  
*Employee Code of Conduct (MSC)*  
*Entertainment and Hospitality Policy (MSC)*  
*Gifts and Benefits Register (MSC)*  
*Guidelines for Procurement Administration (MSC)*  
*Local Government Act 2009 (Qld)*  
*Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld)*  
*Non-Current Asset Policy (MSC)*

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*Petty Cash procedure (MSC)*

*Procedure for Procuring Pre-Qualified Suppliers (MSC)*

*Work Health and Safety procedure: WP3.6.1 Purchasing and Supplier Control (MSC)*

*Work Health and Safety procedure: WP3.7.1 Contractor Management Procedure (MSC)*

## **8. REVIEW**

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It is the responsibility of the Director Corporate & Community Services to monitor the adequacy of this policy and recommend appropriate changes. This policy will be formally reviewed annually or as required by Council.



### Delegations and Authorisations Policy

|                     |  |                |            |
|---------------------|--|----------------|------------|
| Policy Type         | Governance Policy                        | Version:       | 3.1        |
| Responsible Officer | Manager Information Systems & Governance | Date Approved: | 18/02/2026 |
| Review Officer:     | Director Customer & Community Services   | Review Due:    | 01/01/2027 |
| Author:             | Senior Advisor Governance & Compliance   | Commencement:  | 18/02/2026 |

#### 1. PURPOSE

To provide a framework for the exercise and administration of delegations, sub-delegations and appointment of authorised persons, ensuring Council effectively and efficiently meets its legislative requirements under the *Local Government Act 2009* (LGA) and related Acts as defined herein.

#### 2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all elected representatives, employees, contractors, volunteers of the Mareeba Shire Council, a Standing or Joint Standing Committee, committee members and any entity under direct Council ownership, management, sponsorship or financial control. The policy applies to any Council activity or action which requires the use of a delegation or an authorisation under the Acts.

#### 3. POLICY STATEMENT

Effective management of instruments of delegation and authorisation reduces enterprise risk and enables effective Council discharge of obligations under the Acts. Council will ensure:

- Delegation of local government powers are conducted strictly in accordance with requirements of the LGA,<sup>1</sup> and;
- A current register of delegations is established, maintained and available for public inspection at all times,<sup>2</sup> and;
- The necessary level of delegated power and authority is in place for all parties mentioned in section 2 sufficiently for effective discharge of duties and responsibilities under the Acts, and;
- Exercise of delegated power is subject to appropriately defined limitations as determined by Council – see Appendix.
- The framework of established procedures for administration of delegations and authorisations is adhered to, monitored frequently and actioned to account for amendments to legislation, employee movements and changes to the organisational structure of Council.

<sup>1</sup> See especially *Local Government Act 2009* (Qld) s 257 for Council delegation of power to the CEO, s 258 for delegation of the Mayor's powers, s 259 for delegation of the CEO's powers. Note particularly exceptions in s 257(2-3) and 259(2) and annual review requirements under s 257(5).

<sup>2</sup> See *Local Government Act 2009* (Qld) s 260. See also *Local Government Regulation 2012* (Qld) s 305.

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| Delegations and Authorisations Policy |
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#### 4. REPORTING

- No additional reporting is required

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#### 5. DEFINITIONS

**Act:** *the Local Government Act 2009* (Qld) - abbreviated here to LGA.

**Acts:** collectively includes an Act of the Queensland Parliament;<sup>3</sup> Queensland legislation; Queensland statutory law; Council Local Laws.

**Authorisation:** is an appointment of a person as an authorised person for the exercise of power under a specific piece of legislation (an Act) for a specific purpose in relation to an Act. In practice, the authorisation attaches to a *person*, not to a position. The authorisation ceases once the person who provided the authorisation leaves office.

**Delegation:** is a delegation of a function or power under an Act.<sup>4</sup> In practice, the LGA provides for delegation of power from Council to the CEO, in turn providing for sub-delegation of power from the CEO to a Council Officer. Delegated power is assigned to a position or office. The delegation continues in force regardless of changes to the person occupying or holding the position or office.

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#### 6. RELATED DOCUMENTS AND REFERENCES

*Code of Conduct for Councillors* (MSC)  
*Employee Code of Conduct* (MSC)  
*Enterprise Risk Management Policy* (MSC)  
*Fraud and Corruption Prevention Management Policy* (MSC)  
*Local Government Act 2009* (Qld)  
*Local Government Regulation 2012* (Qld)  
*Signing of Correspondence and Documents* (MSC)

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#### 7. REVIEW

It is the responsibility of the Manager Information Systems & Governance to monitor the adequacy of this policy and implement and approve appropriate changes. This policy will be formally reviewed every four (4) years or as required by Council.

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<sup>3</sup> See *Acts Interpretation Act 1954* (Qld) s 6-7.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid* s 27A.

Delegations and Authorisations Policy

**APPENDIX**

| <b>LIMITATIONS TO THE EXERCISED POWERS</b>   |
|--|
| <p><b>1.</b> Where Council in its budget or by resolution allocates an amount for the expenditure of Council funds in relation to a particular matter, in exercising delegated power in relation to that matter, the delegate will only commit Council to reasonably foreseeable expenditure up to the amount allocated.</p> |
| <p><b>2.</b> The delegate will not exercise any delegated power in relation to a matter which, to the delegate's knowledge, adversely affects, or is likely to adversely affect, Council's relations with the public at large.</p>   |
| <p><b>3.</b> The delegate will not exercise any delegated power contrary to a resolution or other decision of Council (including a policy decision relating to the matter).</p>  |
| <p><b>4.</b> The delegate will not exercise any delegated power in a manner, or which has the foreseeable effect, of being contrary to an adopted Council policy or procedure.</p>   |
| <p><b>5.</b> The delegate will only exercise a delegated power under this resolution in a manner which complies with the requirements of Council's Planning Scheme, and any exercise of power which involves a departure from or variation of those requirements will only be undertaken by Council.</p>                     |
| <p><b>6.</b> The delegate will not exercise any delegated power which cannot lawfully be the subject of delegation by Council.</p>   |

Table 1. Limitations to exercise of delegated power.



**8.3 AGREEMENT UNDER SECTION 87 OF THE NATIVE TITLE ACT 1993 (CTH) RELEVANT TO LOT 58 ON SP233811 - WAKAMAN PEOPLE #5**

**Date Prepared:** 21 January 2026

**Author:** Senior Advisor Governance & Compliance

**Attachments:** 1. Draft Agreement under s 87 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) - Confidential (under separate cover)

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report seeks Council consent to actions required to give effect to an agreement under section 87A of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) relevant to Lot 58 SP233811 known as the Chillagoe Rodeo Grounds, to validate Council's existing interests in Lot 58 until 31 March 2035.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That:

1. Council agrees in-principle to the draft section 87A agreement as hereto attached;
2. the Mayor and CEO are authorised to agree to any minor amendments to the section 87A agreement and to confirm final agreement to the section 87A agreement; and
3. Council authorise Andrew Kerr from Moray & Agnew Lawyers to execute the section 87A agreement on behalf of Council.

**BACKGROUND**

The Native Title Determination Application ("Application") has been made by John Alvoen and others on behalf of the Wakaman People #5.

Council is a party to the Application and the determination relates to land and waters in Council's Local Government area.

The Application was lodged with the Federal Court on 26 March 2018 and has been case managed by the Federal Court since this time.

A connection hearing occurred in 2020 which was ultimately resolved in favour of the Applicants by way of a further agreed statement of facts filed by the Applicant and State accepting non-exclusive native title to an amended (reduced) claim area.

This hearing included Wakaman People #3 and Wakaman People #4. Council did not actively participate in this connection hearing.

Council has relied on the State to consider and assess whether sufficient evidence exists to support a determination of native title. As noted above, the State and Applicant did reach agreement in relation to an agreed basis for the recognition of non-exclusive native title.

On 18 August 2023, Justice Collier of the Federal Court made a determination of native title in relation to Wakaman #3, #4 and #5, except for one Lot in Wakaman #5 being Lot 58 on SP233811 ("Lot 58").

Lot 58 was originally part of the Township Reserve.

On 7 November 2012, Lot 58 was excised from the Township Reserve and Lot 58 was dedicated as a Reserve for Sport and Recreation Purposes.

Tablelands Regional Council was originally the Trustee of the Reserve with Mareeba Shire Council appointed as Trustee on 28 January 2014.

On 25 March 2015, a Trustee Lease in favour of the Chillagoe Bushman's Carnival Association Incorporated was registered.

The State and Applicant have reached in-principle agreement on the terms of a determination over Lot 58.

Council participated in mediation convened by Judicial Registrar Morrison attended by both representatives of the State of Queensland and North Queensland Land Council.

The purpose of the mediation was to try and reach agreement on the terms of an Indigenous Land Use Agreement to validate the dedication of the reserve, appointment of Council as Trustee and grant of the Trustee Lease including Council's ability to grant a further Trustee Lease at the expiry of the existing Lease in 2035.

Council was unable to reach agreement with the Wakaman People and the State.

As a consequence, the State and Wakaman Applicant now intend to enter into an ILUA which validates the dedication of the Reserve and existing Trustee Lease up to 31 March 2035 but not beyond.

### **Description of the Native Title Holders**

The Native Title Holders are described in Schedule 1 of the Consent Determination. The description of the native title holders is consistent with the earlier determination made in 2023.

### **Determination Area**

The determination is over Lot 58 on SP233811. Schedule 4 of the Determination will contain a plan showing Lot 58 on SP233811.

### **Proposed Determination**

The proposed determination seeks to declare that non-exclusive native title rights and interests be determined over Lot 58 (the Determination Area).

### **Council Interests**

Council is the Trustee of the Reserve which was dedicated for Sport and Recreation Purposes on 7 November 2012.

Council has also granted a Trustee Lease to the Chillagoe Bushman's Carnival Association Incorporated and developed a management plan for the Reserve.

The State and Wakaman Applicants are proposing to enter into an Indigenous Land Use Agreement to validate the Reserve and Trustee Lease until 31 March 2035 which is the end of the Trustee Lease.

The determination will include a generic public works clause which will exclude areas within Lot 58 where “public works” as defined in the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) have been constructed. No specific public works have been identified in the Determination Area.

Schedule 2 of the Determination sets out the extent of “other interests” in the Determination Area.

Importantly, the other interests prevail over any native title rights and interests which are suppressed to the extent of any inconsistency, otherwise the other interests and the native title rights and interests co-exist.

### **Finalisation of the Consent Determination**

It is noted that the attached section 87 Consent Determination for Lot 58 remains watermarked with “draft” and the State and Applicant continue to review the agreement for minor drafting amendments. As such, the draft remains confidential and without prejudice and cannot be made available to the public. Following determination by the Federal Court of Australia, the Court determination content is made available to the general public.

Resolution of Council is now required in order to finalise the section 87 Consent Determination for Lot 58 within the prescribed timeframes provided by the Court.

### **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

#### **Political and Reputational**

Council should note that continued lease tenure beyond 2035 will necessitate that the State or Council will need to negotiate an ILUA to allow further leasing of the Reserve to the Chillagoe Bushman’s Carnival Association Incorporated which may extend to re-dedicating the Reserve for Sport and Recreational Purposes.

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

#### ***Capital***

Nil.

#### ***Operating***

Nil.

### **LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN**

**Community and Culture:** An informed, engaged and resilient community which supports and encourages effective partnerships to deliver better outcomes.

**Transport and Infrastructure:** The provision of quality infrastructure to service our growing community using sound asset management principles.

**Liveability and Environment:** Improve the liveability of the Shire by enhancing amenity and valuing natural assets.

### **IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION**

Council to contact the Chillagoe Bushman’s Carnival Association Inc. to inform them of the 31 March 2035 expiry of their current trustee lease interest and discuss available land tenure options.



**8.4 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERIOD ENDING 31 JANUARY 2026**

**Date Prepared:** 4 February 2026  
**Author:** Manager Finance  
**Attachments:** 1. [Financial Statements - January 2026](#)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an overview of financial matters for the period 1 July 2025 to 31 January 2026.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives the Financial Report for the period ending 31 January 2026.

**BACKGROUND**

Each month, year to date financial statements are prepared to monitor actual performance against budgets.

For the period ending 31 January 2026, the actual results are in line with the year-to-date budget.

There are no issues or concerns to discuss or highlight at this stage. Variances are attributable to the timing of budget allocations. Operating results are tracking in line with budget, with favourable variances from interest income, third-party works, and staff vacancies offsetting higher depreciation. Based on current information, Council is forecast to deliver an on-budget result.

The current operating deficit is due to Rate Notices not being raised and issued until February, which will cover revenue for the period January to June.

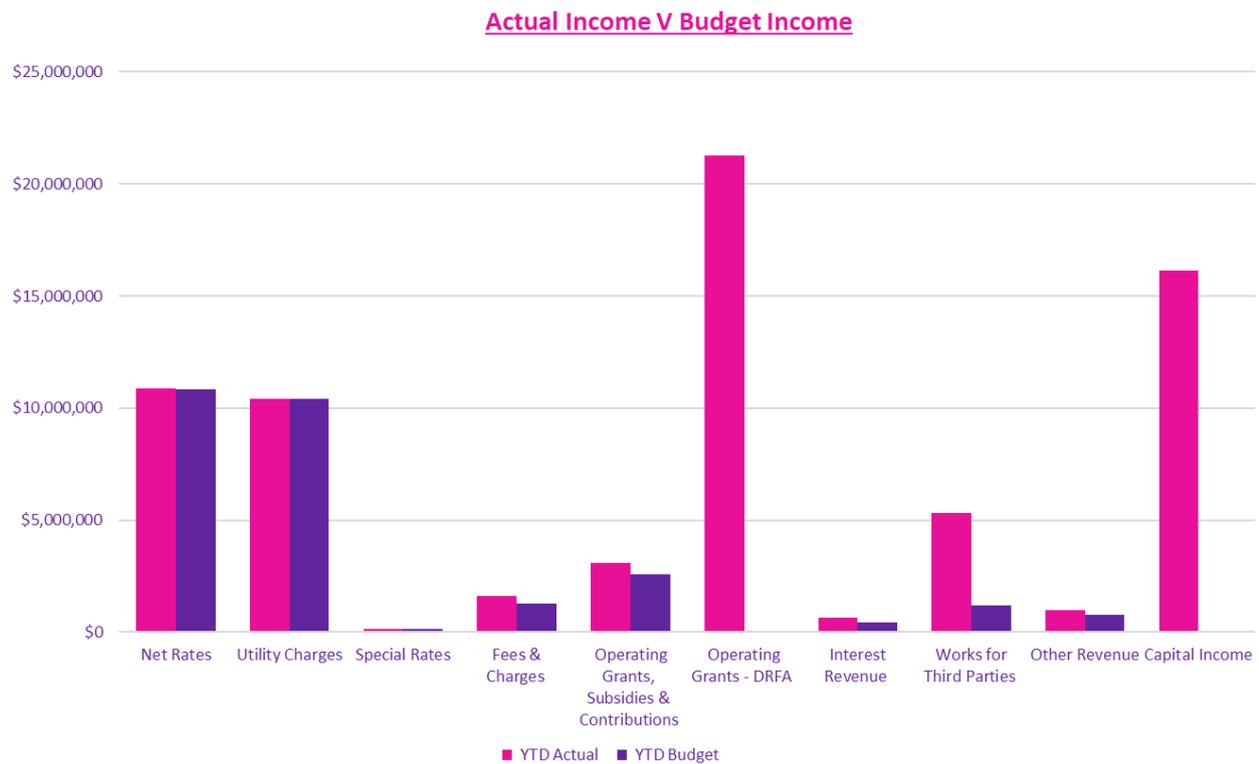
The budgeted figures reflect the 2025/26 Budget as adopted by Council at the 16 July 2025 meeting.

| <i>January 2026 – Snapshot</i>                            | Actuals YTD         | Budget YTD         |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|
| Council Operating Income                                  | \$ 33,120,243       | 27,742,276         |
| Council Operating Expenditure                             | \$ 33,791,399       | 31,718,691         |
| <b>Council Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>                | <b>\$ (671,156)</b> | <b>(3,976,415)</b> |
| Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangement - surplus/(deficit) | \$ 4,026,601        | -                  |
| <b>Total Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>                  | <b>\$ 3,355,445</b> | <b>(3,976,415)</b> |
| Total Capital Income                                      | \$ 16,130,542       | -                  |

Income Analysis

Total income for the period ending 31 January 2026 is **\$70,534,769** (which includes \$16,130,542 in capital income and \$21,283,984 in Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) income) compared to the year-to-date budget of **\$27,742,276**. The variance is primarily due to capital and DRFA income which are not budgeted for as the timing and amounts are typically unknown at the time the budget is adopted.

The graph following shows actual income against budget for the period ending 31 January 2026.



| <i>Income</i>                               | Actuals YTD          | Budget YTD        | Note     |
|---|----------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Net Rates                                   | \$ 10,894,765        | 10,855,234        | <b>1</b> |
| Utility Charges                             | \$ 10,430,839        | 10,419,064        | <b>1</b> |
| Special Rates                               | \$ 145,467           | 162,991           | <b>1</b> |
| Fees & Charges                              | \$ 1,627,187         | 1,302,208         | <b>2</b> |
| Operating Grants, Subsidies & Contributions | \$ 3,084,719         | 2,592,088         | <b>3</b> |
| Operating Grants - DRFA                     | \$ 21,283,984        | -                 | <b>4</b> |
| Interest Revenue                            | \$ 638,085           | 436,334           |          |
| Works for Third Parties                     | \$ 5,323,309         | 1,190,000         | <b>5</b> |
| Other Revenue                               | \$ 975,872           | 784,357           | <b>6</b> |
| Capital Income                              | \$ 16,130,542        | -                 | <b>7</b> |
| <b>Total Income</b>                         | <b>\$ 70,534,769</b> | <b>27,742,276</b> |          |

**Notes:**

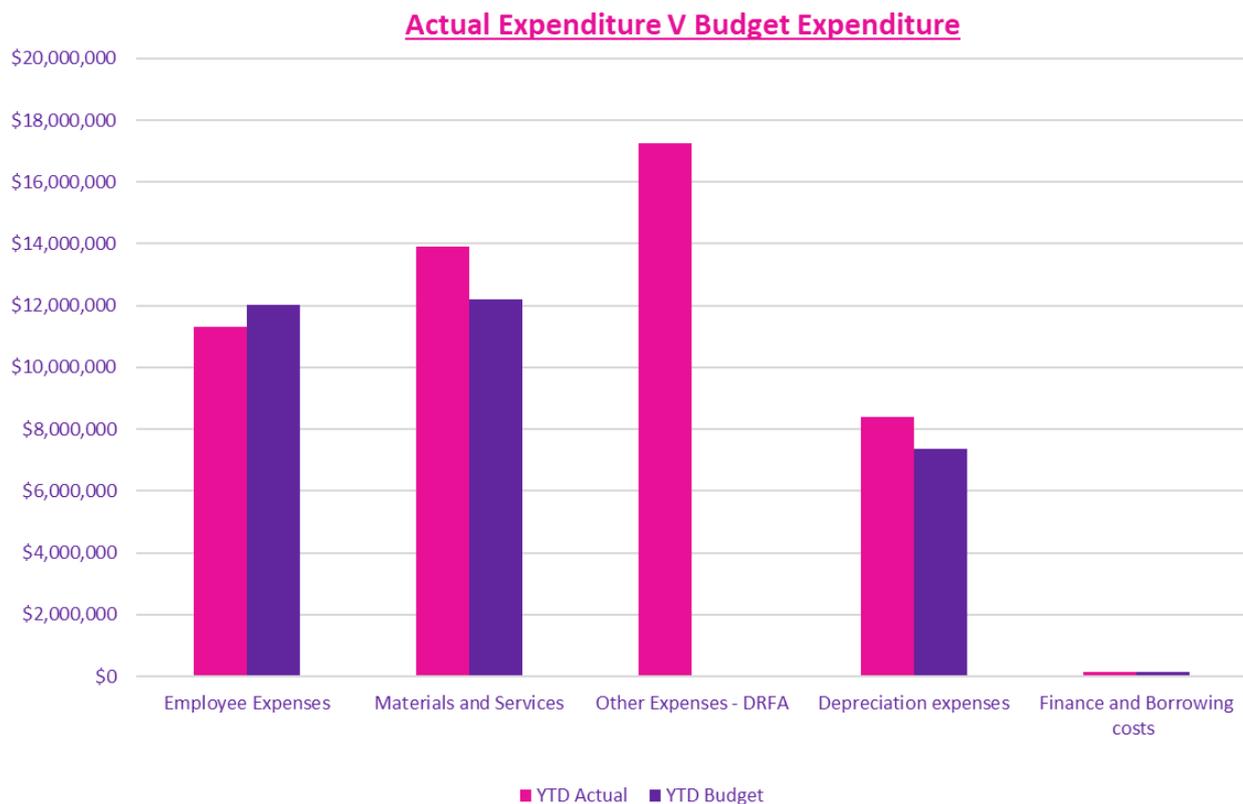
1. The rates notices for the half year ending 30 June 2026 were issued on 9 February with a discount date of 13 March.
2. Revenue from local laws, building and plumbing applications and cemeteries are trending higher than budget.

3. Due to the discretionary nature of grant funding, it is unknown what funds are available when the budget is prepared. The budgeted grant funding are all in line with expectations.
4. Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) restoration works is revenue that is not budgeted for. An expenditure offset will occur against this revenue.
5. The favourable result is due to third party works not budgeted for as well as Road Maintenance Performance Contract (RMPC) income received. RMPC income budget is allocated equally over 12 months, however actual income is not following the same trend. This will be the same for expenditure.
6. Rental income has exceeded the annual budget for Aerodrome leases due to the early receipt of annual lease income.
7. Capital income represents interest on constrained works, capital grants and developer contributions received.

Expenditure Analysis

Total expenses for the period ending 31 January 2026 amount to **\$51,048,782**, compared to the year-to-date budget of **\$31,718,691**.

The graph below shows actual expenditure against budget for the period ending 31 January 2026.



| <i>Expenses</i>             |           | <b>Actual YTD</b> | <b>Budget YTD</b> | <b>Note</b> |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Employee Expenses           | \$        | 11,311,403        | 12,026,031        | <b>1</b>    |
| Materials and Services      | \$        | 13,915,970        | 12,186,605        | <b>2</b>    |
| Other Expenses - DRFA       | \$        | 17,257,383        | -                 | <b>3</b>    |
| Depreciation Expenses       | \$        | 8,405,808         | 7,376,658         | <b>4</b>    |
| Finance and Borrowing Costs | \$        | 158,218           | 129,397           | <b>5</b>    |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>       | <b>\$</b> | <b>51,048,782</b> | <b>31,718,691</b> |             |

Notes:

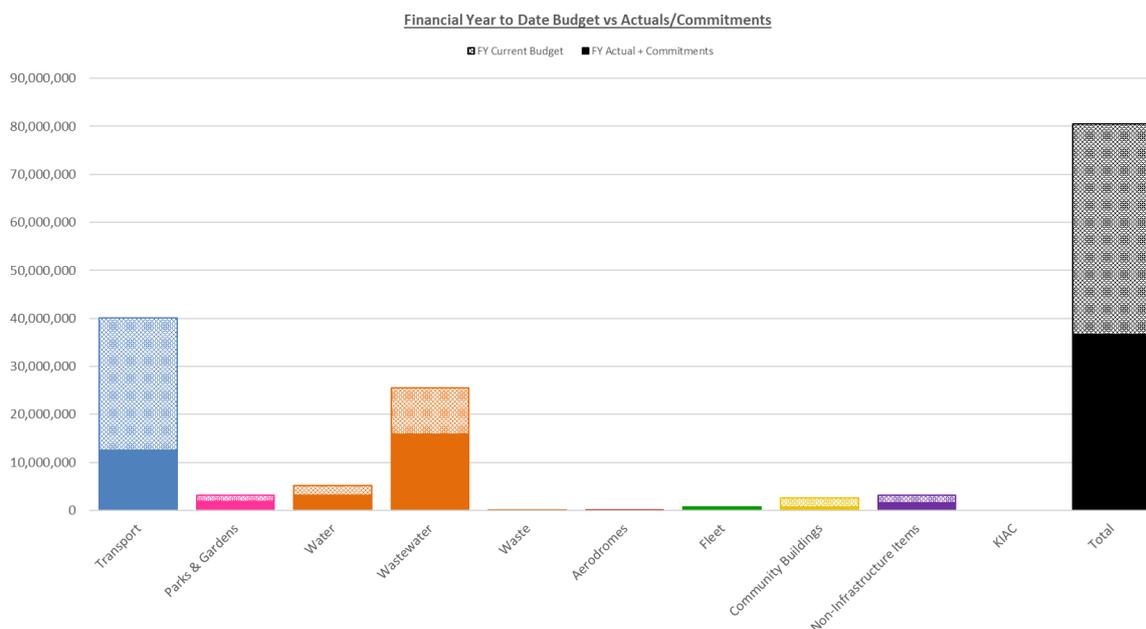
1. There are no significant issues to report. The reason for the variance in employee expenses are due to current staff vacancies and a timing issue between the fortnightly pay processing and the report preparation.
2. The majority of the variance is due to expenditure on unbudgeted third party works and the RMPC expenditure trend.
3. Expenditure incurred for the DRFA restoration works are not budgeted for. This expenditure will be offset against income.
4. Actual depreciation is higher than budget due valuation movements (road assets) and new capitalisations since the budget was adopted. Depreciation adjustments will be undertaken at year end.
5. Bank charges are higher than YTD due to budget allocation and actual expenses incurred due to rates period.

Vandalism Expenses

For the period to January, a total of **\$25,410** has been spent on repairs and maintenance due to vandalism. These costs are not budgeted include employee expenses and materials and services.

Capital Expenditure

Total capital expenditure of **\$36,632,514** (including commitments) has been incurred for the period ending 31 January 2026, against the revised 2025/26 annual capital budget of **\$80,504,478**.



Loan Borrowings

Council's loan balance is **\$5,874,061** as at 31 January 2026.

Rates and Charges

The total rates and charges receivable as at 31 January 2026 are **\$2,851,736** which is broken down as follows:

| Status                               | January 2026      |                    | January 2025      |                  |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|
|                                      | No. of properties | Amount             | No. of properties | Amount           |
| Valueless Land                       | 3                 | \$14,372           | 3                 | 9,781            |
| Payment Arrangement                  | 3                 | \$239              | 3                 | 3,302            |
| Collection House                     | 303               | \$1,306,204        | 293               | 1,189,075        |
| Exhausted – Awaiting Sale of Land    | 8                 | \$413,267          | 10                | 81,820           |
| Exhausted – Mining Leases            | 10                | \$1,002,184        | 10                | 745,824          |
| Sale of Land                         | -                 | -                  | -                 | -                |
| Other (includes supplementary rates) | 366               | \$115,470          | 413               | 100,234          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                         | <b>693</b>        | <b>\$2,851,736</b> | <b>732</b>        | <b>2,130,036</b> |

The Rate Notices for the period ending 30 June 2026 were issued on 9 February 2026 with the discount (due) date being 13 March 2026.

Collection House collected **\$118,250** for the month of January 2026.

Sundry Debtors

The total outstanding for Sundry Debtors as at 31 January 2026 was **\$1,042,325** which is made up of the following:

| Current   | 30 days | 60 days | 90 + days |
|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|
| \$520,585 | \$4,654 | \$1,690 | \$515,396 |
| 49.94%    | 0.45%   | 0.16%   | 49.45%    |

One invoice for \$501,934 is over 90 days old. It is the final claim for DRFA third-party works, which usually takes longer to pay because of audit checks.

Procurement

There were no emergency purchase orders for the month of January 2026.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**LEGAL/COMPLIANCE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires the financial report to be presented to local government if the local government holds its ordinary meetings more frequently (than once per month) - to a meeting in each month.

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN**

**Financial Sustainability and Governance:** A financially sustainable council that applies strategic decision making and good governance to deliver cost-effective services.

**IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION**

Nil

**Budgeted Income Statement by Fund 2025/26 Budget**

| <b>Consolidated</b>                     |                   |                    |                           |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
|   | <b>Actual YTD</b> | <b>Budget YTD</b>  | <b>2025/26<br/>Budget</b> |
| <b>Revenue</b>                          |                   |                    |                           |
| Rates and utility charges               | 22,729,437        | 22,668,539         | 45,337,076                |
| Less Discounts and Pensioner Remissions | (1,258,366)       | (1,231,250)        | (2,462,499)               |
| <b>Net Rates and Utility Charges</b>    | <b>21,471,071</b> | <b>21,437,289</b>  | <b>42,874,577</b>         |
| Fees and Charges                        | 1,627,187         | 1,302,208          | 2,025,000                 |
| Operating Grants and Subsidies          | 3,025,621         | 2,538,088          | 9,220,544                 |
| Operating Grants and Subsidies - DRFA   | 21,283,984        | -                  | -                         |
| Operating Contributions                 | 59,098            | 54,000             | 174,000                   |
| Interest Revenue                        | 638,085           | 436,334            | 748,000                   |
| Works for Third Parties                 | 5,323,309         | 1,190,000          | 2,040,000                 |
| Other Revenue                           | 975,872           | 784,357            | 1,338,565                 |
| <b>Total Operating Revenue</b>          | <b>54,404,227</b> | <b>27,742,276</b>  | <b>58,420,686</b>         |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                      |                   |                    |                           |
| Employee Expenses                       | 11,311,403        | 12,026,031         | 20,543,816                |
| Materials and Services                  | 13,915,970        | 12,186,605         | 20,206,091                |
| Other Expenses - DRFA                   | 17,257,383        | -                  | -                         |
| Depreciation expense                    | 8,405,808         | 7,376,658          | 12,645,712                |
| Finance and Borrowing costs             | 158,218           | 129,397            | 234,952                   |
| <b>Total Operating Expenses</b>         | <b>51,048,782</b> | <b>31,718,691</b>  | <b>53,630,571</b>         |
| <b>Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>      | <b>3,355,445</b>  | <b>(3,976,415)</b> | <b>4,790,115</b>          |
| <b>Capital Income</b>                   |                   |                    |                           |
| Capital Contributions                   | 226,099           | -                  | -                         |
| Capital Grants and Subsidies            | 19,009,025        | -                  | 15,642,392                |
| Capital Income Other                    | -                 | -                  | -                         |
| Interest on Contributions/Reserves      | 1,382,641         | -                  | -                         |
| Donated Assets                          | -                 | -                  | -                         |
| Profit/(Loss) on Sale of Asset          | (4,487,223)       | -                  | 180,000                   |
| <b>Total Capital Income</b>             | <b>16,130,542</b> | <b>-</b>           | <b>15,822,392</b>         |
| <b>Net Result</b>                       | <b>19,485,987</b> | <b>(3,976,415)</b> | <b>20,612,507</b>         |

**Budgeted Income Statement by Fund 2025/26 Budget**

| <b>General</b>                          |                    |                    |                       |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
|   | <b>Actual YTD</b>  | <b>Budget YTD</b>  | <b>2025/26 Budget</b> |
| <b>Revenue</b>                          |                    |                    |                       |
| Rates and utility charges               | 12,220,709         | 12,171,785         | 24,343,570            |
| Less Discounts and Pensioner Remissions | (1,258,366)        | (1,230,275)        | (2,460,549)           |
| <b>Net Rates and Utility Charges</b>    | <b>10,962,343</b>  | <b>10,941,510</b>  | <b>21,883,021</b>     |
| Fees and Charges                        | 1,076,402          | 857,416            | 1,262,500             |
| Operating Grants and Subsidies          | 2,706,226          | 2,413,198          | 8,925,394             |
| Operating Contributions                 | -                  | -                  | -                     |
| Interest Revenue                        | 309,731            | 302,167            | 518,000               |
| Works for Third Parties                 | 5,300,876          | 1,190,000          | 2,040,000             |
| Other Revenue                           | 854,813            | 656,107            | 1,141,565             |
| <b>Total Operating Revenue</b>          | <b>21,210,391</b>  | <b>16,360,398</b>  | <b>35,770,480</b>     |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                      |                    |                    |                       |
| Employee Expenses                       | 10,149,402         | 10,603,364         | 18,086,687            |
| Materials and Services                  | 7,929,489          | 5,393,926          | 8,635,678             |
| Depreciation expense                    | 5,857,732          | 5,094,580          | 8,733,577             |
| Finance and Borrowing costs             | 103,323            | 83,441             | 143,041               |
| <b>Total Operating Expenses</b>         | <b>24,039,946</b>  | <b>21,175,311</b>  | <b>35,598,983</b>     |
| <b>Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>      | <b>(2,829,555)</b> | <b>(4,814,913)</b> | <b>171,497</b>        |
| <b>Capital Income</b>                   |                    |                    |                       |
| Capital Contributions                   | 225,735            | -                  | -                     |
| Capital Grants and Subsidies            | 7,027,180          | -                  | 12,478,691            |
| Capital Income Other                    | -                  | -                  | -                     |
| Interest on Contributions/Reserves      | 1,115,486          | -                  | -                     |
| Donated Assets                          | -                  | -                  | -                     |
| Profit/(Loss) on Sale of Asset          | (4,139,867)        | -                  | 180,000               |
| <b>Total Capital Income</b>             | <b>4,228,534</b>   | <b>-</b>           | <b>12,658,691</b>     |
| <b>Net Result</b>                       | <b>1,398,979</b>   | <b>(4,814,913)</b> | <b>12,830,188</b>     |

**Budgeted Income Statement by Fund 2025/26 Budget**

| <b>Disaster Recovery Funding</b>        |                   |                   |                       |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
|   | <b>Actual YTD</b> | <b>Budget YTD</b> | <b>2025/26 Budget</b> |
| <b>Revenue</b>                          |                   |                   |                       |
| Rates and utility charges               | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Less Discounts and Pensioner Remissions | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| <b>Net Rates and Utility Charges</b>    | <b>-</b>          | <b>-</b>          | <b>-</b>              |
| Fees and Charges                        | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Operating Grants and Subsidies          | 21,283,984        | -                 | -                     |
| Operating Contributions                 | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Interest Revenue                        | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Works for Third Parties                 | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Other Revenue                           | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| <b>Total Operating Revenue</b>          | <b>21,283,984</b> | <b>-</b>          | <b>-</b>              |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                      |                   |                   |                       |
| Employee Expenses                       | 177,020           | -                 | -                     |
| Materials and Services                  | 17,080,363        | -                 | -                     |
| Depreciation expense                    | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Finance and Borrowing costs             | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| <b>Total Operating Expenses</b>         | <b>17,257,383</b> | <b>-</b>          | <b>-</b>              |
| <b>Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>      | <b>4,026,601</b>  | <b>-</b>          | <b>-</b>              |
| <b>Capital Income</b>                   |                   |                   |                       |
| Capital Contributions                   | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Capital Grants and Subsidies            | 4,866,949         | -                 | -                     |
| Capital Income Other                    | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Interest on Contributions/Reserves      | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Donated Assets                          | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Profit/(Loss) on Sale of Asset          | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| <b>Total Capital Income</b>             | <b>4,866,949</b>  | <b>-</b>          | <b>-</b>              |
| <b>Net Result</b>                       | <b>8,893,550</b>  | <b>-</b>          | <b>-</b>              |

**Budgeted Income Statement by Fund 2025/26 Budget**

| <b>Waste</b>                            |                   |                   |                       |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
|   | <b>Actual YTD</b> | <b>Budget YTD</b> | <b>2025/26 Budget</b> |
| <b>Revenue</b>                          |                   |                   |                       |
| Rates and utility charges               | 2,556,810         | 2,532,254         | 5,064,507             |
| Less Discounts and Pensioner Remissions | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| <b>Net Rates and Utility Charges</b>    | <b>2,556,810</b>  | <b>2,532,254</b>  | <b>5,064,507</b>      |
| Fees and Charges                        | 419,537           | 352,042           | 603,500               |
| Operating Grants and Subsidies          | 313,640           | 124,890           | 208,150               |
| Operating Contributions                 | 59,098            | 54,000            | 54,000                |
| Interest Revenue                        | 89,894            | 46,667            | 80,000                |
| Works for Third Parties                 | 15,517            | -                 | -                     |
| Other Revenue                           | 89,881            | 96,250            | 165,000               |
| <b>Total Operating Revenue</b>          | <b>3,544,377</b>  | <b>3,206,103</b>  | <b>6,175,157</b>      |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                      |                   |                   |                       |
| Employee Expenses                       | 69,473            | 102,882           | 177,117               |
| Materials and Services                  | 2,630,752         | 3,579,962         | 6,056,398             |
| Depreciation expense                    | 143,055           | 140,622           | 241,066               |
| Finance and Borrowing costs             | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| <b>Total Operating Expenses</b>         | <b>2,843,280</b>  | <b>3,823,466</b>  | <b>6,474,581</b>      |
| <b>Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>      | <b>701,097</b>    | <b>(617,363)</b>  | <b>(299,424)</b>      |
| <b>Capital Income</b>                   |                   |                   |                       |
| Capital Contributions                   | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Capital Grants and Subsidies            | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Capital Income Other                    | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Interest on Contributions/Reserves      | 80,196            | -                 | -                     |
| Donated Assets                          | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Profit/(Loss) on Sale of Asset          | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| <b>Total Capital Income</b>             | <b>80,196</b>     | <b>-</b>          | <b>-</b>              |
| <b>Net Result</b>                       | <b>781,293</b>    | <b>(617,363)</b>  | <b>(299,424)</b>      |

**Budgeted Income Statement by Fund 2025/26 Budget**

| <b>Wastewater</b>                       |                   |                   |                       |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
|   | <b>Actual YTD</b> | <b>Budget YTD</b> | <b>2025/26 Budget</b> |
| <b>Revenue</b>                          |                   |                   |                       |
| Rates and utility charges               | 3,410,341         | 3,368,328         | 6,736,656             |
| Less Discounts and Pensioner Remissions | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| <b>Net Rates and Utility Charges</b>    | <b>3,410,341</b>  | <b>3,368,328</b>  | <b>6,736,656</b>      |
| Fees and Charges                        | 48,644            | 44,333            | 76,000                |
| Operating Grants and Subsidies          | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Operating Contributions                 | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Interest Revenue                        | 95,017            | 58,333            | 100,000               |
| Works for Third Parties                 | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Other Revenue                           | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| <b>Total Operating Revenue</b>          | <b>3,554,002</b>  | <b>3,470,994</b>  | <b>6,912,656</b>      |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                      |                   |                   |                       |
| Employee Expenses                       | 396,428           | 440,289           | 758,043               |
| Materials and Services                  | 1,217,183         | 1,214,742         | 1,999,376             |
| Depreciation expense                    | 1,243,851         | 1,150,136         | 1,971,662             |
| Finance and Borrowing costs             | 54,895            | 45,956            | 91,911                |
| <b>Total Operating Expenses</b>         | <b>2,912,357</b>  | <b>2,851,123</b>  | <b>4,820,992</b>      |
| <b>Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>      | <b>641,645</b>    | <b>619,871</b>    | <b>2,091,664</b>      |
| <b>Capital Income</b>                   |                   |                   |                       |
| Capital Contributions                   | 364               | -                 | -                     |
| Capital Grants and Subsidies            | 5,963,756         | -                 | 1,949,000             |
| Capital Income Other                    | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Interest on Contributions/Reserves      | 122,476           | -                 | -                     |
| Donated Assets                          | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Profit/(Loss) on Sale of Asset          | (201,930)         | -                 | -                     |
| <b>Total Capital Income</b>             | <b>5,884,666</b>  | <b>-</b>          | <b>1,949,000</b>      |
| <b>Net Result</b>                       | <b>6,526,311</b>  | <b>619,871</b>    | <b>4,040,664</b>      |

**Budgeted Income Statement by Fund 2025/26 Budget**

| <b>Water</b>                            |                   |                   |                       |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
|   | <b>Actual YTD</b> | <b>Budget YTD</b> | <b>2025/26 Budget</b> |
| <b>Revenue</b>                          |                   |                   |                       |
| Rates and utility charges               | 4,463,688         | 4,518,482         | 9,036,964             |
| Less Discounts and Pensioner Remissions | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| <b>Net Rates and Utility Charges</b>    | <b>4,463,688</b>  | <b>4,518,482</b>  | <b>9,036,964</b>      |
| Fees and Charges                        | 82,604            | 48,417            | 83,000                |
| Operating Grants and Subsidies          | 5,755             | -                 | 87,000                |
| Operating Contributions                 | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Interest Revenue                        | 96,618            | 29,167            | 50,000                |
| Works for Third Parties                 | 6,916             | -                 | -                     |
| Other Revenue                           | 31,178            | 32,000            | 32,000                |
| <b>Total Operating Revenue</b>          | <b>4,686,759</b>  | <b>4,628,066</b>  | <b>9,288,964</b>      |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                      |                   |                   |                       |
| Employee Expenses                       | 696,100           | 879,496           | 1,521,969             |
| Materials and Services                  | 2,092,695         | 1,923,646         | 3,415,789             |
| Depreciation expense                    | 1,120,339         | 953,955           | 1,635,352             |
| Finance and Borrowing costs             | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| <b>Total Operating Expenses</b>         | <b>3,909,134</b>  | <b>3,757,097</b>  | <b>6,573,110</b>      |
| <b>Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>      | <b>777,625</b>    | <b>870,969</b>    | <b>2,715,854</b>      |
| <b>Capital Income</b>                   |                   |                   |                       |
| Capital Contributions                   | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Capital Grants and Subsidies            | 1,151,140         | -                 | 1,214,701             |
| Capital Income Other                    | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Interest on Contributions/Reserves      | 52,225            | -                 | -                     |
| Donated Assets                          | -                 | -                 | -                     |
| Profit/(Loss) on Sale of Asset          | (145,426)         | -                 | -                     |
| <b>Total Capital Income</b>             | <b>1,057,939</b>  | <b>-</b>          | <b>1,214,701</b>      |
| <b>Net Result</b>                       | <b>1,835,564</b>  | <b>870,969</b>    | <b>3,930,555</b>      |

**Budgeted Income Statement by Fund 2025/26 Budget**

| <b>Benefited Area</b>                   |                   |                   |                           |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
|   | <b>Actual YTD</b> | <b>Budget YTD</b> | <b>2025/26<br/>Budget</b> |
| <b>Revenue</b>                          |                   |                   |                           |
| Rates and utility charges               | 77,889            | 77,690            | 155,379                   |
| Less Discounts and Pensioner Remissions | -                 | (975)             | (1,950)                   |
| <b>Net Rates and Utility Charges</b>    | <b>77,889</b>     | <b>76,715</b>     | <b>153,429</b>            |
| Fees and Charges                        | -                 | -                 | -                         |
| Operating Grants and Subsidies          | -                 | -                 | -                         |
| Operating Contributions                 | -                 | -                 | 120,000                   |
| Interest Revenue                        | 46,825            | -                 | -                         |
| Works for Third Parties                 | -                 | -                 | -                         |
| Other Revenue                           | -                 | -                 | -                         |
| <b>Total Operating Revenue</b>          | <b>124,714</b>    | <b>76,715</b>     | <b>273,429</b>            |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                      |                   |                   |                           |
| Employee Expenses                       | -                 | -                 | -                         |
| Materials and Services                  | 45,851            | 74,329            | 98,850                    |
| Depreciation expense                    | 40,831            | 37,365            | 64,055                    |
| Finance and Borrowing costs             | -                 | -                 | -                         |
| <b>Total Operating Expenses</b>         | <b>86,682</b>     | <b>111,694</b>    | <b>162,905</b>            |
| <b>Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>      | <b>38,032</b>     | <b>(34,979)</b>   | <b>110,524</b>            |
| <b>Capital Income</b>                   |                   |                   |                           |
| Capital Contributions                   | -                 | -                 | -                         |
| Capital Grants and Subsidies            | -                 | -                 | -                         |
| Capital Income Other                    | -                 | -                 | -                         |
| Interest on Contributions/Reserves      | 12,258            | -                 | -                         |
| Donated Assets                          | -                 | -                 | -                         |
| Profit/(Loss) on Sale of Asset          | -                 | -                 | -                         |
| <b>Total Capital Income</b>             | <b>12,258</b>     | <b>-</b>          | <b>-</b>                  |
| <b>Net Result</b>                       | <b>50,290</b>     | <b>(34,979)</b>   | <b>110,524</b>            |



**8.5 MAREEBA SHIRE LOCAL HOUSING ACTION PLAN UPDATE**

**Date Prepared:** 5 February 2026  
**Author:** Manager Customer and Community Services  
**Attachments:** Nil

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of the Mareeba Shire Local Housing Action Plan, noting that the tenure transfer is now to be by way of term lease rather than freehold subdivision.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Receives the Mareeba Shire Local Housing Action Plan update; and
2. Rescind point three (3) of resolution 2024/207 dated 20 November 2024 *“that Council Intends to subdivide and freehold all lots with social housing dwellings in order to divest the properties to the preferred provider, Mareeba Community Housing Company, with costs met by the funded social housing service”*; and
3. Consent to the handling of reserve land tenure related dealings for divestment of social housing dwellings by operation of a Term Lease approach with The Mareeba Community Housing Company as lessee and the State of Queensland as lessor.

**BACKGROUND**

Under the Queensland Government’s *Queensland Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2025*, each Queensland council was required to prepare a plan that will provide council *“with a dedicated pathway for implementing specific, localised housing outcomes with the support of dedicated project resources in the State government.”*

At its Ordinary Meeting of 24 January 2024, Council resolved to adopt the Mareeba Shire Local Housing Action Plan. Nine actions of the 20 in this Plan have been completed.

|     | Land and Development  | Timeline | Update  |
|-----|---|----------|---------|
| 1.1 | Promote the availability of affordable land for residential development in Mareeba. | Ongoing  | Ongoing |

|     | Planning  | Timeline   | Update      |
|-----|---|------------|-------------|
| 2.1 | Propose FNQROC investigates feasibility of Tiny Homes as viable solution to housing crisis in Far North Queensland.   | May 2024   | Completed   |
| 2.2 | Prepare a Fact Sheet on Rural Worker Accommodation outlining factors for consideration in the development application, e.g. importance of site selection and considering impact on road network, community integration opportunities, neighbours etc. | Early 2024 | In progress |

- 2.3 Amend *Local Law #1 Schedule 9 Establishment or occupation of a temporary home* to allow approval of an extension of the current 4 weeks by application to Council. The proposal is to provide the ability to approve a caravan or RV to be located in a dwelling allotment for up to 6 months in a 12 month period for occupation by friends or family with no payment made and set conditions applying.
- January to September 2024      Completed

| ○ | Optimisation | Timeline | Update |
|---|--------------|----------|--------|
|---|--------------|----------|--------|

- 3.1 Liaise with the Queensland Government regarding the outcome of the State’s recent land audit and investigate development opportunities.
- From January 2024      Ongoing

| ○ | Master planning | Timeline | Update |
|---|-----------------|----------|--------|
|---|-----------------|----------|--------|

- 4.1 Consider recommending new residential subdivision developments include an integrated mix of lot sizes including smaller lots with a maximum area of 400sqm.
- June 2024      Ongoing
- 4.2 Advocate for the development of a Rural Worker Accommodation and Support Strategy perhaps through FNQROC
- July 2024      Completed

| ○ | Supports | Timeline | Update |
|---|----------|----------|--------|
|---|----------|----------|--------|

- 5.1 Promote Secondary Dwellings and Dual Occupancy by preparing a Fact Sheet and disseminate information about Secondary Dwellings (Granny Flats) and Dual Occupancy (duplex).
- July 2024      In progress
- 5.2 Review trunk infrastructure charges for residential development.
- 2024/2025      Completed
- 5.3 Review trunk infrastructure charging fees for secondary dwellings, duplex and multi-unit development.
- July 2024      Completed
- 5.4 Hold an ‘Open House’ with the community and industry invited to share information, encourage discussion and dialogue about options to build more affordable housing of diverse types.
- June 2024      Ongoing

| ○ | People in need | Timeline | Update |
|---|----------------|----------|--------|
|---|----------------|----------|--------|

- 6.1 Finalise negotiations with the Queensland Government to divest Council’s community housing for seniors stock to Mareeba Community Housing Company for leveraging the construction of new stock.
- Completion by December 2024      Ongoing
- 6.2 Advocate to State government to consult with First Nations peoples to provide input into Indigenous housing design.
- Ongoing      Ongoing
- 6.3 Advocate to State government for additional local social supports and health service delivery in Mareeba Shire.
- Ongoing      Completed
- 6.4 Advocate to State and Federal governments to provide funding for the construction and operation of suitable crisis accommodation models in regional and rural contexts.
- Ongoing      Completed

- 6.5 Advocate to State and Federal governments to provide funding for more residential care beds and in-home care packages for older residents. Ongoing Completed

| ○ Construction  | Timeline                | Update      |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|
| 7.1 Build new social housing for seniors duplex approved by the State.  | March 2023 to June 2024 | Completed   |
| 7.2 Consider building a second duplex for seniors with State funding.   | July 2024 to June 2025  | Progressing |
| 7.3 Advocate to State and Federal governments for incentives to build more residential housing in rural and regional locations that appeal to ‘Mum and Dad’ investors as well as corporate investors. Consider linking incentives such as income tax and stamp duty deductions for new residential housing that meets demonstrated local needs. | From March 2024         | Ongoing     |

| ○ Capital solutions   | Timeline                    | Update  |
|---|-----------------------------|---------|
| 8.1 Finalise negotiations with the Queensland Government to divest Council’s community housing for seniors stock to Mareeba Community Housing Company to leverage the construction of new stock without requiring the injection of State capital. | Completion by December 2024 | Ongoing |

**Community Housing Divestment**

At its Ordinary Meeting of 20 November 2024, based on advice from Department of Housing and Public Works (DHPW), Council resolved to formalise consent for the proposed freeholding approach to handling of land tenure related dealings under the Proposal – resolution 2024/207 point three (3) *“That Council Intends to subdivide and freehold all lots with social housing dwellings in order to divest the properties to the preferred provider, Mareeba Community Housing Company, with costs met by the funded social housing service.”*

DNRMMRRD subsequently advised that a freeholding transaction at nil consideration would not be supported due to legislative constraints under the *Land Regulation 2020* (Qld) (Land Regulation) and relevant State policy governing conversion of the subject operational reserves to freehold interest.

Alternatives were proposed by DNRMMRRD for a revised handling of the underlying tenure aspect, the most favourable being for the State to retain vested ownership of the reserves and for the Mareeba Community Housing Company (MCHC) to apply for a Term Lease directly with the State as lessor. This revised approach additionally provides for assurance that the reserves continue to be utilised for social housing into the future.

It should be noted that the Shire continues to be impacted by the ongoing social housing availability crisis. Whilst Council and MCHC progress planning towards divestment, interim work continues to address this concern, inclusive of the ongoing construction of further social housing units. Whilst Council remains the trustee of the underlying reserves, Council has no financial interest in these units therefore, they are not reflected in the overall figures represented in the Proposal.

Given the revised approach to the tenure related aspects of the Proposal as originally presented to Council on 20 November 2024, the matter is herewith returned to Council for renewed consent to proceed with the revised approach.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS****Financial**

Construction of new units are met by government funding and divestment costs are met by the funded social housing service.

**Service Delivery and IT**

Continuity of service will be maintained for tenants as MCHC is the current property and tenancy manager.

**LEGAL/COMPLIANCE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Final Department of Housing approval for the housing divestment proposal required.

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS*****Capital***

Nil.

***Operating***

The social housing service has sufficient funds held in reserve to cover divestment costs and support future housing development.

***Is the expenditure noted above included in the current budget?***

Yes.

**LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN**

**Financial Sustainability and Governance:** A financially sustainable council that applies strategic decision making and good governance to deliver cost-effective services.

**Community and Culture:** An informed, engaged and resilient community which supports and encourages effective partnerships to deliver better outcomes.

**Transport and Infrastructure:** The provision of quality infrastructure to service our growing community using sound asset management principles.

**Economy and Growth:** Promote and encourage investment in local industry to build a resilient economy.

**IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION**

**8.6 OPERATIONAL PLAN 2025/26 PROGRESS REPORT**

**Date Prepared:** 23 January 2026

**Author:** Director Corporate and Community Services

**Attachments:** 1. [Operational Plan Progress Report October to December 2025](#) [↓](#)

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The attached report provides information regarding the progress of the 2025/26 Operational Plan projects.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives and notes the progress report on the implementation of the 2025/26 Operational Plan for the period October to December 2025.

**BACKGROUND**

The Local Government Regulation 2012 provides that a local government must prepare and adopt an annual operational plan for each year. The Operational Plan is a statement of specific works to be undertaken and services to be provided to progress the goals and objectives set out in a Council's Corporate Plan over a period of one (1) year.

Council adopted the Operational Plan for 2025/26 on 18 June 2025.

In accordance with section 174(3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the Chief Executive Officer must present a written assessment of the local government's progress towards implementing the annual operational plan at meetings of the local government held at regular intervals of not more than three (3) months.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS****LEGAL/COMPLIANCE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

It is a statutory requirement for an assessment of progress in implementing the Operational Plan to be presented to Council at least on a quarterly basis.

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS*****Capital***

Nil

***Operating***

Nil

| Financial Sustainability and Governance  |                            |  |                                  |   |  |   |
|--|----------------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|--|---|
| "A financially sustainable council that applies strategic decision making and good governance to deliver cost-effective services." |                            |  |                                  |   |  |   |
| Project  | Corporate Plan Ref         | Corporate Plan Goal  | Business Section                 | Performance Measures  | Actions Taken October to December 2025   | Progress: Not commenced In Progress Completed                 |
| Long-term Financial Plan   | <b>FG 1</b>                | Effective and sustainable financial management   | Finance                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure Long Term Asset Management Plan and Financial Plan aligns with revised Sub-Asset Management Plans and Local Government Infrastructure Plan</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long term asset management and financial plan adopted July 2025 and aligns with updated sub-asset management plans and Local Government Infrastructure plan.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed</li> </ul>   |
| Comprehensive Asset Revaluations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Footpaths</li> </ul>                                      | <b>FG 1</b>                | Effective and sustainable financial management Sustainable Infrastructure for the future | Finance                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprehensive revaluations</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information provided to external valuers to undertake revaluations</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In Progress</li> </ul> |
| Internal Access to Financial Information   | <b>FG 2</b><br><b>FG 3</b> | Effective Business Management A Skilled and Sustainable Workforce                        | Finance                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More users able to operate financial systems and locate relevant documentation</li> <li>Provide in-house training and support</li> </ul>                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued improvements on reporting options and training available as requested.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>     |
| Information Systems Strategy implementation  | <b>FG 2</b>                | Effective business management  | Information Systems & Governance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to provide further system enhancements</li> <li>Transition Technology One to CiAnywhere</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deployment of Employee Self Service (ESS) functionally complete.</li> <li>Work commenced on migration of Property &amp; Rating suite to CiA.</li> </ul>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> </ul> |
| Sustainable Workforce  | <b>FG 3</b>                | A skilled and sustainable workforce  | Human Resources                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training and development to improve efficiencies and ensure workplace safety</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organisation wide training program continues to meet the requirements of Council</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> </ul> |

| Financial Sustainability and Governance  |                    |                                     |                                  |  |  |   |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|---|
| "A financially sustainable council that applies strategic decision making and good governance to deliver cost-effective services." |                    |                                     |                                  |  |  |   |
| Project  | Corporate Plan Ref | Corporate Plan Goal                 | Business Section                 | Performance Measures   | Actions Taken October to December 2025   | Progress: Not commenced In Progress Completed                 |
| Workforce Management   | <b>FG 3</b>        | A skilled and sustainable workforce | Human Resources                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review recruitment process and employer branding initiatives</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of recruitment software is operational</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed</li> </ul>   |
| Cybersecurity Enhancements   | <b>FG 4</b>        | Effective governance                | Information Systems & Governance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to monitor security measures as defined by the ACSC Essential 8</li> <li>Renew incident response partnership</li> <li>Continue cyber awareness and response training</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of cybersecurity measures</li> <li>Ongoing phishing awareness training</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> </ul> |
| Compliance Monitoring  | <b>FG 4</b>        | Effective governance                | Human Resources                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comply with relevant legislative requirements</li> <li>Comply with requirements of the LGW Mutual Risk Obligation program</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full compliance with employee related legislative requirements met</li> <li>All requirements of LGW mutual risk obligations program completed.</li> <li>Safety Management System in place and being implemented.</li> </ul>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> </ul> |
| Accountable Decision Making  | <b>FG 4</b>        | Effective governance                | All                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fulfil Audit Committee objectives including implementation of Internal Audit Plan</li> <li>Achieve External Audit compliance</li> <li>Prepare and present Annual Report in line with statutory and regulatory requirements</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual Internal Audit Plan adopted at 30 September 2025 Audit Committee</li> <li>External Audit completed by QAO and presented to 30 September 2025 Audit Committee</li> <li>Annual Report presented to 15 October Council meeting</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> </ul> |

| Community and Culture   |                    |   |   |   |   |  |
|---|--------------------|---|---|---|---|--|
| "An informed, engaged and resilient community which supports and encourages effective partnerships to deliver better outcomes." |                    |   |   |   |   |  |
| Project   | Corporate Plan Ref | Corporate Plan Goal   | Business Section  | Performance Measures  | Actions Taken October to December 2025  | Progress: Not commenced In Progress Completed                                  |
| Arts Connection to Tourism  | CC 2               | A vibrant and healthy community                                     | Customer & Community  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote public art trail</li> <li>Implement Regional Art Development Fund (RADF) community grant round</li> <li>Implement arts sector capability building activities through RADF</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RADF Community Grant round executed 15 October 2025. Applicants notified.</li> <li>2024/2025 RADF Program outcomes presented to Council 17 December 2025.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> </ul>                  |
| Enhanced Online Presence  | CC 1               | An engaged community  | All   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved access to online information and services</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improvements to e-recruiting via Council website and integration with Scout Talent.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> </ul>                  |
| Community Safety  | CC 2<br>EG 2       | A vibrant and healthy community<br>Effective strategic partnerships | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customer &amp; Community</li> <li>Office of the CEO</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for community safety</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocacy undertaken with State Member regarding social housing issues.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> </ul>                  |
| Disaster Resilience   | CC 3               | A resilient community   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customer &amp; Community</li> <li>Office of the CEO</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote resilience through Get Ready initiatives</li> <li>Support LDMG</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LDMG Community Support Sub-Group annual meeting held 22 October 2025.</li> <li>2 officers appointed (through State and Federal Funding) to develop community resilience network across the Shire and increase the level of preparedness within the community.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed</li> <li>Completed</li> </ul> |

| <b>Transport and Infrastructure</b><br>“The provision of quality infrastructure to service our growing community using sound asset management principles.” |  |   |   |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|---|--|
| Project  | Corporate Plan Ref                       | Corporate Plan Goal   | Business Section  | Performance Measures   | Actions Taken October to December 2025   | Progress: Not commenced In Progress Completed                 |  |
| Review Asset Management Plans across asset classes   | TI 1<br><br>TI 2<br><br>LE 1<br><br>FG 1 | Safe, reliable and resilient infrastructure<br>Sustainable Infrastructure for the future<br>Attractive and accessible public facilities<br>Effective and sustainable financial management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assets &amp; Projects</li> <li>Technical Services</li> <li>Finance</li> <li>Works</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake data verification</li> <li>Undertake condition assessment and defect identification across individual asset classes.</li> <li>Document and review maintenance prioritisation and operational activities</li> <li>Improvement of asset management processes to be reflected in Long Term Asset Management Plan and Long-Term Financial Plan</li> <li>Undertake interim amendment of LGIP and incorporate into LTAMP</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuous improvement in data, condition assessment, defect identification, maintenance prioritisation and operational activities continue across various asset classes</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> </ul> |  |
| Restoration of assets damaged by disasters   | TI 1                                     | Safe, reliable and resilient infrastructure   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disaster Recovery</li> <li>Works</li> <li>Water &amp; Waste</li> </ul>                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rectify disaster impacted infrastructure assets in accordance with funding guidelines and approvals</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restoration works continue across shire. Delivery of 90% of TC Jasper related projects.</li> <li>Most approval received for 2025 event related damage.</li> </ul>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> </ul> |  |
| Secure Water Supply  | TI 1                                     | Safe, reliable and resilient infrastructure   | Water & Waste   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement water treatment and reticulation asset renewal projects</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuing installation of new water mains</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> </ul> |  |

| <b>Transport and Infrastructure</b><br>“The provision of quality infrastructure to service our growing community using sound asset management principles.” |   |  |  |   |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|---|--|
| Project  | Corporate Plan Ref                      | Corporate Plan Goal  | Business Section   | Performance Measures  | Actions Taken October to December 2025   | Progress: Not commenced In Progress Completed                   |  |
| Roads Strategy   | TI 1<br><br>TI 2<br><br>EG1             | Safe, reliable and resilient infrastructure<br>Sustainable Infrastructure for the future<br>Sustainable economic development and growth  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Works</li> <li>• Assets &amp; Projects</li> <li>• Technical Services</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalise preparation of Roads Strategy</li> </ul>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of Council’s maintained road network is progressing to inform priorities and opportunities for Roads Strategy</li> </ul>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In progress</li> </ul> |  |
| Mareeba CBD Blueprint  | TI 1<br><br>TI 2<br><br>LE 1<br><br>EG1 | Safe, reliable and resilient infrastructure<br>Sustainable Infrastructure for the future<br>Attractive and accessible public facilities<br>Sustainable economic development and growth | Assets & Projects  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress development of Mareeba CBD Blueprint</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mareeba CBD Phase 2: preparation of Draft Masterplan commenced for adoption by Council in 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2025/26</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In progress</li> </ul> |  |

| <b>Liveability and Environment</b><br>"Improve the liveability of the Shire by enhancing amenity and valuing natural assets" |                    |   |  |  |   |   |  |
|--|--------------------|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| Project  | Corporate Plan Ref | Corporate Plan Goal   | Business Section   | Performance Measures   | Actions Taken October to December 2025  | Progress: Not commenced In Progress Completed   |  |
| Waste Management Services Strategy   | LE 3               | Environmentally responsible service delivery                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water &amp; Waste</li> <li>Finance</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and update Waste Strategy to align with Regional Waste Plan and Council's future waste management needs</li> </ul>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moved into Due Diligence with Remondis for Council's Waste Management Services</li> <li>Kerbside waste collections tenders assessed for Council's review in 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2025/26</li> <li>Waste management services contract extension to be applied (waste transfer Stations) for a further 12 months to finalise Council's Waste Strategy</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> <li>In progress</li> <li>In progress</li> </ul> |  |
| Planning Scheme Review   | LE 2               | Sustainable Planning and protection of environmental assets | Planning & Building  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake 10 Year review of MSC Planning Scheme and supporting documents</li> <li>Provide updated planning data for LGIP renewal</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awaiting outcome of funding application before commencing Planning Scheme update</li> <li>Schedule of Works updated to support interim amendment of LGIP</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> <li>In progress</li> </ul>                      |  |
| Reef Guardian Council  | LE 2               | Sustainable Planning and protection of environmental assets | Technical Services   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement Reef Guardian Action Plan</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of Action Plan continues</li> <li>Manhole replacement project nearing completion</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>   |  |

| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Economy and Growth</b><br/>                     “Promote and encourage investment in local industry to build a resilient economy.”</p> |                    |   |                   |  |  |  |  |
|--|--------------------|---|-------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Project  | Corporate Plan Ref | Corporate Plan Goal                         | Business Section  | Performance Measures   | Actions Taken October to December 2025   | Progress: Not commenced In Progress Completed                                      |  |
| Strategic Partnerships   | EG 2               | Effective strategic partnerships            | Office of the CEO | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue active participation in FNQROC</li> <li>Continue to Advocate to State and Federal Governments for key priorities</li> <li>Continue to support LTO and Chamber of Commerce</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing FNQROC meetings</li> <li>FNQROC delegation to State and Federal Government October 2025.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> </ul>                      |  |
|  | CC 2               | A vibrant and healthy community             |                   |  |  |  |  |
|  | TI 2               | Sustainable Infrastructure for the future   |                   |  |  |  |  |
|  | LE 1               | Attractive and accessible public facilities |                   |  |  |  |  |
|  | EG1                | Sustainable economic development growth     |                   |  |  |  |  |
| Housing Strategy   | EG 1               | Sustainable economic development and growth | All               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement Local Housing Action Plan (LHAP) initiatives</li> <li>Divest Community Housing for Seniors Service to community management for leveraging additional stock</li> </ul>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LHAP actions nearing completion</li> <li>Community housing divestment project progressing. Re-draft of proposal submission awaiting Council endorsement.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In progress</li> <li>In progress</li> </ul> |  |
|  | EG 1               | Sustainable economic development and growth | Office of the CEO | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare an Economic Development Strategy</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not yet commenced</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not commenced</li> </ul>                    |  |

| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Economy and Growth</b><br/>                     “Promote and encourage investment in local industry to build a resilient economy.”</p> |                                |   |  |   |   |   |
|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|---|---|
| Project  | Corporate Plan Ref             | Corporate Plan Goal   | Business Section   | Performance Measures  | Actions Taken October to December 2025  | Progress: Not commenced In Progress Completed                   |
| Mareeba Industrial Estate  | <b>EG 1</b>                    | Sustainable economic development and growth                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical Services</li> <li>• Information Systems &amp; Governance</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement staged development of Masterplan</li> <li>• Continue promotion and marketing through external agent</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Master Plan and Stage 11 construction plans prepared for costing and funding options</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Progress</li> </ul> |
| Tom Gilmore Mareeba Aviation Industrial Precinct   | <b>EG 1</b><br><br><b>EG 2</b> | Sustainable economic development and growth<br>Effective strategic partnerships | Tourism & Economic Development   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Produce Promotional Strategy</li> <li>• Promote development</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Recreational sites now assigned</li> <li>• Development opportunity promoted by Council website, social media and e-newsletter</li> <li>• Engagement continues with airport user group and FNQ Aviation Museum</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In progress</li> </ul> |



## 9 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

### 9.1 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES, CAPITAL WORKS MONTHLY REPORT - JANUARY 2026

**Date Prepared:** 28 January 2026

**Author:** Manager Assets and Projects

**Attachments:**

1. [Capital Works Summary January 2026](#) ↓
2. [Capital Works Highlights January 2026](#) ↓

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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on capital works projects undertaken by the Infrastructure Services Department during the month of January 2026.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives the Infrastructure Services Capital Works Monthly Report for the month of January 2026.

#### BACKGROUND

Council's Capital Works program is focussed on renewal and upgrade of Council infrastructure to achieve Council's corporate vision of "A growing, confident and sustainable Shire". The program is funded through a combination of Council's own funding and external grants and subsidies.

#### RISK IMPLICATIONS

##### Financial

The capital works program is tracking within budget.

##### Infrastructure and Assets

Infrastructure and Assets Projects included in the current capital works program were identified through Council's Project Prioritisation Tool (PPT) which uses a risk-based, multi-criteria approach to rank projects in order of priority. The PPT is aligned with Council's Long-Term Financial Plan and Asset Management sub-plans, which focus of renewal of existing assets.

#### FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

##### *Capital*

All capital works are listed in and funded by the 2025/26 Capital Works Program.

#### LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN

**Transport and Infrastructure:** The provision of quality infrastructure to service our growing community using sound asset management principles.

#### IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION

## Capital Works Projects Summary January 2026



| Project Code  | Project Description   | Project Comment   | Project Stage |
|---|---|---|---------------|
| <b>Program: 01 - Rural and Urban Roads Reseal Program (Renewal)</b> |   |   |               |
| CP0003915   | 25/26 Bitumen & Asphalt Reseal Program                        | Reseal preparation for Ray Road delayed due to weather. Bitumen sealing of sites in Kuranda commenced.                  | Construction  |
| <b>Program: 02 - Gravel Resheet</b>                                 |   |   |               |
| CP0003916   | 25/26 Gravel Resheet Program                                  | No works undertaken for month of January. Works program being reviewed for remainder of FY25/26                         | Construction  |
| <b>Program: 03 - Urban Streets</b>                                  |   |   |               |
| CP00797   | TIDS 22/23 24/25 Rankin/Walsh St R'bout                       | The project has been awarded. Construction is expected to commence March 2026.  | Procurement   |
| <b>Program: 04 - Rural Roads</b>                                    |   |   |               |
| CP0002040   | KDA KIA08 Barron Falls/Masons Rd/L-out                        | Designs to be completed prior to end of financial year by external consultant. Fee proposals requested.                 | Design        |
| CP0002041   | KDA KIA09 Barron Falls Rd Thongon-Mason                       | Concept design started  | Design        |
| CP0002048   | KDA Kda Heights Rd Intersection Upgrade                       | Designs to be completed prior to end of financial year by external consultant. Fee proposals requested.                 | Design        |
| CP0002050   | MBA Mclver Rd Upgrades  | Designs to be completed prior to end of financial year by external consultant. Survey and soil investigations complete. | Design        |
| CP0002051   | DIM Leadingham Ck Rd - Ch3.598-5.2                            | Construction commenced  | Construction  |
| CP0002052   | TIDS 24-27 DIM Leadingham C/R 8.04-11.48                      | Installation of signage and construction of 450mm Reinforced Concrete Pipe. Road works not recommended due to weather.  | Construction  |
| CP0002056   | DIM Leadingham Ck Rd - Ch5.2-6.72                             | Design underway by external consultant.   | Design        |
| CP0002060   | KDA Oak Forest Rd Rehab & Widen                               | Design underway.  | Design        |
| CP0002061   | KOAH Koah Rd Widen & Seal to 8m                               | Concept plan completed. Detailed design underway.   | Design        |
| CP0002063   | DIM Leadingham Ck Rd - Ch6.72-8.04                            | Design underway by external consultant.   | Design        |
| CP0002066   | DIM Leafgold Weir Rd Widen Curves                             | Design to be finalised 2026   | Design        |
| CP0002082   | CRC Ootann Rd Widen & Seal CH72.5 - 77.7                      | Concept design started  | Design        |
| CP0006656   | MBA Barron River Fire Trail Upgrade, Lloyd St to Herberton St | Funding received. Propose to undertake works in the 2026 dry season.  | Planning      |
| <b>Program: 05 - Bridges</b>  |   |   |               |
| CP0001558   | MBA Tinaroo Creek Rd Ada Creek Causeway                       | The project has been awarded. Construction is expected to commence in April-May 2026.                                   | Procurement   |
| CP0001564   | KDA Oak Forest Rd, Barron River Bridge                        | The refurbished deck is in place. Construction is complete.   | Completed     |
| <b>Program: 06 - Drainage</b>                                       |   |   |               |
| CP0003695   | Irvinebank Jessie St/Rubina Tce Upgrade                       | Investigations will be scheduled  | Design        |
| CP0003914   | 25/26 Renew Minor Culverts & Drainage                         | No movement for the month of January. Scope to be determined on priority basis.   | Construction  |
| CP00844   | MBA Amaroo Drainage Upgrades                                  | Assessment & Planning.  | Planning      |
| <b>Program: 08 - Parking</b>  |   |   |               |
| <b>Program: 09 - Footpaths</b>                                      |   |   |               |

| Project Code                           | Project Description                     | Project Comment  | Project Stage |
|--|---|--|---------------|
| CP0001665                              | Mt Molloy Footpath & Furniture Refurb   | Design to be scheduled   | Design        |
| CP0001666                              | KDA Barron Falls Rd Replace Footpath    | Concept design started   | Design        |
| CP0001687                              | KDA WNP Arara St Footpath Missing Link  | Works are complete.  | Completed     |
| CP0001721                              | MBA WNP Constance St Link (Atherton St) | Detailed design complete.  | Planning      |
| CP0001790                              | MBA WNP Anzac Avenue Footpath Renewal   | Planning to commence early 2026.   | Planning      |
| <b>Program: 10 - Parks and Gardens</b> |   |  |               |
| CP0001803                              | Julatten Geraghty Pk Pump Track         | In procurement.  | Procurement   |
| CP0001805                              | MBA Bicentennial Lakes Northern         | Construction has been postponed due to the wet weather. The viewing deck piers & footing beams were installed in late December 2025.   | Construction  |
| CP0001928                              | MUT Refurb Community Hall Park          | Project scoping underway   | Planning      |
| CP0003670                              | MBA Amaroo Park Shade                   | Shade sail installation is complete. Additional shade trees to be planted.   | Completed     |
| CP0003818                              | KDA KIAC KCP Additional Funds           | Planning underway  | Planning      |
| CP000809                               | MBA Bicentennial Lakes (Southern) D&C   | Additional hill-slide fencing safety improvements being planned  | Construction  |
| CP000861                               | KDA Coondoo Street Refurb               | Ergon have completed the upgrade of the lower Coondoo Streetlights to LED standard. Works are complete.  | Construction  |
| <b>Program: 11 - Water</b>             |   |  |               |
| CP0002682                              | FY24/25 - Irvinebank Ibis Dam PS        | All parts procured or fabricated, awaiting contractor availability for installation.   | Procurement   |
| CP0002684                              | FY24/25 - Smart Meters Replacement      | Project completed.   | Completed     |
| CP0002686                              | 25/26 WTP Minor Infrastructure          | Tank renewal works at Dimbulah complete. Works currently in scoping stage include shed at Mareeba Water Treatment Plant for electrical equipment, renewal of valves for clarifier splitter box and installation of additional of Input/Output cards for Chillagoe Water Treatment Plant Programmable Logic Controller. | Construction  |
| CP0002687                              | 25/26 Smart Meters Replacement          | Replacement of meters ongoing. Current focus on Mareeba and Kuranda.   | Construction  |
| CP0002688                              | 25/26 Water Main Replacement            | Works on Mammino Street completed. Works on Keneally road commenced early January 2026.  | Construction  |
| CP0002689                              | 25/26 Telemetry/SCADA Upgrades          | Alarm rationalisation works ongoing.   | Construction  |
| CP0002691                              | 25/26 Hydrants & Valve Renewal          | Works in Chillagoe postponed due to inclement weather and contractor availability.   | Construction  |
| CP0002692                              | DIM WTP Sand Filtration                 | Currently seeking quotes for filtration sand replacement.  | Procurement   |
| CP0002697                              | KDA WTP Turbidity Meters                | Equipment delivered to site. Awaiting contractor availability for installation.  | Construction  |
| CP0002698                              | DIM WTP Raw Water Pump Station          | Contractors programmed to begin onsite works in February   | Procurement   |
| CP0002764                              | MOL Replace Hunter Ck Weir              | Council is finalising the documents for the request for quotation on the works   | Procurement   |
| CP0003734                              | MBA WTP Fuel Pod For Generator          | Final stage of fit out   | Construction  |
| CP0003820                              | KDA WTP Intake Works                    | Onsite works to commence once practically safe to do so.   | Procurement   |

| Project Code                                    | Project Description                    | Project Comment  | Project Stage |
|---|--|--|---------------|
| <b>Program: 12 - Wastewater</b>                 |  |  |               |
| CP0001043                                       | Atherton St Pump Station Refurb        | Due to inclement weather, site works expected to commence in June.   | Procurement   |
| CP0002474                                       | FY24/25 - MBA Sewer CCTV & Reline Prog | Kuranda CCTV works scheduled to commence early March 2026.   | Construction  |
| CP0002481                                       | FY24/25 - MBA Constance St Rising Main | Sewer main installed between manholes K1/21 and K1/22. Works progressing south of Basalt St.   | Construction  |
| CP0002483                                       | 25/26 MBA Sewer CCTV & Reline Prog     | Design specification for relining and patchworks to sewer lines due February 2026.   | Design        |
| CP0002484                                       | 25/26 WW Pump Station Ancillary        | Capacity assessments currently being undertaken for pump stations on Myola Rd, Kuranda. Scope of Works to be finalised following completion of assessment. | Design        |
| CP0002485                                       | 25/26 WW Reticulation Pumps Renewal    | All pumps have been procured, replacement of pumps ongoing.  | Construction  |
| CP0002487                                       | 25/26 Telemetry/SCADA Upgrades         | Quality and integrity assurance of data currently ongoing.   | Construction  |
| CP0002489                                       | 25/26 Manhole Rehab & Replace          | Construction for remediation works to manholes continuing. Completion due late February 2026.  | Construction  |
| CP0002490                                       | MBA WWTP Inline Instruments            | Instruments have arrived on site. Awaiting Contractor availability for installation.   | Construction  |
| CP0002491                                       | KDA WWTP Sludge Conveyor               | Majority of renewal works complete. Poly dosing system sent off-site for overhaul. Awaiting final parts to complete on-site renewal works.                 | Construction  |
| CP0002492                                       | KDA WWTP Components                    | Components arrived on site, awaiting Contractor availability for installation.   | Construction  |
| CP0003722                                       | KDA WWTP Renew 6x6m Shed               | Works complete.  | Completed     |
| <b>Program: 13 - Waste</b>                      |  |  |               |
| CP0003875                                       | KDA Weigh Bridge Surface Renewal       | Works complete   | Completed     |
| <b>Program: 14 - Aerodromes</b>                 |  |  |               |
| <b>Program: 15 - Fleet</b>                      |  |  |               |
| CP0003744                                       | Replace Asset 637 Job Truck            | Supplier advised delivery middle to late February  | Procurement   |
| CP0003862                                       | Electric Forklift 2 Ton capacity       | Supplier advised delivery late February to early March   | Procurement   |
| CP0003926                                       | Replace Asset 617 Job Truck            | Truck at fabricator having body fitted   | Procurement   |
| CP0003930                                       | Asset 6221 Forklift Forks Upgrade      | Waiting of the delivery of the stores forklift so as Asset # 6221 can stood down to complete the project   | Planning      |
| <b>Program: 16 - Depots and Council Offices</b> |  |  |               |
| <b>Program: 17 - Community Buildings</b>        |  |  |               |
| CP0001059                                       | Mba/Dim Aquatic Condition Assessment   | External Consultant has provided tender documentation for review prior to release to market.   | Procurement   |
| CP0001816                                       | 25/26 Shire Wide Toilet Facilities     | Awaiting grant funding. Planning postponed to early February 2026.   | Not Commenced |
| CP0003890                                       | 25/26 Annual Minor Building Refurb     | Planning to commence early February 2026.  | Not Commenced |
| CP0003891                                       | KDA Centenary Park Amenities Refurb    | All external works completed. Internal construction works to be completed late February 2026.  | Construction  |
| CP0003893                                       | DIM Caravan Pk & KDA Pool Painting     | Planning commenced.  | Planning      |

| Project Code                                  | Project Description                      | Project Comment   | Project Stage |
|---|--|---|---------------|
| CP0003913                                     | MBA Cedric Davies Hub Place of Refuge    | In procurement.   | Procurement   |
| CP0003934                                     | Annual Facilities LED Lighting           | Planning to commence early 2026. Potential to leverage for grant funding.   | Not Commenced |
| CP0006602                                     | CHI SES Facility Improvements            | Planning to commence February 2026.   | Not Commenced |
| CP00793                                       | MBA Women's Restroom Refurb              | To be completed in conjunction with the Mareeba CBD Blueprint Project   | Planning      |
| <b>Program: 18 - Non-Infrastructure Items</b> |  |   |               |
| CP0001085                                     | Mba Cemetery Expansion Planning          | Scheduled for delivery prior end of financial year.   | Planning      |
| CP0003754                                     | Mareeba CBD Blueprint                    | Draft Masterplan being finalised. Prioritisation and implementation planning underway.  | Design        |
| CP0003908                                     | MBA New Cemetery Headstone on Beam       | Irrigation works to be undertaken prior to closeout.  | Construction  |
| CP0003909                                     | Mba Cemetery New Double Columbarium Wall | Planning completed. Design due early February 2026.   | Design        |
| CP00928                                       | MBA Rankin/Kowa St Network Switches      | Switches have been ordered. Awaiting delivery then installation.  | Procurement   |
| CP00932                                       | MBA MIP Expansion                        | Masterplan documentation received, final comments to be sent. Tender Package to be updated with Electrical/Telecommunication suite. | Design        |

## Infrastructure Services Capital Works Report Project Highlights – January 2026



**Project Name: Kenneally Road Gravity Sewer Main Upgrade**

**Program: Wastewater**

### **Background**

Most of Mareeba's sewerage network was built between the late 1960s and 1980s. The Kenneally Road and Constance Street sewer main is a critical asset servicing 129 residential properties. The original sewer main is unable to meet both existing demand and future development needs, and this has resulted in surcharging of manholes along Constance Street and Kenneally Road, with sewage ingress into the environment and properties during severe wet weather events.

Upgrading the gravity sewer main will address both current and future capacity issues within the Kenneally Road catchment. Replacing ageing sewer infrastructure is vital to reducing the risk of sewage overflows—an issue with serious implications for public health, environmental safety, and community wellbeing. This upgrade is also a key measure in protecting the Barron River, which ultimately flows into the Great Barrier Reef. This project is proudly supported by the Queensland Government through the Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program and Mareeba Shire Council.

### **Scope of Works**

2.35km of gravity sewer main will be upgraded, starting from a sewer manhole located in an easement off Antonio Drive. It will run the full length of Constance Street, connecting to a manhole adjacent to Mareeba State Primary School, and discharge upstream of the Byrnes Street pump station.

The project scope includes:

- Supply, delivery and installation of the sewer gravity pipework and manholes
- Survey for set out purposes, erosion and sediment control and traffic management.
- Manhole testing and commissioning of the sewer gravity main.

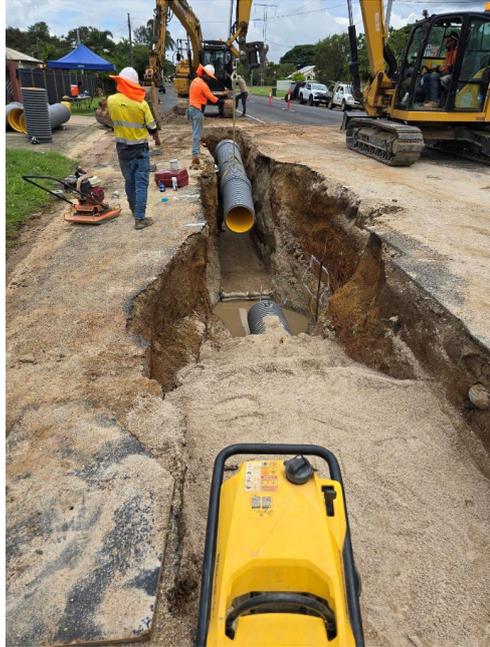
### **Progress Update**

During January, trenching works continued along Constance Street near the Basalt Street intersection.

Construction has remained on track. Challenges and resolutions include:

- Hard rock has continued to be encountered along trench alignment. Ripping and hammering were carried out as required, resulting in minor construction delays due to the extra works required.
- Road pavement from the Mareeba State Primary School to St Thomas's School has been reinstated.
- Manhole construction works completed on manholes K1/18 and K1/19
- Sewer main installation works between Herberton Street and Basalt Street continued and now working between Basalt Street and Lerra Street.

**Infrastructure Services Capital Works Report  
Project Highlights – January 2026**



*Sewer main installation works continuing*



*Road reinstatement works for completed sections*

**Infrastructure Services Capital Works Report  
Project Highlights – January 2026**



**Project Name: 2025-2026 Manhole Refurbishment**

**Program: Wastewater**

**Background**

As part of Council’s three-year Barron River Catchment Sewer Infrastructure Upgrade project, Council are continuing works to remediate sewer manholes within the Mareeba Sewerage Reticulation network to reduce inflow and infiltration.

The works have been jointly funded by the Australian Government’s Reef Guardian Councils Program and the Queensland Government’s 2024-27 Works for Queensland Program. The project aims to enhance the sewerage network in Mareeba and Kuranda, reducing the risk of sewage overflows into the Barron River catchment and ultimately the Great Barrier Reef.

**Scope of Works**

The scope of works includes complete remediation of 155 sewer manholes located within private and public property within Mareeba. The works will be carried out across three (3) separate locations within Mareeba, specifically along Peters Street to Atherton Street, Atherton Street to Granite Creek and the Mareeba West township area. The work to be performed under this contract comprises the provision of all materials, plant and labour and the performance of all operations necessary for the complete and proper rehabilitation of the nominated sewer manholes.

**Progress Update**

Works for the remediation of 155 sewer manholes have been completed. A further 49 manholes have been identified for remediation within the Mareeba township and is progressing with minor delays due to inclement weather conditions. Works to complete the 49 manholes are programmed for completion late February 2026.



*Replaced manhole lid.*



*Relined manhole on Owens Street, Mareeba.*

## Infrastructure Services Capital Works Report Project Highlights – January 2026



**Project Name:** 2025-2026 Water Main Replacement

**Program:** Water

### Background

As part of Council's 10-year Water Strategy, ageing water mains are being replaced and upgraded throughout the Shire. An allocation has been provided in the 2025/26 capital works program to replace failing and ageing asbestos cement (AC) composition water mains at (3) three locations within the Mareeba township. This project is jointly funded by the Australian Government, through the National Water Grid Fund, and Mareeba Shire Council.

### Scope of Works

The scope of works includes the supply and installation of PVC Supermain and Ductile Iron Concrete Lined (DACL) on road crossings, in addition to new service connections, valves and hydrants are being installed.

### Progress Update

Works have been completed along Walsh Street, between Rankin Street and Hort Street. Further works have been completed along Mammino Street. Keneally Road water main upgrades have commenced and are programmed for completion late April 2026.



*Completed works on Mammino Street.*



*Works progressing on Keneally Street.*



**9.2 MAREEBA CBD BLUEPRINT PROJECT - ADOPTION OF MASTERPLAN**

**Date Prepared:** 30 January 2026  
**Author:** Manager Assets and Projects  
**Attachments:** 1. Mareeba CBD Masterplan February 2025 [↓](#)

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to present the Mareeba CBD Masterplan for adoption.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council adopts the Mareeba CBD Masterplan.

**BACKGROUND**

The purpose of the Mareeba CBD Blueprint project is to prepare construction-ready plans to revitalise the Mareeba CBD and provide enabling infrastructure to support our growing town. The Masterplan has been developed in collaboration between Council, the community, a Stakeholder Reference Group and project partners, the Mareeba Chamber of Commerce. The project has received funding from the regional Precincts and Partnerships Program (rPPP); an initiative by the Australian Government aimed at supporting transformative investment in regional, rural, and remote Australia. The program focuses on unifying regional places, fostering economic growth, and serving communities.

The Mareeba CBD Masterplan is a key project milestone in the development of construction ready plans to improve liveability, accessibility, and economic resilience. The masterplan builds on the extensive community engagement held between June and September 2025, where locals voiced a strong desire for a greener, safer, and more welcoming town centre. It aims to deliver not just infrastructure renewal, but a more vibrant and connected “heart of town” that reflects Mareeba’s unique local character and multicultural heritage.

The Masterplan provides:

- An Overall Plan that reinforces Byrnes Street as the heart of daily life in Mareeba;
- A Precinct Plan with six (6) key precincts, covering:
  - (A) Byrnes Street;
  - (B) Atherton Street;
  - (C) Railway Avenue;
  - (D) Post Office Carpark;
  - (E) Railway Avenue Entrance; and
  - (F) 194 Brynes Street Car Park

- A Movement and Circulation Plan to balance pedestrian and vehicle movement;
- Foundational Infrastructure Solutions;
- Streetscape Strategy; and
- Softscape Strategy.

The Masterplan acts as a strategic, long-term framework designed to guide the development, revitalisation, and functional improvement of the Mareeba CBD. It also serves as a tool for Council to coordinate, schedule, and seek funding for improvements, and to guide the design process for preparation of construction-ready plans under the Mareeba CBD Blueprint project.

## FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

### *Capital*

#### ***Is the expenditure noted above included in the current budget?***

The Mareeba CBD Blueprint project is a planning project funded through the Australian Government's regional Precincts and Partnerships Program. Future projects identified through the Mareeba CBD Blueprint project will be prioritised and considered for funding using Council's normal process.

## LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN

**Financial Sustainability and Governance:** A financially sustainable council that applies strategic decision making and good governance to deliver cost-effective services.

**Community and Culture:** An informed, engaged and resilient community which supports and encourages effective partnerships to deliver better outcomes.

**Transport and Infrastructure:** The provision of quality infrastructure to service our growing community using sound asset management principles.

**Liveability and Environment:** Improve the liveability of the Shire by enhancing amenity and valuing natural assets.

**Economy and Growth:** Promote and encourage investment in local industry to build a resilient economy.

## IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION

The Mareeba CBD Masterplan will be published on Council's website.



# Mareeba CBD Masterplan

This initiative has received \$2,143,249 from the Australian Government under the regional Precincts and Partnerships Program (rPPP)

February 2026



Australian Government  
BUILDING AUSTRALIA

Mareeba  
SHIRE COUNCIL

vee

GHD

| Project name   |                       | Mareeba Shire Council - CBD Blueprint                 |                          |                    |            |  |
|----------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------|--------------------|------------|--|
| Document title |                       | Mareeba CBD Masterplan   Precinct Plan                |                          |                    |            |  |
| Project number |                       | 12663124  |                          |                    |            |  |
| File name      |                       | 12663124_RPT_FINAL_Mareeba CBD Masterplan Report.docx |                          |                    |            |  |
| Status Code    |                       | Author  |                          |                    |            |  |
| Revision       |                       | Reviewer  |                          | Approved for Issue |            |  |
|                |                       | Name  | Signature                | Name               | Date       |  |
| S4             | DRAFT                 | J.Brown   | J.Brown*                 | J.Brown            | 14/11/2025 |  |
| S4             | FINAL DRAFT (Phase 3) | J.Brown (GHD)<br>D. Hatherly (Vee)                    | J.Brown*<br>D. Hatherly* | J.Brown            | 16/01/2026 |  |
| S4             | FINAL                 | J.Brown (GHD)   | J.Brown*                 | J.Brown            | 09/02/2026 |  |

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Mareeba is a thriving regional town with a big heart. Located in stunning Tropical North Queensland, it is the primary business and residential hub outside of Cairns, and the gateway to the Gulf of Carpentaria, Cape York Peninsula and all communities in between. Mareeba is the heart of our Shire, a region home to some 75 nationalities and cultural backgrounds and supports a diverse and thriving industrial base. With agriculture at our core, the community continues to drive productivity and attract investment, workforce and tourism opportunities.

The Masterplan encompasses our communities' priorities and incorporates community and stakeholder feedback to deliver a revitalisation plan that celebrates our culture and heritage.

Through critical infrastructure and amenity upgrades, we will improve Mareeba's liveability, vibrancy, economic and climate resilience. The initiatives will drive economic growth, attract new businesses, and support the expansion of existing ones, creating a thriving, welcoming, walkable CBD that people want to stop, stay and spend in.

## Mayor's Message

As Mayor of Mareeba Shire Council, I am delighted to present the Mareeba CBD Blueprint Masterplan. This plan reflects a shared vision to reconnect our community to the 'heart of town' and shape the future of our CBD, enabled through funding from the Australian Government.

Developed with the community, the plan strikes a balance between convenience and amenity, to create a plan for a vibrant and welcoming space for all. I feel privileged to be able to take these first steps on this journey with our community and our partners, the Mareeba Chamber of Commerce.

We acknowledge and sincerely thank the Australian Government's Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program for its essential funding support, which has enabled the development of this Masterplan.

I wish to extend sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed to this project, the funding support from the Australian Government, and the extraordinary collaboration between Council, the Mareeba Chamber of Commerce, the Stakeholder Reference Group, residents, visitors, business and property owners. Your voice and vision helped shape the plan, and I am proud of the professionalism and support garnered throughout this project.

*Mayor Angela Toppin AM*

### Acknowledgement of Country

GHD acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the land, water and sky throughout Australia on which we do business. We recognise their strength, diversity, resilience and deep connections to Country. We pay our respects to Elders of the past, present and future, as they hold the memories, knowledges and spirit of Australia. GHD is committed to learning from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the work we do.

### About the artist

Merinda Walters is a proud Kamilaroi Yinarr (Aboriginal woman). After joining GHD in 2019 as an intern through the CareerTrackers program, she went on to become an Environmental Scientist and Stakeholder Engagement Consultant based in our Cairns office. She has now joined CareerTrackers as Program Manager for the Young Indigenous Women in STEM Academy. Merinda specialises in contemporary Aboriginal art using acrylic paints; her work reflects her passion for nature and conservation, as well as her culture and connection to Country.



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## Project Summary



Located just one hour west of Cairns in the stunning tropical north of Australia, Mareeaba is a thriving regional centre powered by its people and recognised for its agricultural excellence, rich multicultural heritage, and enviable climate. Positioned at the crossroads of major routes linking Cairns, the Gulf Savannah, and Cape York, Mareeaba serves as a strategic hub for transport, agribusiness, tourism, and trade. It's location, industry strengths, and growing population create strong foundations for continued investment, economic expansion, and long-term regional prosperity.

What began as a stormwater upgrade to address drainage issues has evolved into a comprehensive master plan for the Mareeaba CBD. Mareeaba Shire Council, in partnership with the Mareeaba Chamber of Commerce, is developing a shared vision to revitalise the town centre and strengthen its role as the vibrant heart of the region.



Liveability



Accessibility

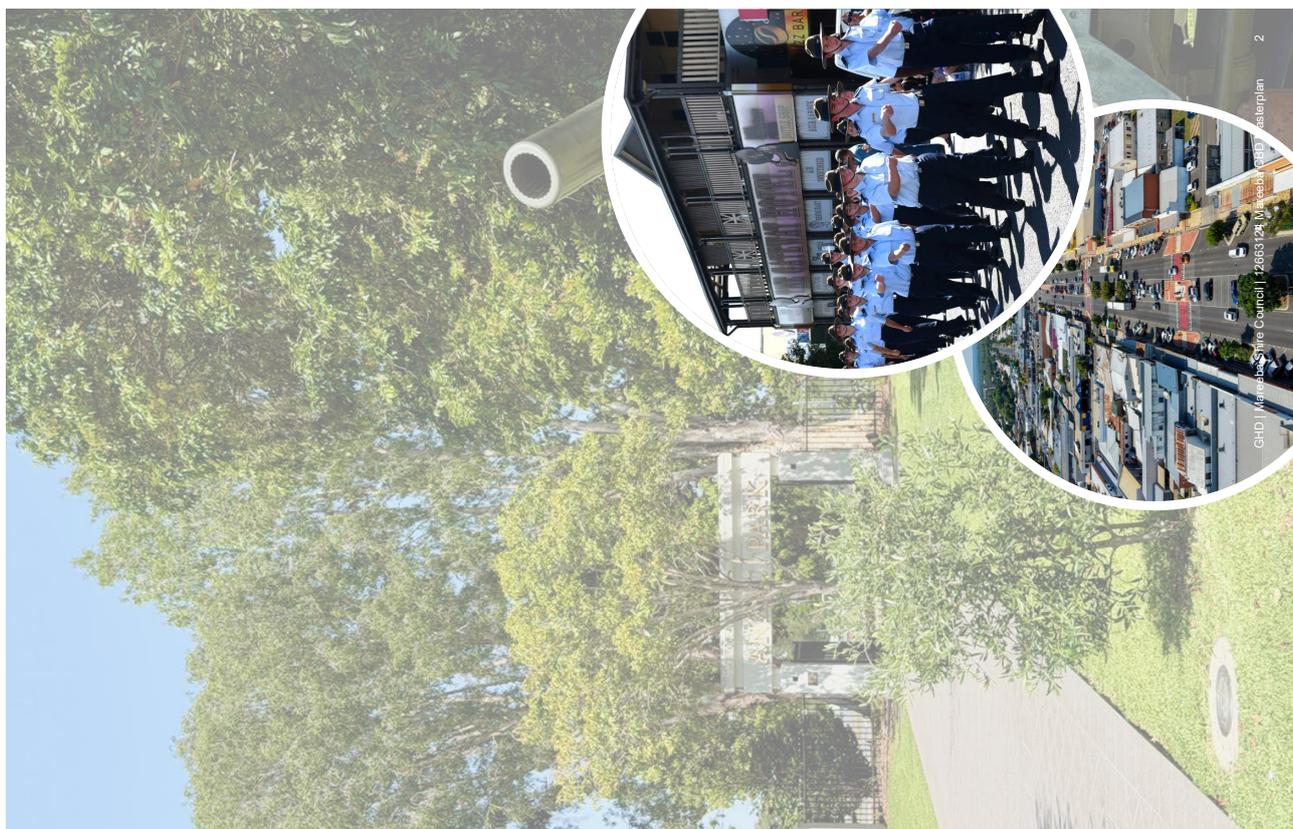


Economic Resilience

The Blueprint will deliver construction ready plans to improve liveability, accessibility, and economic resilience. It will include designs to address stormwater drainage, carparking, and accessibility for people walking and cycling, while creating an inclusive space for people of all abilities. It will also provide plans for new public toilets and add new amenities like shade, seating, lighting, and features that support night-time activation and events. This project builds on the extensive community engagement held between June and September 2025, where locals voiced a strong desire for a greener, safer, and more welcoming town centre. It aims to deliver not just infrastructure renewal, but a more vibrant and connected "heart of town" that reflects Mareeaba's unique local character and multicultural heritage.

The Blueprint provides the framework for harnessing Mareeaba's strengths, guiding how Council and its partners can shape the CBD into a destination that celebrates Mareeaba's people, landscape, and identity – now and for future generations.

The Mareeaba CBD Blueprint positions Council to secure funding for future construction stages and deliver lasting improvements to our town centre. This initiative has received \$2,143,249.00 from the Australian Government under the regional Precincts and Partnerships Program (rPPP).



## Revitalisation Approach

The Mareeba CBD Blueprint addresses priority areas that present opportunities for targeted investment and long-term renewal. The project focuses on strengthening the town centre's capacity to support economic activity, social wellbeing, and sustainable growth.

### Key areas of need include:

- Physical enhancements
- Upgrading infrastructure, improving building quality, and enhancing public spaces to create a more functional, attractive, and accessible environment
- Economic development
- Stimulating local business activity, attracting new investment, and creating sustainable employment pathways to support a resilient local economy
- Social resilience and community wellbeing
- Encouraging young people to remain in or return to the community

This investment positions Mareeba to meet community needs and strengthen regional growth, liveability, and resilience.

The project addresses key infrastructure, accessibility, and public amenity needs through a coordinated revitalisation program. While construction will create temporary disruption, these works deliver essential upgrades that support long-term economic activity, improved accessibility, and a more attractive and functional CBD.

This renewal period creates an opportunity to achieve outcomes that go beyond basic replacement and deliver lasting value for the region. It allows the community to reimagine how streets, public spaces, and movement networks can better serve Mareeba for decades to come, enhancing walkability, comfort, shade, accessibility, and opportunities for social connection.

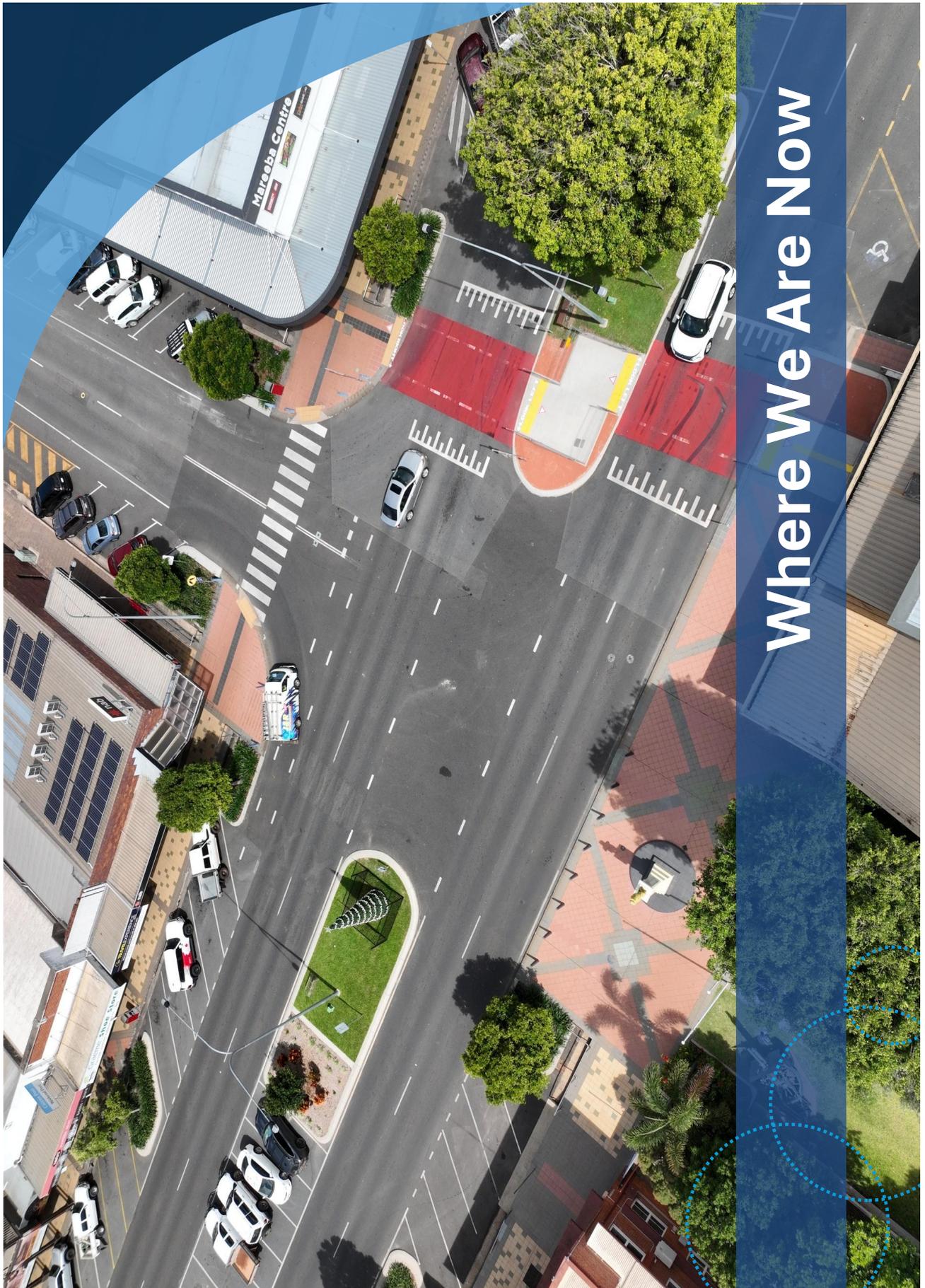
By integrating design elements that celebrate local culture, identity, and heritage and embedding sustainability, safety, and placemaking principles throughout, the Mareeba CBD will evolve into a more vibrant, resilient, and people-focused destination that supports long-term economic and social vitality.

### Success Indicators

Success for the Mareeba CBD Blueprint will be measured by:

- Developed stormwater management outcomes and reduced flood mitigation improvements
- Improved accessibility and inclusivity
- Improved pedestrian safety and comfort
- Higher levels of shade and urban greenery
- Greater public space use for events and informal gathering
- Stronger economic activity and visitor dwell time
- Improved amenity and facilities for both locals and visitors
- Improved community safety





## Place Identity

### Mareeba's Local History



Mareeba is a thriving regional centre powered by its people and recognised for its agricultural excellence, rich multicultural heritage, and enviable climate.

Mareeba's history is deeply tied to its landscape and role as a meeting place. The name *Mareeba* derives from the local Muluridji people, meaning "meeting of the waters". For thousands of years before European settlement, the Muluridji lived along these waterways, maintaining strong cultural and spiritual connections to Country that continue today.

European settlement began in the late 19th century with pastoralists, soon followed by mining, timber and agriculture. Mareeba quickly developed as a service town and staging post for the Hodgkinson and Palmer River goldfields, with Byrnes Street becoming its commercial centre. The early 20th-century arrival of the railway further strengthened Mareeba's role as a key transport hub for the Atherton Tablelands and Cape York. Agriculture has long underpinned Mareeba's economy, with crops such as tobacco, sugar, coffee and mangoes shaping the town's identity. Post-war migration brought new communities, including strong Italian, Albanian and other European influences, which enriched Mareeba's multicultural fabric. Today more than 75 nationalities are celebrated through community events like the Mareeba Multicultural Festival.

Mareeba also holds a strong military and aviation history. During World War II the town hosted a major airfield complex with

Mareeba Airfield serving as a base for US and Australian forces. The remnants of this wartime infrastructure, along with heritage buildings continue to form part of the town's layered identity.

Today, Mareeba serves as a strategic hub for transport, agribusiness, tourism, and trade. It is the sub-regional service centre for Cairns, Cape York, the Gulf Savannah, the Tablelands and a destination in its own right.

Its local history is visible in the multicultural businesses along Byrnes Street, the agricultural landscapes that fringe the town, and the community's enduring reputation for resilience, enterprise, and welcoming nature. The Mareeba CBD Precinct Plan seeks to build on this history, ensuring the town centre reflects Mareeba's heritage while supporting its future growth.



### Mareeba's Cultural Profile

Mareeba Shire is home to some 75 different nationalities and cultural backgrounds. Cultural life in Mareeba is celebrated through key events that bring the community together. The Mareeba Multicultural Festival is a major annual festival showcasing music, dance, and food from dozens of cultures. Other events, such as Savannah in the Round and the Mareeba Rodeo, demonstrate the region's ability to attract visitors while celebrating its agricultural, musical, and community traditions. Feedback from engagement showed a strong desire for the town centre to reflect its cultural diversity more prominently through public art, murals, inclusive events, and design elements that celebrate Mareeba's story.

### Mareeba's Demographic Profile



The Precinct Plan embraces this multicultural identity as a core strength, seeking to embed it in the streetscape, activation strategies, and public realm improvements so that Mareeba's CBD continues to be a welcoming and inclusive place for all.

Mareeba is the largest township within the Shire and acts as the commercial and service centre for a population of around 22,000 people across the wider region. The 2021 Census recorded approximately 12,000 residents in the township, reflecting steady growth consistent with its role as a regional hub for employment, education, and services.

The population has a balanced age profile, with strong representation of families and long-term residents aged 45 and over. A smaller proportion of young adults (20–34 years) reflects a pattern of regional migration for tertiary study and early-career opportunities, a trend common across the Tablelands.

Employment in Mareeba is concentrated in agriculture, manufacturing, retail, health, and education, supported by a strong base of small businesses and self-employed trades. Seasonal workforces associated with horticulture contribute to short-term population changes and highlight the need for flexible, inclusive public spaces and amenities.

Population forecasts indicate gradual growth of around 1.5 percent per year, reinforcing Mareeba's ongoing role as the civic and economic heart of the northern Tablelands. This steady trajectory supports long-term investment in infrastructure renewal, shade, and accessibility improvements that enhance liveability for residents while strengthening the town's appeal to visitors.





## Existing Functionality of the CBD

The Mareeba CBD currently functions as the primary retail and service hub for the wider Shire, with a strong role in supporting agricultural, tourism, and community activity. Its layout is defined by the north-south spine of Byrnes Street, intersected by east-west connections to parking areas, civic facilities, and residential neighbourhoods.

### Existing Conditions:



**Commercial activity** is concentrated along Byrnes Street, with a mix of retail, hospitality, and essential services. Many businesses operate only during daytime hours, limiting night-time vibrancy.



**Vehicular access** dominates, with wide traffic lanes, angled and centre parking. While this offers convenience, it reduces space available for shade, planting, and pedestrian comfort.



**Pedestrian experience** is hindered by uneven and deteriorating footpaths, limited and confusing crossing points, poor shade, and limited accessibility for people with reduced mobility.



**Public spaces** are underutilised due to a lack of connectivity, activation, and supporting amenities.



**Greenery and shade** are inconsistent, leaving the CBD vulnerable to heat and reducing visitor comfort during hotter months.



**Infrastructure condition** varies: some underground services are nearing end of life, stormwater drainage infrastructure is limited, and lighting is inconsistent.



**Cultural expression** is limited in the streetscape, with few elements reflecting Mareeba's rich Indigenous heritage, multicultural history, and identity.

Overall, the CBD is functional for quick, purpose-driven visits but lacks the comfort, safety, and attraction needed to encourage longer stays, evening activity, and repeat visitation.



## Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement has been at the heart of developing the Mareeba CBD Blueprint. For a project of this scale and significance, it is essential that the voices of residents, businesses, traditional custodians, and government agencies are not only heard, but meaningfully influence the outcomes.

Successful town centre revitalisations rely on community ownership and broad-based support to influence design decisions that address local identity, concerns and opportunities for economic, cultural, and social vitality.

This Blueprint has been developed with considered attention to the views of the community and stakeholders. Detailed findings are further presented in GHD's **Engagement Outcomes Report** (2025).

### Participation snaps hot

- 192 survey responses (169 fully completed)
- 200 participants at pop-in sessions across three days in Mareeba's CBD
- Stakeholder Reference Group and Chamber of Commerce workshops
- Targeted input from Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) and other stakeholders

### What people value about Mareeba

- Participants consistently described Mareeba as a welcoming, practical, and connected regional centre. Strengths included:
- Its role as a gateway to Cape York and the Gulf
  - A strong sense of community and multicultural character
  - Agricultural richness and diversity, including coffee production
  - Regional charm and climate

**Community voice examples**

- "I drive because I can't be out walking in blazing sun with no shade"
- "I think stormwater drainage requires an upgrade"
- "We need to slow the passing through traffic down"
- "Fix kerb and uneven surfaces so older people and wheelchairs can get around"
- "More seating in Byrnes Street"

### Key items raised

Analysis of the feedback showed the following clear priority areas:

- Town Centre Activation 286 mentions (greening & shade, beautification, outdoor dining, public art)
- Town Centre Activation 176 mentions (feeling unsafe, security, CCTV, lighting)
- Infrastructure & Amenities 99 mentions (public seating, toilets, drainage)
- Roads & Traffic 80 mentions (heavy vehicle bypass, angled parking safety, congestion)
- Maintenance 79 mentions (cleanliness, graffiti removal, shopfront upkeep)
- Accessibility 77 mentions (high kerbs, pedestrian ramps, slippery tiles, mobility access)

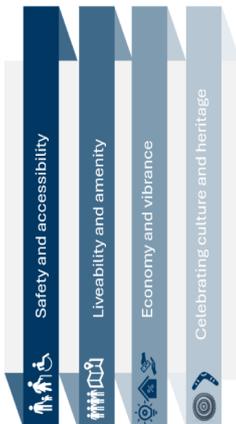
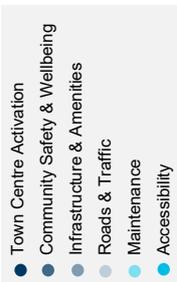
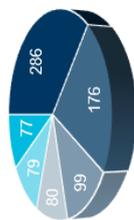
By contrast, categories such as Governance (9 mentions), Public Transport (8), and Tourism (5) were raised less frequently, suggesting that while important, they are not seen as the most pressing concerns.

### Emerging opportunities and recommendations

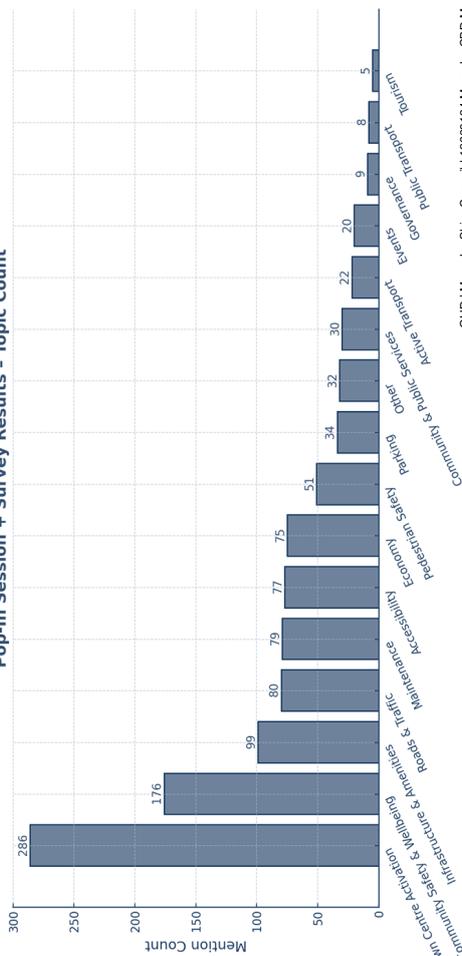
Feedback from the engagement activities highlighted the importance of the following:

#### Community driven recommendations include:

- upgrading stormwater infrastructure
- improving lighting and pedestrian safety along Byrnes Street
- enhancing accessibility
- welcoming town with shaded green spaces
- inclusive public amenities
- improved wayfinding
- celebrating Mareeba's heritage through art and signage
- revitalising key streets like Byrnes and Atherton St with outdoor dining
- event spaces transforming areas like Railway Avenue into inviting gateways for visitors



Pop-In Session + Survey Results - Topic Count





The vision for the Mareeba CBD Blueprint is to create a safe, green, and vibrant town centre that celebrates Mareeba's identity, supports local business, and offers spaces for people to connect, linger, and explore.

This vision is anchored in five 'Place Truths' that reflect the enduring character and aspirations of Mareeba.

Each Place Truth is supported by Design Drivers that inform all proposed initiatives in the CBD Blueprint Masterplan Precinct Plan.

# The Shared Vision

## Place Truths

Mareeba, with its distinct character and strong sense of place, is shaped by five key Place Truths that make it truly unique.

Developed through conversations with the local community, these Place Truths reflect the qualities that define Mareeba's identity. They will guide the design process and reinforce that revitalisation remains at the heart of this project.

Embracing and reinforcing all five Place Truths through the master plan design is vital for shaping Mareeba's future vision. Doing so strengthens its local identity and leverages its unique attributes to attract residents, visitors, and investment to this vibrant community. While the influence of each Place Truth may vary, recognising their collective importance ensures a holistic approach that maximises Mareeba's potential and enhances its distinct character.

## Design Principles

The Place Truths translate into **Design Principles** that shape the Draft Initiatives and ensure each project delivers multiple benefits:

### Outback Oasis

#### **Comfort, shade and climate-responsive design**

Locals love Mareeba's climate. The dry warmth and bright skies offer a lifestyle distinct from coastal humidity or highland chill. The revitalised town centre should take full advantage of this with a townscape that is both lush and livable with practical outdoor spaces that are comfortable and usable in all seasons.



### Always Something On

#### **Activation, Events and Everyday Vibrancy**

Mareeba has a strong culture of local events and celebrations, thriving on energy, events, and shared experiences. The town centre should reflect this rhythm with flexible and adaptable spaces that feel alive, all year around, day and night, before, during, and between events.



### A Place of Meeting

#### **Celebrating Connection, Culture and Community**

Mareeba - meaning "meeting of the waters", has long been a place where people and cultures come together. The town centre should embody this spirit through welcoming, walkable spaces that celebrate diversity, storytelling, and community connection.



### The Gateway to the North

#### **Welcoming Visitors and Encouraging Exploration**

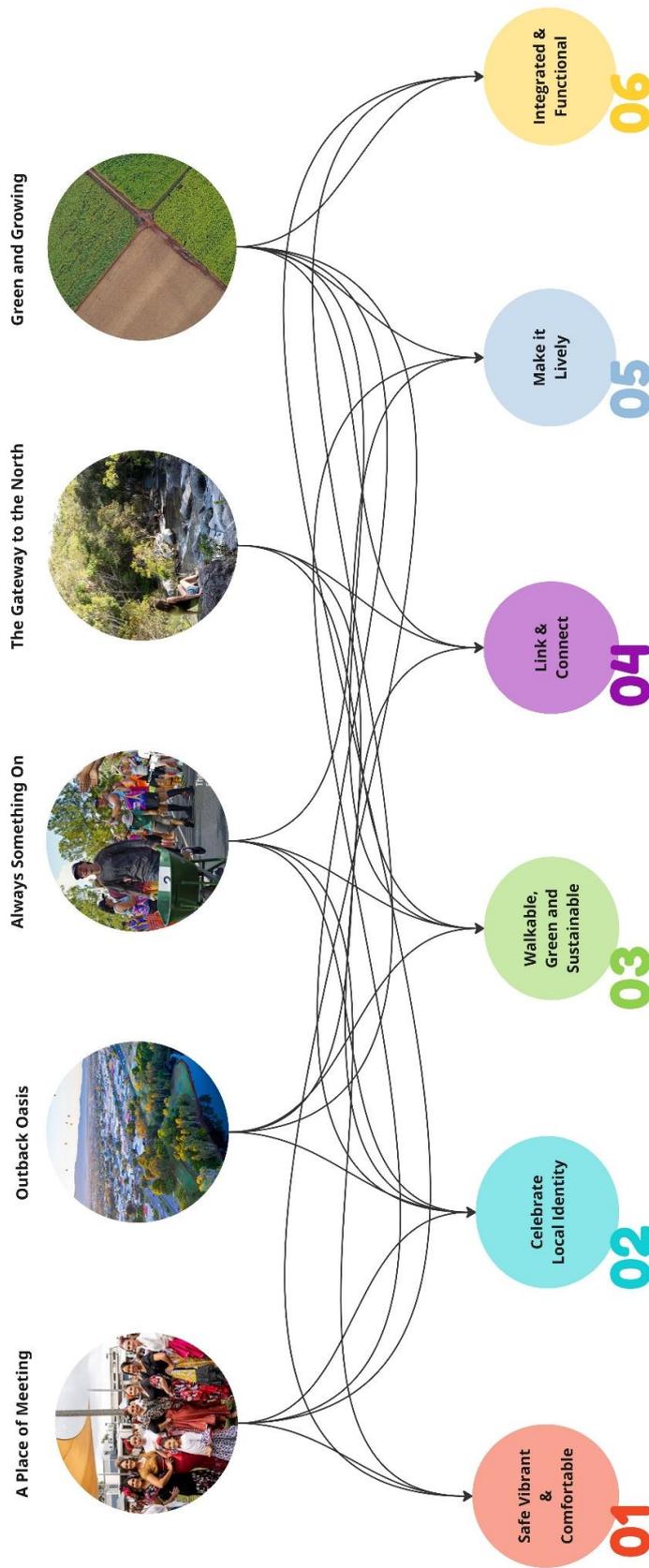
As the doorstep to Cape York, the Tablelands and beyond, Mareeba is more than a stop, it's a destination. The town centre should offer a memorable arrival experience that reflects the town's hospitality and heritage and encourage visitors to stop, explore the town, and enjoy all it has to offer before embarking on their adventures further north.



### Green and Growing

#### **Grounded in Agriculture, Growing Towards a Sustainable Future**

Mareeba's identity is deeply rooted in its rich landscape, a landscape that has long supported agriculture, hard work, and innovation. The town centre should honour this legacy while promoting a future defined by resilience, sustainability, and pride of place. The community's enduring spirit of hard work and creativity continues to inspire new opportunities while celebrating the region's unique identity.



**01 Prioritise shade, pedestrian comfort, and accessible design.**  
 Regular pause points, seating, small nodes, and shade structures that encourage informal gathering and socialising.  
 Strengthen visual and physical connections between parking zones, the RV precinct, and Byrnes Street.  
 Define a mix of active, social, and quiet zones to support diverse uses and moods that bring life to the street.

**02 Embed heritage, stories, and cultural expression in the public realm.**  
 Showcase the rich multicultural heritage through art and stories.  
 Cultural festivals and events.  
 Embed interpretive elements (sculpture, murals, audio trails) that tell stories of land, labour and innovation.  
 Celebrate First Nations culture through curated tourism experiences, art, and interpretation.  
 Incorporate stone, gravel and other natural materials that reflect the regional character.

**03 Expand canopy cover and integrate Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD)**  
 Establish layered tree canopy cover and water-wise planting palettes.  
 Create cool, comfortable microclimates with arbours and pergolas.  
 Frame key entries with green "gateways" that invite movement and pause points.  
 Use passive cooling and subtropical urban design strategies to promote year-round comfort.

**04 Improve connections between streets, parks, and destinations for all modes.**  
 Enable exploration through linked laneways, pocket parks, and cultural walking trails.  
 Introduce visitor-friendly infrastructure through shaded rest stops, public amenities, info hubs and orientation signage.  
 Encourage visitors to dwell longer through walkable, engaging, and layered public realm experiences.  
 Reimagine laneways and rear access points as welcoming entries into Byrnes St.

**05 Create spaces and streets that feel active day and night.**  
 Multi-use spaces for events, markets, and performances.  
 Enhance evening character with creative lighting and illuminated shop fronts.  
 Activate laneways and blank walls with local art, light, and storytelling.  
 Encourage shopfront activation and "spill-out" trading with widened footpaths and kerb buildouts.

**06 Co-ordinated Infrastructure Implementation - Every Upgrade, an Opportunity to Reimagine**  
 Coordinated works program that improves stormwater performance, accessibility, movement, safety, and function.  
 Infrastructure to align with planned public-realm upgrades to maximise project value.  
 Go beyond simply repairing ageing infrastructure - reimagine how streets, public spaces, and movement networks can better serve the community.  
 Considered integration of infrastructure improvements with the Place Principles.

## Project Initiatives

A coordinated program of initiatives is proposed to transform Mareeba's CBD into a safe, green, and vibrant hub that reflects the community's aspirations and Place Truths. These initiatives respond directly to earlier technical investigations and stakeholder engagement led by Council. GHD and Vee Design, supported by community and encompassing of best practice urban design for the dry tropics. The initiatives are spatially distributed across key precincts and address movement, public realm upgrades, activation, and infrastructure upgrade coordination. Each initiative is intended to deliver multiple benefits, including improving functionality, comfort, and identity while aligning with programmed infrastructure renewals.



### Green Crossings – Seamless East–West Links

Create a network of safe, shady and clearly legible crossings and laneway links between Byrnes Street, Railway Avenue and Walsh Street

**Implementation Strategies:** Mid-block crossings, improved pedestrian crossing configurations, pedestrian thresholds, shaded footpaths, surface treatments and signage.



### Byrnes Street – Mareeba's Vibrant Main Street

Transform Byrnes Street particularly the two blocks between Middlemiss and Hort Street, into the lively main street of Mareeba with retail and dining offerings. Enhance public spaces creating green streetscapes, and outdoors.

**Implementation Strategies:** Improve accessibility to footpaths (height differences), non-slip finished footpaths, more Street trees, kerb build-outs, spill-out dining, lighting, shopfront upgrades, events-ready spaces



### Cool Corners – Shady Places to Pause and Connect

Create inviting "sticky" nodes on street corners with seating, shade, and greenery, encouraging people to slow down, rest, and connect.

**Implementation Strategies:** Shaded corner pocket nodes, custom seating, tree pits, water bubblers, informal social zones and places to tell local stories.



### Atherton Street Heart – The Entertainment Street

Reimagine Atherton Street as a people-first, tree-lined avenue that flows from ANZAC Park into the Mareeba's Main Street, becoming a flexible hub for community gatherings, events, and celebrations.

**Implementation Strategies:** Flexible grass and hardstand spaces, shade structures, stage areas, movable seating, event lighting, park spill-out



### Streets for People – Bringing Byrnes Street to Life

In selected locations transform car parks into pedestrian areas through kerb build-outs, supported with greenery, shade and seating, creating vibrant places for outdoor dining and social activity.

**Implementation Strategies:** Parklets, shade, artwork, outdoor retail/hospitality use, pedestrian-first areas, lighting activations





**Green Gateways – Welcoming You to Mareeba**

Create distinctive, green arrival experiences at key entry points.

**Implementation Strategies:** Arrival signage, shade trees, cultural motifs, entry markers, town signage.



**Stories in the Street – Celebrating Mareeba’s Heritage** Embed Mareeba’s cultural and agricultural stories in the streetscape through interpretive design, murals, pavement inlays, art, audio trails and signage. Honour both First Nations and multicultural histories, and the spirit of innovation that defines the region.

**Implementation Strategies:** Story trails, First Nations co-design, bilingual signage, murals, local materials and motifs.



**Railway Avenue – Opening the Town’s Edge**

Reimagine Railway Avenue as a welcoming edge and orientation zone, connecting travellers and locals to the Town Centre. Improve streetscape, safety, and linkages while creating opportunities for visitor storytelling and services.

**Implementation Strategies:** Shade, caravan and RV parking, signage, orientation features, wayfinding, public toilets and possible dump point.



**A Town that Welcomes All – Inclusive, Youth-Friendly and Active**

Design a town centre that welcomes everyone, young and old, locals and visitors. Create safe spaces for teens and families, accessible public amenities, playful elements, and facilities that reflect a socially inclusive community.

**Implementation Strategies:** New/refurbished public toilet, Youth zones, intergenerational play, inclusive seating, toilets and changerooms, lighting, bike parking, sensory gardens.



**Outback Oasis – Town Centre-Wide Greening**

Deliver a coordinated greening and cooling strategy that beautifies Mareeba referencing back to the outback feel of the region.

**Implementation Strategies:** Street trees, native planting, garden beds, arbours, WSUD integration, shade metrics.

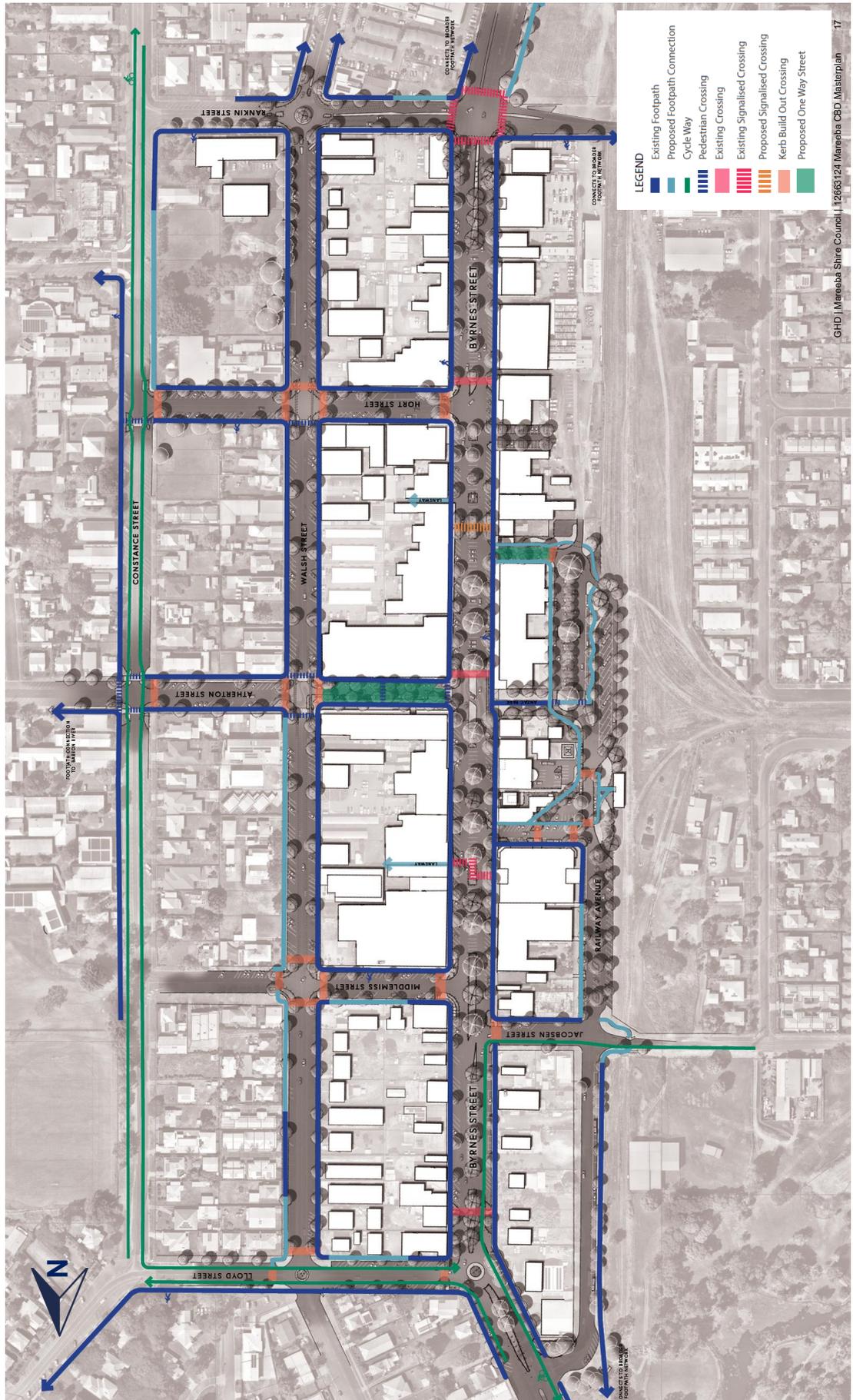






## Movement and Circulation

The Precinct Plan balances pedestrian and vehicle movement by establishing a clear, formalised network for all modes of travel. It strengthens active transport connections, filling gaps in the existing footpath network to create a safe and continuous pedestrian-friendly environment. The design considers key desire lines and access points, ensuring legible, equitable routes for walking, cycling, and vehicles that connect key destinations within the precinct and link seamlessly to the broader town network.





### Precinct Area A: Byrnes St

Byrnes Street is the principle street of Mareeba, forming part of the Mulligan Highway and serving as both a major regional transport corridor and the heart of the town centre. Carrying more than 12,000 vehicles per day, including a significant proportion of heavy vehicles, it also functions as the main street for shopping, dining, and community life.

This dual role creates ongoing challenges in balancing freight and through-traffic with the need for pedestrian safety, accessibility, and a vibrant main street experience. Community engagement consistently described Byrnes St as the “face of Mareeba” and expressed a strong desire for improvements in shade, walkability, outdoor dining, safety, and activation. It was also the most frequently raised location for issues such as high kerbs, confusing pedestrian crossings, stormwater ponding, and limited accessibility for people with mobility needs. The Blueprint identifies Byrnes Street as the central opportunity to reshape Mareeba’s main street, rebalancing the street environment to prioritise safety, shade, accessibility, and activation, while maintaining its vital role for businesses and regional traffic. The vision is for Byrnes Street to become

a greener, more people-focused spine of the CBD that celebrates Mareeba’s identity and enhances its economic vitality.

- 1 **Byrnes Street Greening** – To establish a consistent canopy cover building on existing kerb buildouts. Trees are spaced at roughly 10 metres in the core area of Byrnes Street to create a shaded and welcoming street environment. Transitional sections can adopt a lighter planting approach to maintain rhythm and highlight important locations such as crossing and corners.
- 2 **Tile Replacement** – Remove and replace existing street tiles to achieve a consistent nonslip surface treatment.
- 3 **Stormwater Upgrades** – Co-ordinated staged works along Byrnes Street to address drainage issues, prioritising key problem areas.
- 4 **Accessibility Improvements** – Upgrades along Byrnes Street to enhance ease of pedestrian access and movement between car parks and pavement.
- 5 **Green Gateways** – At arrival points maximise greening with tree planting on both sides of the street to create a strong, green avenue arrival to Main Street.
- 6 **Arrival Features** – Use large boulders with groundcover landscaping, and post banners in central median at entry

points and key nodes to create a welcoming arrival and highlight events in Mareeba.

- 7 **Corner Activation** – Use planting, stones, and seating walls to soften corners and provide pause points for rest and social interaction.
- 8 **Kerb Extensions** – Where appropriate, add shaded seating in front of hospitality venues to encourage outdoor activity and enhance pedestrian presence.
- 9 **Anzac Park** - Retain the existing character while extending greenery into Railway Avenue and Atherton Street. Design surrounding landscape to emphasise and respect the cenotaph memorial.
- 10 **Signalised Pedestrian Crossing** – Potential signalised pedestrian crossing allowing easy all accessible access from the eastern side of Byrnes St to the new toilet facility.
- 11 **Byrnes Street Crossings** – At street crossings provide shade trees featuring clear trunks to ensure visibility of traffic and comfort for pedestrians.
- 12 **Turfed Median Areas** – Great flexible areas that can accommodate art, interpretive elements, and seasonal activations such as a Christmas tree, adding vibrancy and identity to the streetscape.

## Byrnes Street: One-Lane Option

This Blueprint considers retention of the existing two-way, dual lane configuration along Byrnes Street. In response to community, Council and stakeholder requests for a safer, more vibrant CBD, an alternative approach is presented below, which modifies the existing two lanes in each direction to one lane in each direction.

### Benefits:



#### Community backed

- Responds to concerns community have about traffic volumes and reversing from angled parking into traffic lane without separation
- Does not impact on-street parking supply
- TMR has advised they are open to discussing one-lane option



#### Improved safety

- Likely to lead to fewer near misses
- Slower traffic environment
- Safer reversing out of parking bays
- Potential for standardised crossings
- Safer pedestrian crossing movements



#### Low cost and Staged Implementation

- Mainly a line marking exercise with minimal capital infrastructure upgrades
- Can be phased over time



#### Improved Active Transport

- Increased traffic lane width for active transport provision
- More pedestrian-friendly CBD



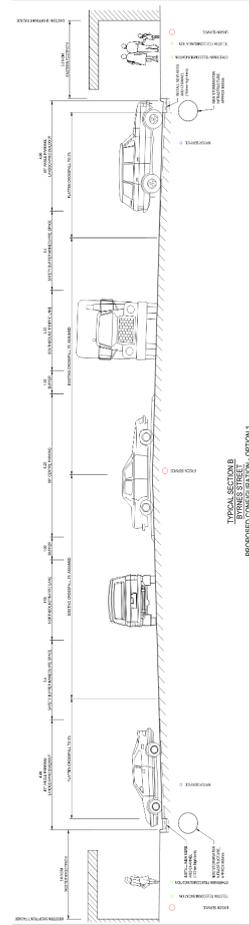
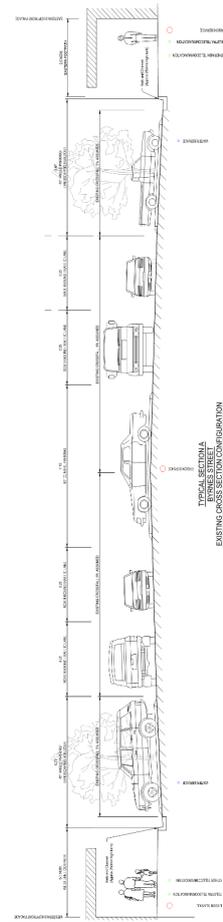
#### Economic Improvements

- Increased foot traffic resulting from slower vehicle speeds and safer crossings, encouraging walking and lingering in the town centre
- Greater retail exposure due to reduced traffic dominance makes shopfronts more visible and accessible to pedestrians
- Drivers are more likely to use other parking (Railway Avenue/Walsh Street) and engage with more local businesses
- Pedestrian-friendly main street, supporting tourism and local spending. Improved safety and amenity encourage people to stay longer, supporting cafes, restaurants, and speciality retail.

### Key Considerations:



- Requires TMR approval, further traffic modelling and SIDRA (Signalised and Unsignalised Intersection Design and Research Aid) analysis.
- Possible peak-time congestion, though this would induce more efficient parking use and walking in the town centre.
- Slightly longer travel times for freight/logistics, which could encourage bypassing the CBD and support future Mareeba CBD bypass discussions.
- Potential for rat-running, with increased traffic on Walsh and Constance Streets.
- Community preference is for the current two-lane layout with future changes to be considered following completion of the Mareeba Bypass.



## Precinct Area B: Atherton St

Atherton Street sits at the heart of the CBD grid and plays a unique role in linking Byrnes Street to surrounding precincts and key community destinations. While it carries lower traffic volumes than Byrnes Street, it remains an important connector for vehicles and pedestrians. Its central location and proximity to existing restaurants and hospitality venues make it a natural gathering place, with strong potential to evolve into a hub for dining, events, and night-time activity.

Through engagement, Atherton Street was frequently identified as a place where people would like to see more outdoor dining, safer pedestrian access, and improved shade and amenity. At the same time, concerns were raised about accessibility, stormwater drainage, and the need for a clearer sense of identity.

The Blueprint positions Atherton Street as a key opportunity to create a lively, people-focused spine that complements Byrnes Street – providing spaces for events and social activity, enhancing walkability, and strengthening its role as the cultural and entertainment heart of the CBD.



- 1 Atherton St Pedestrian Area** Convert Atherton Street into a pedestrian-focused street with one-way traffic flowing east-west from Walsh to Byrnes Street. This would include a new pedestrian plaza on northern side to allow cafés and shops to spill out and provide flexible space for markets and temporary activations.
- 2 Active Dining** Expand existing dining cluster with outdoor spill-out, greenery, and shade to create a comfortable alfresco area that brings life to the street
- 3 Central Crossing** Traffic-calming pedestrian priority feature that slows vehicles and reinforces a pedestrian-oriented main street.
- 4 Nose In Street Parking** Retain angled nose-in parking on the southern side of the street.
- 5 Parallel Street Parking** Parallel parking on the northern side preserves access while expanding the pedestrian realm.
- 6 Greened Facade** Soften the IGA building's blank wall with climbing plants, trellises, and arbours to create a vertical green facade.
- 7 Corner Activation** Use planting, stones, and seating walls to soften corners and provide pause points for rest and social interaction.
- 8 Right-Turn Facility** Provide a right-turn option and island from Atherton Street onto Byrnes Street to support traffic flow.
- 9 U-Turn Provision** Designated turnaround points on Byrnes Street to support traffic flow and access.
- 10 ANZAC Park Connection** ANZAC park to feel connected to Byrnes and Atherton Street creating an extension of green space into the public realm.
- 11 Atherton Street Services & Lighting** Underground power with integrated lighting to activate the street and create a vibrant evening atmosphere.
- 12 Improved intersection safety** Improved safety with extended kerb buildouts and shorter pedestrian crossing lengths.
- 13 Formalised Bikeway Marking** Line marking to define lanes, separate road traffic from the bikeway, and improve safety.
- 14 Strengthen Green Links** Shade existing footpath with additional street trees to create a shaded, comfortable pedestrian connection to the broader locations around Mareeba.
- 15 Additional On Street Parking** Shifting the TMR vehicle inspection lane to a safer location away from the intersection could free up space for additional car parking.



### Precinct Area C: Railway Avenue

Railway Avenue defines the eastern edge of the CBD and provides a key link to the Mareeba Train Station. At present the area is largely functional but lacks the sense of arrival and amenity expected of a main gateway, with limited shade, poor pedestrian comfort, and little to signal its role as part of the CBD.

Community engagement identified Railway Avenue as an underutilised asset with strong potential to contribute more to the town's identity and visitor experience. Feedback highlighted the need for safer pedestrian connections, clearer wayfinding, increased shade and greening, and opportunities to share Mareeba's story through public art and design. The street was also seen as a logical location to explore improved RV facilities, given its proximity to parking and access routes.

The Blueprint positions Railway Avenue as a welcoming gateway and a more legible connection into the CBD; transforming it into an attractive, shaded, and pedestrian-friendly edge that complements the activity of Bynes and Atherton Streets.

- 1 Railway Avenue Entrance** One-way left-in entry from Bynes Street to Railway Avenue with signage and wayfinding to guide RV travellers to parking and facilities.
- 2 Ring Road Parking** One-way loop to rationalise road space, provide clear vehicle movement, and define parking areas.
- 3 Central Median Parking** Nose-in angled bays with shade trees to create a cooler, comfortable environment for vehicles and pedestrians.
- 4 Additional Parallel Parking** Bays along the ring road to provide additional parking capacity.

- 5 Angled RV Parking** – Drive-through bays designed for easy access and manoeuvring of RV vehicles.
- 6 Anzac Park Extension** Landscaping and tree planting extending from Anzac Park along Railway Avenue extend greenery into the public realm, strengthen pedestrian connections between Railway Avenue and Bynes Street, and enhance the streetscape by creating green links that improves comfort and wayfinding.
- 7 Back-of-House Access** Dedicated entries to private service and staff parking areas.
- 8 Train Station** Enhance Mareeba's railway arrival with an extended forecourt and landscaped areas that soften the space and strengthen the connection into Bynes Street.
- 9 Radio Tower** Retain fenced area around the tower for separation. Providing screening planting to soften the interface while maintaining service access.
- 10 Shady Parking Avenue** Tree planting arranged to provide shade for vehicles and create an avenue effect along the northern entry into the precinct.
- 11 Northern Parallel Parking** Additional parking bays, maintaining access to adjacent private lots.
- 12 RV Dump Point & Facilities** Provide amenities for RV travellers including a dump point and water to support their needs and encourage longer visits to Mareeba.
- 13 Broader Pedestrian Links** Connect footpaths to the broader network, linking key destinations like Bynes Street and The Bicentennial Lakes.

## Precinct Area D: Post Office Precinct

This precinct forms an important link between Railway Avenue and Byrnes Street, connecting the Railway Avenue facilities and parking with the heart of Mareeba's CBD. Centred around the Post Office carpark and the historic CWA building, it is one of the town's busiest areas, serving both locals and visitors throughout the day.

The Blueprint envisions a coordinated upgrade that enhances the look and function of the space including a designated post truck loading area and reconfiguration of the Post Office carpark. Rationalisation of the Post Office carpark layout will improve traffic flow, pedestrian safety, and accessibility, while maintaining a similar number of carparks. Complementary improvements such as new landscaping, shade trees, lighting, and defined pedestrian connections will lift the overall amenity of the area and create a more comfortable and attractive environment.

### 1 Railway Forecourt

Welcoming arrival space with landscaped drop-off, pick-up, and parking areas, clearly connecting the station to Byrnes Street.

### 2 CWA Space Reinvention

Explore opportunities to re-invigorate the CWA building and adjacent spaces to complement the potential development next door.

### 3 Future Development

Planned development

### 4 Car Park Improvement

Upgrade of existing carpark to provide additional spaces.

### 5 Post Office Square Connection

Rationalise Road space and provide a formal, shaded pedestrian link to enhance connectivity and comfort.

### 6 Formalised Off-Street Parking

Clearly defined parking areas to improve organisation and accessibility.

### 7 Post Truck Loading Zone

Dedicated area for easy access to the Post Office for deliveries and pickups



## CWA Rest Rooms

The QCWA Rest Rooms building is a historical feature of Byrnes Street and a part of Mareeba's social and cultural landscape. Its central location beside the laneway linking Byrnes Street to Railway Avenue places it in a strategic position to contribute to the activation of the CBD

The building presents an opportunity to be reimagined as a community, cultural, or visitor facility. Adaptive reuse could unlock a range of new functions that support both locals and visitors, while celebrating Mareeba's heritage and community spirit. The future development of the vacant land beside the building should be considered to support safety, visibility, and use.

### Potential opportunities include:

- A community meeting space or shared facility for local groups and events
- A decorative centrepiece of the town through the use of architectural lighting that highlights its heritage character and presence within the CBD
- A small-scale cultural or interpretive centre showcasing Mareeba's local stories, arts, and heritage
- Retaining the façade as a sculptural feature within an outdoor courtyard
- A creative or maker space supporting local artists, craftspeople, and producers
- A visitor information point or boutique tourism hub.
- A flexible venue for pop-up markets, exhibitions, or workshops
- Integration of outdoor courtyard space or spill-out areas for gatherings

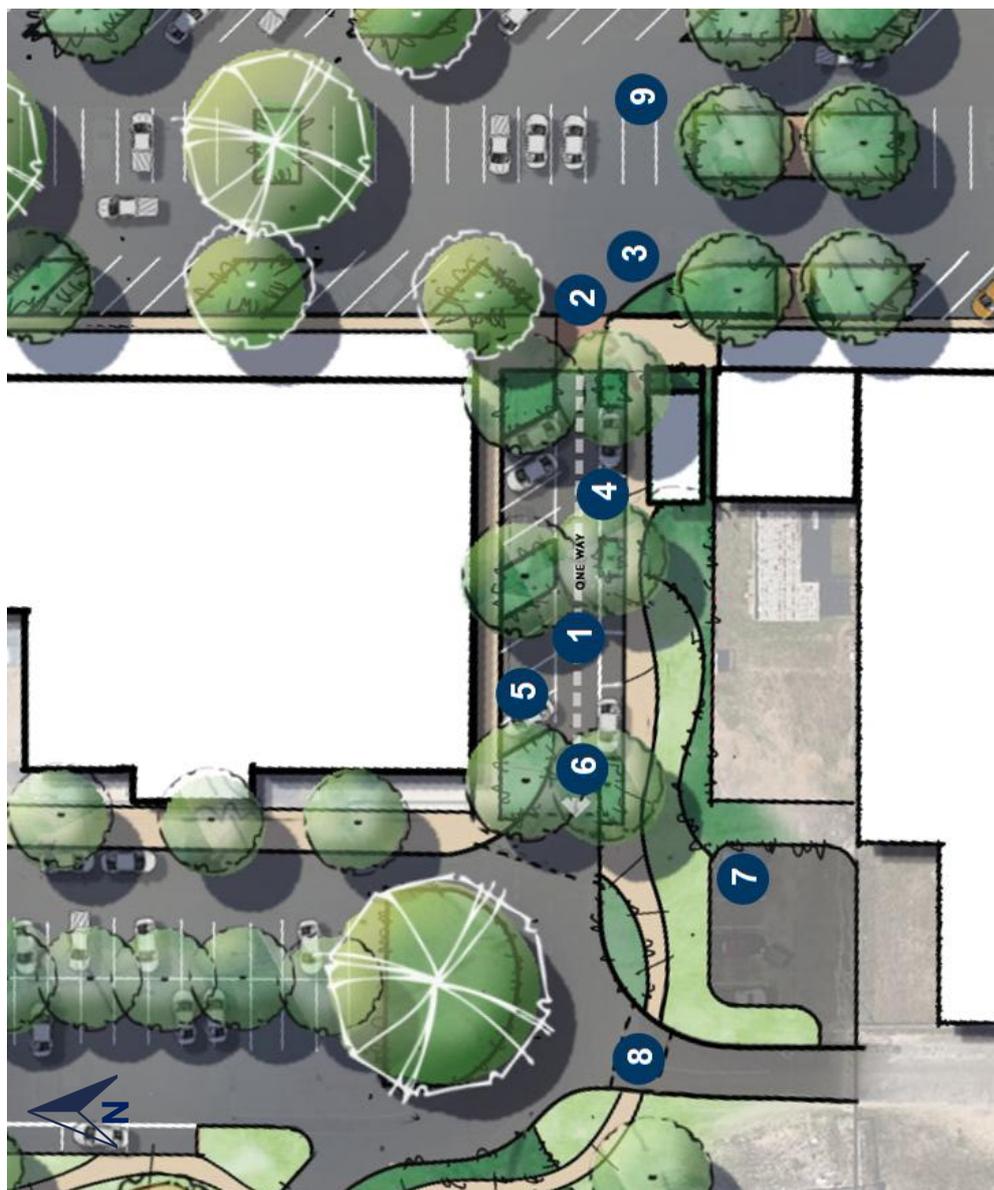
Further community consultation can explore thoughtful design and adaptive reuse. The CWA Rest Rooms could once again become a welcoming focal point within the CBD—celebrating Mareeba's community connections, creativity, and sense of place.



## Precinct Area E: Railway Avenue Entrance

A shared, slow-moving space with flush surfaces and contrasting finishes to define traffic and parking, encouraging pedestrian-friendly movement. Includes a new, safe, and accessible public toilet, left-in access from Byrnes Street for one way access to Railway Avenue.

- 1 Shared Street / Slow-Moving Space**  
A driveway-style shared environment linking Railway Avenue and Byrnes Street, allowing one way traffic, caravan access and on-street parking. Flush surfaces and contrasting finishes clearly define vehicle, pedestrian, and activity zones, creating a safe, pedestrian-friendly connection.
- 2 Left-In Entry** Controlled entry from Byrnes Street to improve access while maintaining safety and traffic flow.
- 3 Wayfinding / Signage** Integrated into kerb extensions to guide pedestrians, caravan owners and drivers to parking and facilities along Railway Avenue
- 4 New Public Toilet Facility** Provide a safe, accessible, and open-design public toilet within the Railway Avenue Entrance, surrounded by activated public space to encourage use and enhance safety.
- 5 Kerb Build-Outs & Planting** Additional kerb extensions and greenery to soften connections and create shaded, comfortable environment.
- 6 Parallel Parking** Provide parallel parking bays along the southern side to improve access and street functionality.
- 7 Landscaped Green Space** Public greenery designed to extend and connect into Railway Avenue, enhancing pedestrian links and streetscape
- 8 Pedestrian Connections** Extend pathway into Railway Avenue to create a walkable link between RV parking to the public toilets and Byrnes Street.
- 9 Signalised Pedestrian Crossing** Potential signalised pedestrian crossing allowing easy all accessible access from the eastern side of Byrnes St to the new toilet facility.



## Precinct Area F: 194 Byrnes Street Carpark

- 1 Two-Way Car Park Access** Maintain two-way vehicle circulation throughout the car park for ease of movement and accessibility.
- 2 Left-In / Left-Out Access** Controlled entry and exit to Byrnes Street to manage traffic flow safely.
- 3 Rear Access** Potential opportunity for through access to TGT carpark encouraging more people to use back of house parking rather than on-street parking.
- 4 Landscaping & Tree Planting** Greenery and trees to enhance shade, visual amenity, and comfort.
- 5 Right Angle Parking** Retain existing angled parking bays to maximise vehicle capacity and maintain organised parking.
- 6 Pedestrian Footpath Link** Continuous pathway along buildings to provide safe, separated access through the car park.
- 7 Kerb Build-Out in Front of Deli** Opportunity to introduce shaded kerb extension with seating to support cafe spill-out, activate the street, and enhance the presence and vibrancy along Byrnes Street.



## Supplementary Projects

- Precinct G: Walsh St Greening** Greenery and trees to enhance shade, visual amenity, and comfort along the extent of Walsh St.
- Precinct H1, H2, H3 & H4: Intersection Safety Improvements** Potential intersection safety improvements aimed at improving safety, accessibility, traffic management, and streetscape quality.
- Precinct I: Lloyd Street Greening** Greenery and trees added to Lloyd St to enhance shade, visual amenity, and comfort.

Refer Page 15 for Precinct locations



## Improved Accessibility Replacing High Kerbs

### Existing Situation:

Many of the footpaths along Byrnes and Atherton Streets sit well above the road, with kerbs much higher than standard. This creates barriers for people with limited mobility, prams and walking aids. Council has previously installed steps and rails, but these are often blocked by parked vehicles, do not accommodate mobility devices, and further disrupt stormwater flows.

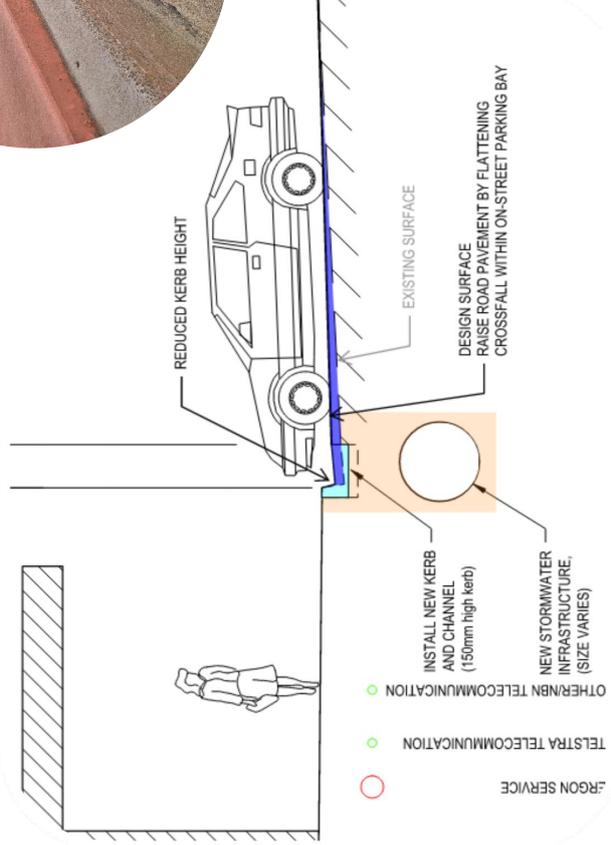
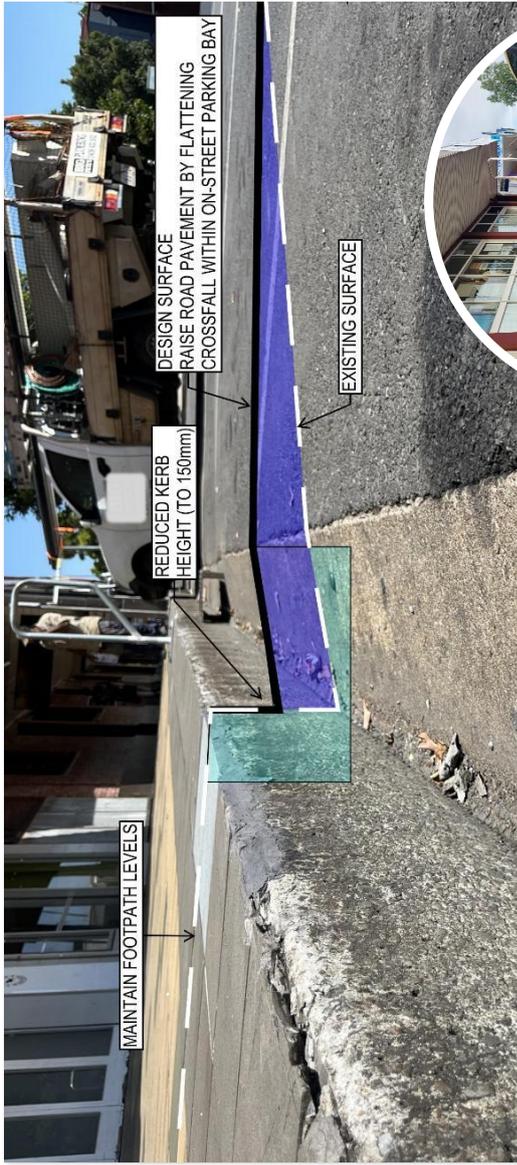
### Proposed Solution:

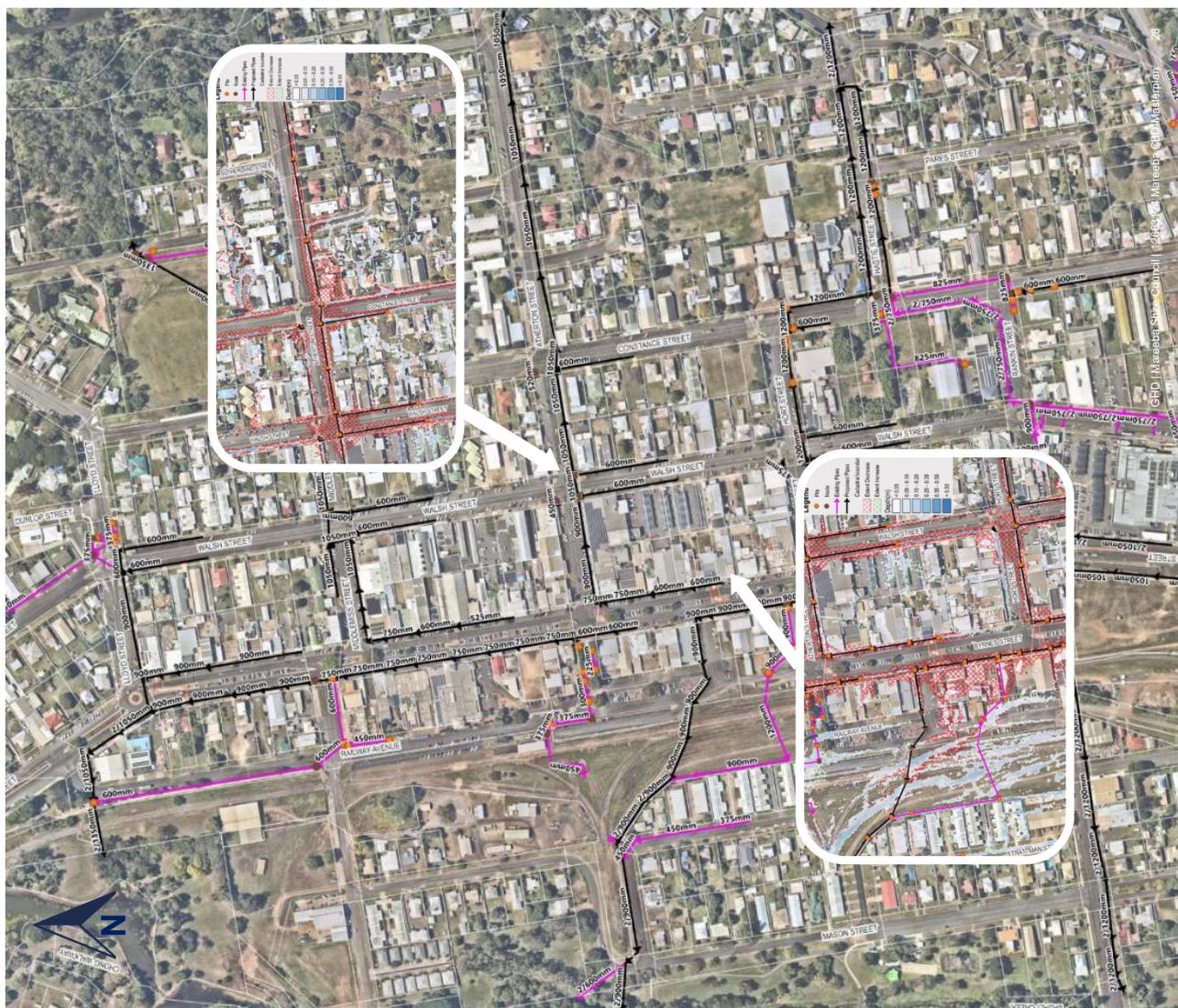
The Precinct Plan proposes lowering kerb heights by raising the adjoining road surface, so footpaths align with a standard 150mm kerb height. Footpath levels will remain largely unchanged, with narrow segments of existing road pavement removed and reconstructed along each kerb line. This will allow the crossfall in angled parking areas to be flattened, creating safer and more accessible connections between road and footpath.

Because the existing high kerbs currently function to contain stormwater in lieu of underground drainage, the solution is linked to proposed stormwater network upgrades. New underground pits and pipes will capture and redirect runoff, enabling the kerbs to be safely lowered. Importantly, the drainage works will already require excavation of road pavement and kerbing for pit and pipe installation. This presents an opportunity to reconstruct the road surface and kerbs to new levels at the same time, without additional cost.

### Benefits:

- Safer and more inclusive access for all community members
- A more functional and user-friendly streetscape
- Where it can be done in conjunction with new drainage pipe installation, negligible costs to rectify
- No change to footpath heights or footpath crossfalls required
- Reduction of steep crossfalls within on-street angled parking bays
- Removal of double kerb step (which occurs in some locations along Byrnes Street)





## Stormwater Infrastructure Upgrades

### Existing Situation:

The Mareeba CBD experiences frequent flash flooding, particularly along Byrnes Street and at the Rankin/Byrnes intersection, where stormwater often overtops kerbs and inundates footpaths and roadways. The existing underground drainage network has insufficient capacity to capture and convey routine storm events, leaving much of the flow reliant on kerb-and-channel systems. Compounding this, recent traffic and streetscape works have altered natural overland flow paths, further constraining drainage and contributing to recurring surface flooding issues.

Priority should be given to upgrading the underground drainage system to accommodate at least the 10% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) storm event ('1 in 10-year storm'), minimising surface nuisance where practical. Routine storms would then be managed underground for pedestrian and vehicle safety. For rarer, high-intensity storm events up to the 1% AEP ('1 in 100-year storm'), the focus should shift to ensuring clear, unobstructed overland flow paths within road corridors to safely convey excess runoff without endangering people, property, or infrastructure.

### Proposed Solution:

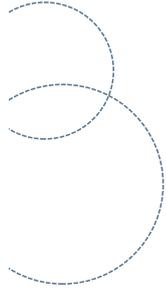
GHD has prepared a separate Stormwater Management Plan (SMP) outlining proposed network upgrades to address flooding and overland flow currently affecting the CBD during rain events (Mareeba Shire Council CBD Blueprint Phase 2: Stormwater Management Plan, September 2025).

The overall upgrade plan is shown adjacent, with a larger version of this image available to view in GHD's SMP.

Except for one or two lower-priority areas identified in the SMP, once fully constructed, the proposed network avoids surcharging to the surface during the 10% AEP event. Surface flows remain within kerb limits and do not pose pedestrian safety risks, maintaining a low flood hazard rating.

In the 1% AEP storm event, pedestrian-accessible areas are similarly modelled at H1 or below.

Insets to the right of page show examples of the 10% AEP flood extent comparison between the current situation in Mareeba and the future situation upon completion of the proposed stormwater network. The red hatching reflects the reduction in flood extent during a 10% AEP storm event.



## Intersection Safety Improvements

### Existing Situation:

The Precinct Plan proposes a program of upgrades to a number of intersections in the CBD to improve safety, enhance pedestrian and cyclist protection, and create a more attractive streetscape through widened pathways and new landscaping.

A number of near misses recorded collisions, and community-reported safety concerns have been identified at several key intersections within the CBD. Alongside Byrnes Street, Walsh and Constance Streets function as major north-south movement corridors, intersecting with important east-west connections at Hort, Atherton, and Middlemiss Streets.

At present, these intersecting locations present long pedestrian crossing distances, wide road corridors that encourage higher vehicle speeds, and limited definition between traffic, pedestrian and cycling movements. These conditions reduce safety, accessibility, and amenity for all users.

### Proposed Solution:

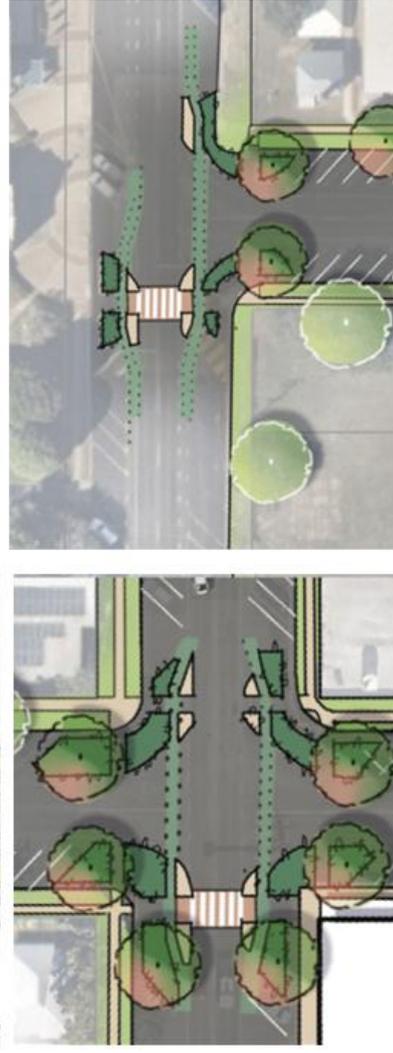
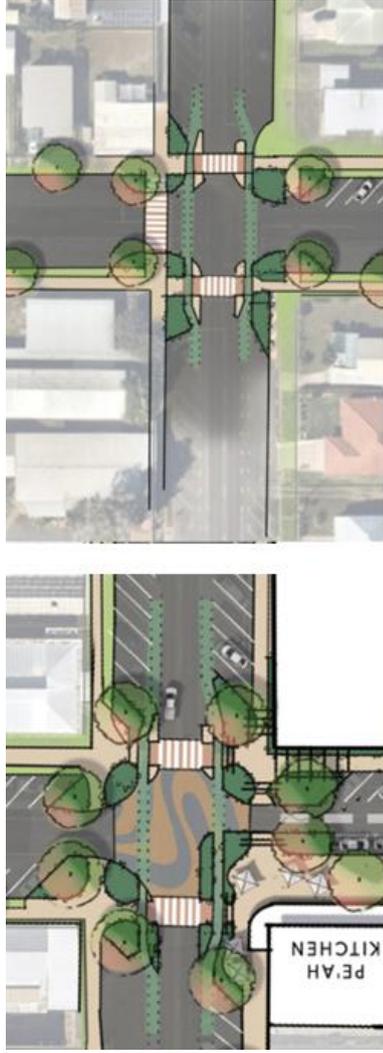
The Precinct Plan proposes a coordinated series of intersection upgrades to improve safety, accessibility, and the overall amenity of the town centre. Pedestrian crossing distances will be shortened through the use of kerb outstands and protected refuge areas, reducing the time people are exposed to traffic. Vehicle lanes will be passively narrowed on approach to intersections, slowing traffic and creating opportunities for landscaping and enhanced streetscape character.

At key crossings, cycle lanes along Walsh and Constance Streets will be separated from vehicle lanes by up to two metres, providing a safer and more legible network while allowing pedestrians to wait in a protected refuge before completing their crossing.

Kerb lines, ramps and surface levels will be reconfigured to meet universal access standards, with new pram ramps and future-proofed pedestrian pathways introduced. In addition, widened kerb areas will incorporate landscape nodes and shade trees, balancing functionality with a more attractive and welcoming CBD environment that presents a consistent theme tying in with the proposed works along Byrnes and Atherton Streets.

### Benefits:

- Enhance safety and accessibility by reducing conflict points between vehicles, cyclists, and pedestrians
- Opportunity to reshape key nodes of the CBD into safer, greener and more welcoming places
- Reinforces Mareeba's identity as a pedestrian-friendly regional centre



## Car Parking

### Existing Situation:

Mareeba's streetscapes are heavily dominated by street parking, prioritising vehicles over pedestrians and active transport, resulting in limited footpath connectivity, minimal shade, and low pedestrian activity despite high car presence.

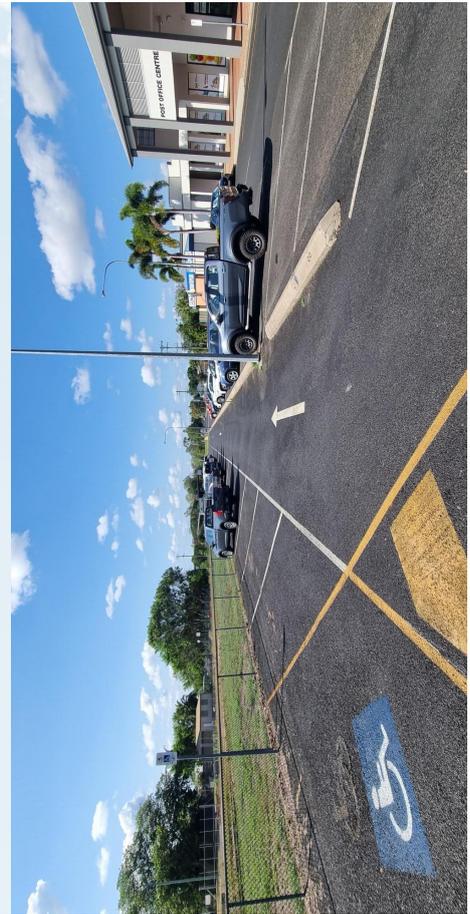
The Mareeba CBD contains approximately 1,300 publicly available parking spaces, including approximately 30 disabled spaces, with a mix of on-street angled, parallel, and central median parking, as well as off-street options near major retailers. Observations made throughout the dry season months in 2025 indicate that CBD parking is generally underutilised, with an estimated one space available for every nine residents - significantly higher than comparative benchmarks in regional centres. While community sentiment places high importance on parking availability, there is no clear evidence at this stage to suggest a shortfall.

Formal community feedback indicates a broader preference for increased shading and green space in the town centre ahead of additional car parking provision. Feedback also highlighted that majority of CBD users are comfortable walking up to one hundred metres from their parking location to their destination within the CBD.

The condition of parking infrastructure varies, with some compliance issues noted against current Australian Standards, particularly for angle parking configurations and disabled bays.

An oversupply of parking induces behaviors that are detrimental to the economic vitality and long-term sustainability of the CBD. For example, some individuals were observed driving short distances between destinations, confident in the availability of nearby parking. This convenience encourages fragmented trips and limited local spending, undermining opportunities for more meaningful engagement with local businesses.

The generous parking provision weakens street-level activity and local retail performance and also imposes a financial burden on the broader community through maintenance and opportunity costs. Addressing this imbalance is essential for fostering a more vibrant, economically resilient town centre.



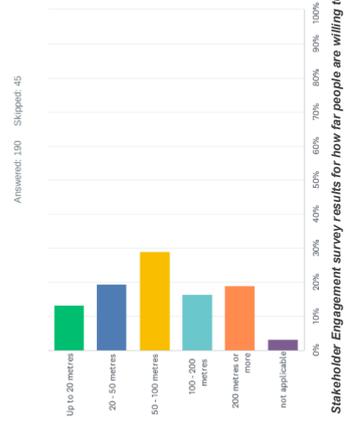
### Proposed Solution:

Directly addressing the parking oversupply within the CBD could be financially advantageous and enable delivery on broader community goals - such as improved footpath spaces, safer crossings, greener streetscapes, and opportunity for outdoor hospitality. To do this some loss of on-street parking will likely be necessary. This should not be viewed as a loss, but rather as a strategic reallocation of space to activities that stimulate economic and social vitality. In fact, reducing on-street parking can be a catalyst for increased activity, improved pedestrian amenity, and stronger performance by town centre traders. It is important not to fear the removal of parking spaces, but to embrace the opportunities it creates.

Key strategies to be considered holistically as part of future CBD projects include:

- Repurposing selected parking spaces for uses that enhance the CBD experience
- Better activation of offset parking areas
- Railway Avenue, for example, can be reconfigured with improved parking provision, increased shading, security lighting, and improved linkages to Byrnes St, encouraging usage and reducing reliance on the on-street parking along Byrnes
- Improved connections and safer linkages provided between Byrnes St and offset parking areas
- The east-west movement corridors between Byrnes St and Railway Avenue (for example, ANZAC Park and Railway Avenue Entrance), and Byrnes St and Walsh St (for example, Atherton St, Hort St and Middlemiss St) to be enhanced to encourage increased active transport and walkability
- Rationalising time limits across both on- and off-street parking to better support turnover and access
- Ensure appropriate provision, location and compliance of accessible parking and loading zones
- Reconfigure RV and caravan parking along Railway Avenue to improve access and efficiency via drive-through parking arrangement.

Q5 How far would you be willing to walk from your car to your destination? (choose one option)



Stakeholder Engagement survey results for how far people are willing to walk

## Electrical and Lighting Upgrades

### Existing Situation:

Lighting within the Mareeba CBD currently consists of a combination of infrastructure owned by the Department of Transport and Main Roads and Ergon Energy, with most luminaires mounted on existing timber power poles. Feature and landscape lighting is limited, primarily confined to ANZAC Park, leaving other key public spaces without dedicated illumination. The CBD also lacks electric vehicle (EV) charging facilities. Power reticulation is provided through a mix of overhead and underground networks, with underground cabling concentrated along Byrnes Street.

### Proposed Solution:

#### EV Charging

EV charging is currently not available within the CBD due to capacity limits with the existing Ergon supply network. Upgrades to Ergon Energy's distribution network will be required before EV charging can be provided.

It is proposed that a level 3 EV charger be provisioned for in the proposed car park adjacent to the new parking on Railway Avenue.

This position provides a suitably secure area for the charges to be located along with proximity to the existing Ergon HV network to allow for cost effective modification of the existing network to reduce overall construction costs once Ergon Energy's upstream capacity is improved.

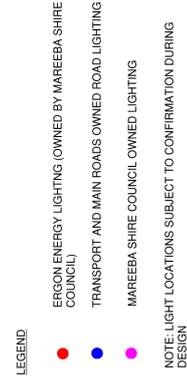
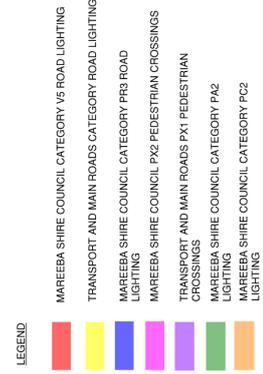
#### Street Lighting

It is proposed that the lighting categories presented in the adjacent lighting categories map are provided throughout the Mareeba CBD to facilitate the upgrades being undertaken as part of the CBD masterplan. Lighting categories have been selected based on the roadway use, the prestige requirements of the area and the risk of crime throughout the area. The proposed locations of the lighting to meet the advisable categories are shown in the adjacent Lighting Positions Maps.

Roadway lighting luminaires are to be selected from the current standard Ergon Energy range available at the time of construction. Mounting heights and outreach dimensions will be determined based on the selected luminaire type and the applicable lighting category requirements.

Luminaires for Category PA and PC areas are recommended to be privately metered to allow for selection of luminaires that suit the landscape design intent. By being privately metered, additional landscape lighting and power bollards can also be provided in these areas.

Pedestrian crossings are also required to be lit to ensure pedestrian safety after the sun has set.





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**Electrical Undergrounding**

As part of the Mareeba CBD masterplan, investigations of the possibility of undergrounding the existing Ergon Energy Overheads along Middlemiss Street, Atherton Street and Hort Street are currently underway with the priority of undergrounding shown in the adjacent map.

Undergrounding of these existing overheads will be subject to feasibility and coordinated with Ergon Energy.

**Landscape Lighting**

Landscape lighting throughout the Mareeba CBD needs to be selected to suit the requirements of the street and the landscaping being provided. There are opportunities to provide feature lighting and landscaping lighting to draw attention to artwork and feature plants as described further in the masterplan.

Landscape lighting can also be provided in public activity areas to assist with wayfinding throughout spaces.

Landscape lighting will need to be selected to suit the installation environment along with manufacturer support.

Where possible a lighting control system such as a Pharos lighting control system should be used to provide a theatrical lighting scheme throughout the CBD masterplan area. This will allow for control of the individual lights to facilitate changing colours to support celebrations throughout the year.

Further development of landscaping lighting will need to occur during further design stages of the Mareeba CBD.

-  Existing Underground supply
-  Priority 1 - Atherton St
-  Priority 2 - Walsh St Intersections (Middlemiss, Atherton and Hort)
-  Priority 3 - East West Connections



## Sewer and Water Infrastructure Planning

### Water

#### Existing Situation:

The primary water supply for the township of Mareeba is sourced from the Barron River, which is fed by Tinaroo Falls Dam. Water from the intake in the Barron River is then fed to Mareeba's water treatment facilities located in Kowa St, located east of the CBD. The Mareeba potable water network consists of a range of pipe materials from newly installed High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) and Ductile Iron Concrete Lined (DICL), and aging Asbestos Cement (AC) and Cast Iron (CI) pipes. Many of the CI pipes are understood to be at or beyond their serviceable life.

#### Proposed Solution:

The following should be considered during the design and construction of any CBD Blueprint upgrade projects:

- Upgrade/replace aging and deteriorating water distribution infrastructure within the CBD, addressing key deficiencies such as aging asbestos cement and ongoing cast-iron pipeline failures
- Replace existing cast iron, asbestos cement and older PVC pipes with either DICL or PVC pipes to improve reliability of Mareeba's water network and reduce costly ongoing maintenance and repair of pipe failures
- It is recommended that the replacement of PVC pipes be prioritised by first considering locations of any recent failures of PVC pipes and then prioritised on age
- Replacing cast iron and asbestos cement pipes concurrently with other project blueprint upgrades. This coordinated approach can streamline construction efforts and minimise inconvenience to residents and business owners
- CCTV pipe inspections are recommended to determine existing condition, prior to undertaking any replacement design or construction



### Sewer

#### Existing Situation:

The Mareeba township's sewage system terminates at the Mareeba Wastewater Treatment Plant, located on Hickling Avenue in Mareeba. The recently upgraded facility can now serve up to 12,500 equivalent persons (EP), with provisions for future expansion to accommodate up to 16,500 EP. Treated effluent from the plant is discharged into Two Mile Creek, a tributary of the Mitchell River. The existing sewer network is understood to consist of mostly PVC pipe, and this sewer network undergoes routine maintenance as part of the Council's CCTV inspection, manhole rehabilitation and sewer relining program. Works required as part of these programs are non-intrusive and do not require pavement and pipelines to be dug up.

Based on anecdotal advice and available information, the Mareeba sewer network is understood to be in relatively good condition and operating within capacity.

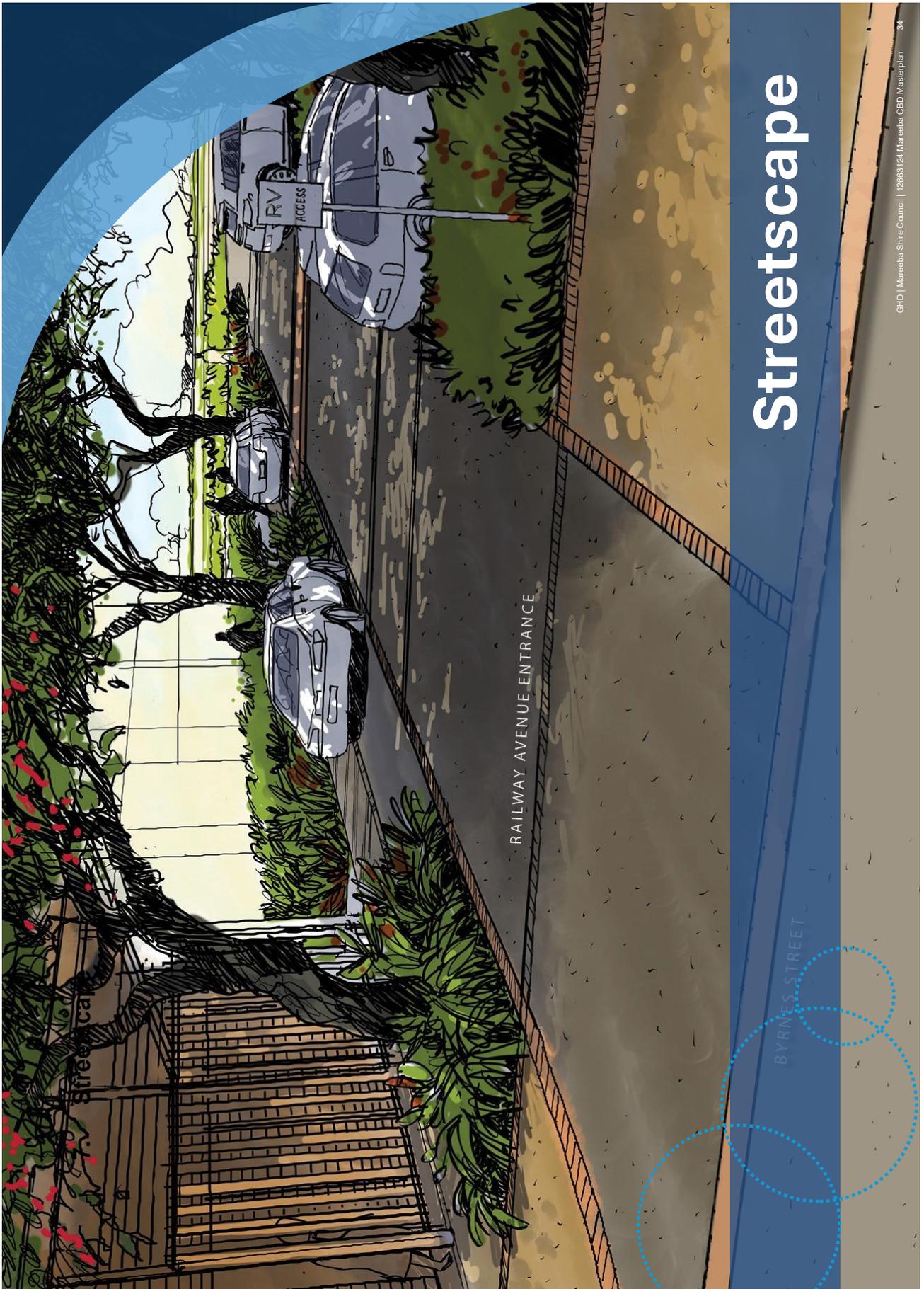
#### Proposed Solution:

The following should be considered during the design and construction of any CBD Blueprint upgrade projects:

- Be cognisant of existing manhole and sewer line locations that are within areas requiring pavement level/existing surface level adjustments



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# Streetscape

## Streetscape Materials Inspiration

Existing CBD

**We recognise the importance of designing safe and accessible streetscapes.**

In line with best practice, selections are guided by Queensland's slip resistance standards to promote pedestrian safety in a variety of conditions. Common treatments such as broom-finished concrete, slip resistant stone-look tiles and light exposed aggregate offer texture and visual interest while generally meeting slip resistance recommendations, contributing to a durable and functional streetscape that responds to the needs of the community.

The surrounding natural environment and regional town character provide inspiration for the materials palette.

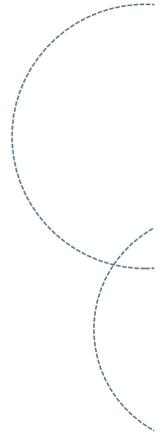
### Strategy

The pavement treatment in the streetscape design is intended to celebrate the natural landscape and distinctive regional town character of Mareeba. The materials include:

- Broad sweeps and intricate stencils of sandblasted concrete;
- Slip resistant stone-look tiles
- Stone banding to break up long pavement runs, providing visual interest and rhythm to pathways while subtly referencing the shapes found in Mareeba's environment

The design draws on local materials that reflect the colours of the surrounding region, including the warm reds, pinks, and greys of Mareeba's granite and marble, with subtle stone details incorporated into the pavements to reinforce the local geology.

The sandblasting treatment involves the creation of custom stencils and placemaking research, while the stonework can be carried out by local skilled tradespeople, ensuring a strong connection to the community that reflects Mareeba's identity.



Surface Finish Inspiration



Savannah Grasses



Mineral Rich Granite Soils



Rugged Rock Formations



Softened with Green

## Streetscape Materials Design Thinking

### Shapes of Mareeba

In Mareeba, a variety of shapes can be observed in both the natural landscape and the town's agricultural history, from sharp vertical and horizontal lines with clear edges found in property boundaries, field structures, and rock formations, to the curves of mountains, tree-lined roads, and rolling hills that rise sharply in the distance. These forms can be translated into the pavement strategy to subtly bring cues from the surrounding environment into the everyday urban experience, creating a consistent sense of place. Strong vertical and horizontal banding in pavements can guide movement and activity through streets and plazas, while softer, wavy patterns can reference the natural curves of creeks and ridgelines, creating slower, more slower areas for people to pause and gather.



Sweeping curves of creek meanders contrasted against the sharp geometric lines of agricultural fields.



Irregular shapes and sized of boulders against softness of the water.



Curved mountain ridgelines can be seen in the distance.

## Streetscape Materials Feature Stone

### Sandblasting and Detailing

Sections of broom-finished pavement will feature sandblasted bands that expose the selected aggregate colour, adding subtle variation and texture across key areas. These bands can reference local stories or natural landscape elements, embedding a sense of place within the streetscape. Sandblasting offers a cost-effective way to introduce richness and diversity to the hardscape while maintaining a refined and cohesive finish.



### Broom Finished Plain Grey Concrete

Plain grey concrete is proposed as the standard material for footpaths and pedestrian connections outside Byrnes Street and key CBD areas. It provides a consistent, durable base that can be visually enhanced through the selective use of coloured or exposed concrete to define key nodes along the footpath such as seating areas, intersections, or gathering points.



This neutral concrete tone serves as the base colour for all hardscape surfaces along the main street, providing a consistent backdrop for areas of sandblasted detail and larger sections of broom-finished or lightly exposed concrete. A secondary concrete colour (CCS Prairie - right) may be used in smaller amounts to define key nodes and visually break up the pavement palette. Together, the two earthy tones reference the surrounding landscape, adding warmth and a subtle sense of place to the streetscape.



Base Pavement Colour  
(CCS Paperbark)



Feature Pavement  
Colour (CCS Prairie)



Aggregate 01 (Tableland Pink 7mm) Aggregate 02 (Ocean Floor 7mm)

These two contrasting aggregates help define pathways and laneways across the CBD while maintaining a cohesive palette through a shared concrete base colour. Bands of sandblasted Ocean Floor aggregate reveal lighter pebbles for subtle contrast, while the laneway and shared zones feature a mix with pink-toned pebbles. Both aggregates incorporate pink and red hues that reference Mareeba's distinctive landscape, adding warmth and local character to the streetscape.



Above: Examples showing how variations in pavement colour and aggregate exposure can be used to define spaces, create visual interest, and highlight key nodes within the streetscape.

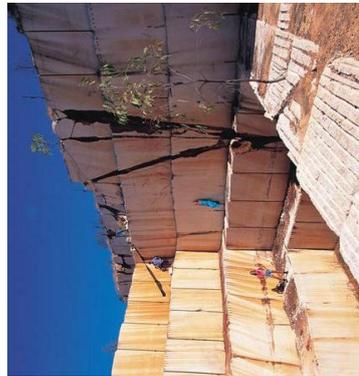
## Streetscape Materials

### Use of Locally Quarried Stone

Mareeba sits on the Atherton Tablelands, a landscape of ancient granite outcrops and volcanic plains, giving the region its rugged, distinctive geology with features such as the Granite Gorge near Mareeba is a well-known natural attraction.

The area is renowned for **Chillagoe marble** (see image to right), a durable, fine-grained stone with subtle veining and warm tones. The region is also known for **Mareeba granite**, a durable and aesthetically appealing stone that can be utilised in various urban applications. This granite, with its coarse-grained texture and natural colour variations, is well-suited for outdoor public environments due to its resilience.

Using these materials, in pavements, seating, or walling, can celebrate the town's natural character. Using its colours and textures helps create a cohesive and authentic urban environment that reflects the region's natural heritage.



### Stone Banding as Pavement Detail

Locally quarried stone can be incorporated as refined banding within pavements to elevate the material palette in key areas of the streetscape. By introducing subtle contrast and texture, these stone bands highlight important nodes such as the Byrnes Street Heart, while also carrying a consistent material language across different precincts. Regularly spaced bands can break up long pavement runs, providing visual interest and rhythm, and subtly unifying streets, laneways, and pedestrian pathways without overpowering the overall design.

### Stone as Thresholds and Spatial Definition

In addition to pavement banding, stone can be used to define thresholds and differentiate spaces within the urban environment. Flush kerbs, edging, or stone strips at entry points to plazas, intersections, or laneways create a tactile and visual cue for changes in use or hierarchy, marking transitions between movement and gathering spaces.

### Stone in Wall and Signage Treatments

Stone can be used in walls and low retaining structures to reinforce the connection between the streetscape and Mareeba's natural landscape. Using stone in vertical elements provides texture and colour, creating visual interest and a sense of place. Walls can define edges, enclose seating areas, or act as subtle backdrops for planting, while maintaining a consistent material language with pavements and kerbs.

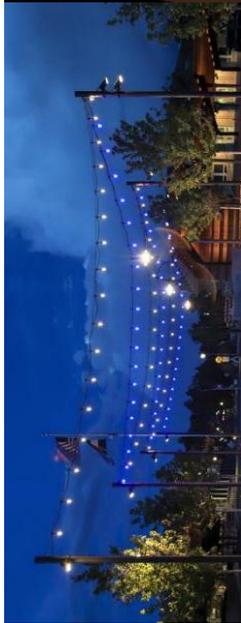
### Informal Use of Stone

Stone can be used informally throughout the streetscape to create subtle, functional features that encourage interaction. Low stone bollards can define edges and guide movement without appearing overly formal, while larger stone blocks or boulders can serve as casual seating or gathering spots. Stones can also be used with landscaping as visual features.



## Streetscape Materials Feature Lighting

Feature lighting is a great way to enhance the activation and vibrancy of Mareeba's CBD by extending the usability of streets and public spaces into the evening and creating a sense of safety and welcome. Thoughtfully designed lighting can highlight key public areas, architectural features, and public art, drawing people through the streetscape and encouraging social interaction. It also adds visual interest and atmosphere, reinforcing Mareeba's identity and making the town centre a lively, inviting destination after dark.



### Canterbury Lighting (above):

Canterbury lighting can be strategically placed along laneways, pedestrian paths, and quieter streets to improve visibility, guide movement, and enhance safety during evening hours. By providing consistent, subtle illumination, it encourages use of underutilised areas while maintaining a human-scale, intimate streetscape that feels both secure and welcoming.



### Feature Uplighting (below):

Feature uplighting can be used to accentuate trees, signage, and heritage buildings, highlighting key elements of Mareeba's urban identity. This type of lighting adds drama and visual interest to the streetscape, creating memorable focal points, enhancing night-time aesthetics, and reinforcing the character and history of the town.

### Gobo Lighting (below):

In select areas such as Atherton Street spine lighting can be used along key pedestrian and vehicular corridors to create dynamic patterns and visual interest on pavements, walls, or building façades. By projecting light through custom gobo templates, this technique can help with wayfinding, and adds a distinctive, playful identity to Mareeba's urban centre, spaces engaging and memorable after dark.



### Fairy Lights in Trees (below):

Fairy lights draped in trees create a warm, inviting atmosphere that activates plazas, parks, and streets during evenings, supporting social connection and contributing to a lively, vibrant town centre.



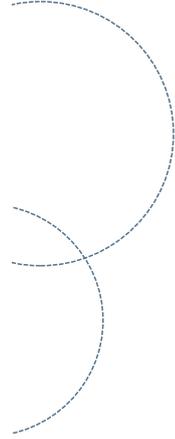
### Spine Lighting (below):

Spine lighting can be used along key pedestrian paths to guide movement and enhance safety while adding visual interest to the streetscape. By illuminating the main pedestrian circulation routes, it creates a clear, legible and safe path for pedestrians, encouraging positive evening use.



## Streetscape Materials Arbours & Vertical Greening

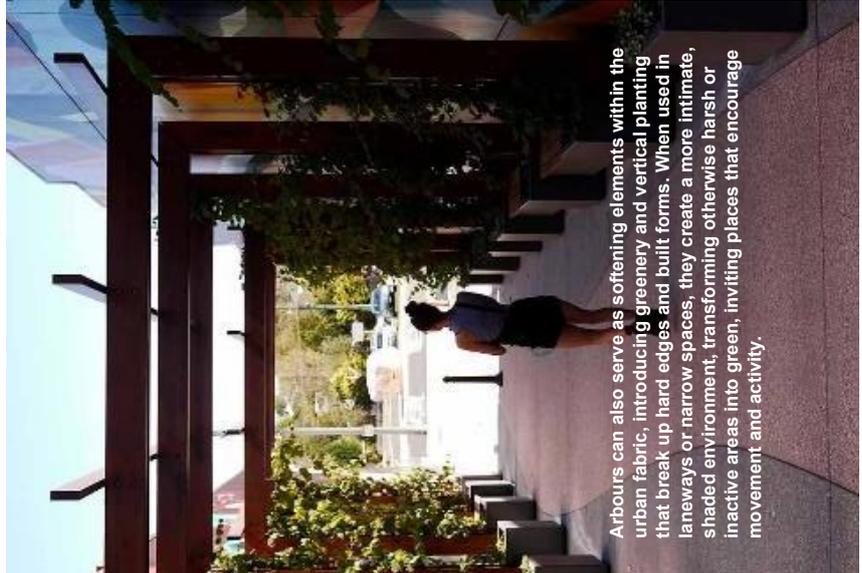
Vine-covered arbours provide much-needed shade and weather protection along Mareeba's main streets, improving pedestrian comfort in the hot, dry climate. Designed with durable materials and climbing species suited to local conditions, they soften the streetscape and create a greener, more inviting environment. Positioned at key nodes and entry points, the arbours act as wayfinding elements and visual markers that help define Mareeba's identity and enhance the overall streetscape experience.



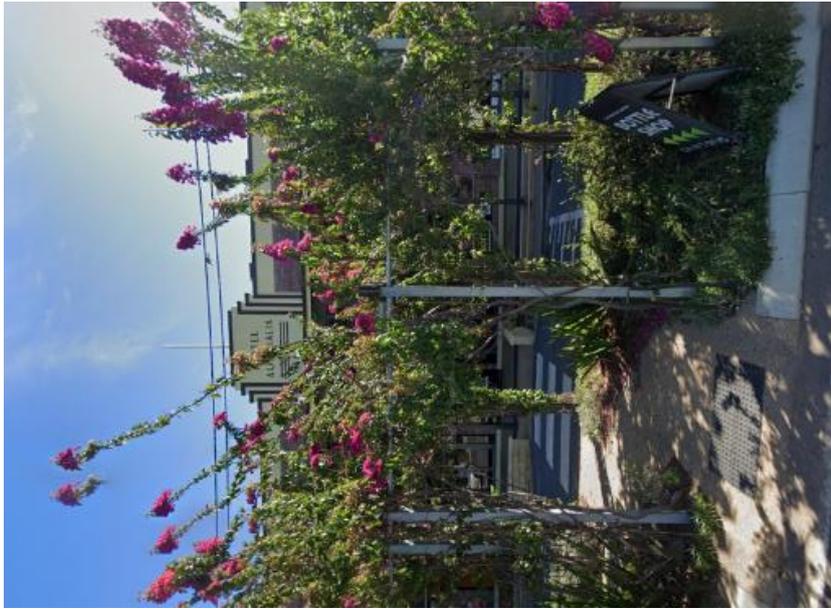
### Gateway Elements

Arbours can act as strong gateway elements, marking key entry points or transitions between precincts. While their distinctive forms and consistent placement also support wayfinding by guiding movement and helping people navigate intuitively through the streetscape.

### Softening Elements



Arbours can also serve as softening elements within the urban fabric, introducing greenery and vertical planting that break up hard edges and built forms. When used in laneways or narrow spaces, they create a more intimate, shaded environment, transforming otherwise harsh or inactive areas into green, inviting places that encourage movement and activity.



## Furniture Palette Seats and Benches

Strategically placed seating areas provide both comfort and an opportunity to express Mareeba's identity. By incorporating locally inspired designs or motifs into bench backs and armrests, seating elements can celebrate the town's cultural heritage, transforming everyday infrastructure into functional public art that resonates with locals and visitors alike.

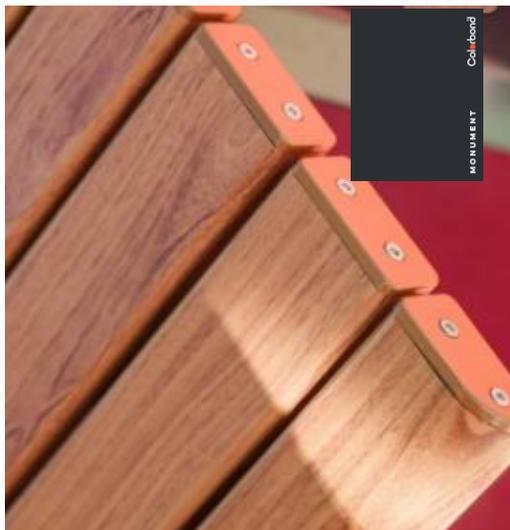
Seating along Mareeba's main street is thoughtfully designed to support rest and social interaction while encouraging safe, shared use of the space. Features such as varied seat heights, integrated armrests, segmented bench layouts, and clear sightlines promote short, inclusive stays and passive surveillance. Together, these elements help create welcoming, well-managed public spaces that support accessibility, safety, and equitable use, reinforcing positive behaviour without relying on overt control measures.

### Custom Seating

In selected locations, such as prominent street corners and civic areas, bespoke seating elements can be used to reinforce a strong sense of place. Seating elements can be fixed to more robust materials such as locally sourced stone block walls, these elements create strong gathering spaces for the community. Materials and finishes are selected to reflect Mareeba's colours and character, while introducing a contemporary aesthetic to the streetscape.



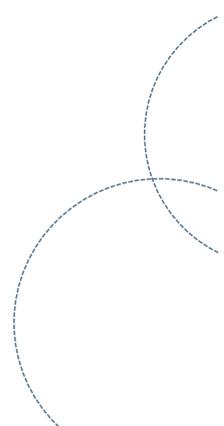
**GX Outdoors** – Citystyle Range  
**Battens** - TimberImage - Iron Bark aluminium woodgrain  
**Frame** - Powdercoated Aluminium  
**Colour** - Monument

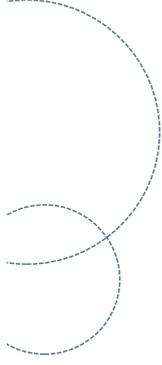


Timber Image offers a low-maintenance solution that combines the strength of aluminium with the appearance of timber. TimberImage battens and powdercoated frame in monument.



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**Bin Enclosures**

Mareeba already has an established bin style that reflects and promotes the town's history and local icons. This existing bin design provides a strong visual reference for public infrastructure within the CBD and contributes to a consistent and recognisable streetscape character. As part of the Project Blueprint, this established bin style will be retained and incorporated into any new bins or bin enclosures required, ensuring new infrastructure aligns with Mareeba's identity and integrates seamlessly with the existing public realm.

**Bollards**

Bollards, while primarily serving traffic management purposes, can also double as design features. Their shapes and patterns can mirror the local architecture, providing a subtle yet effective way to reinforce Mareeba's visual identity.

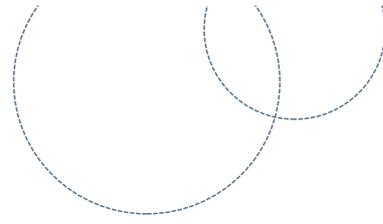


**Street Furniture Australia – Linear Bollard Frame – Powdercoated aluminium Colour – Monument Inset – Iron Bark aluminium woodgrain with option for custom routed motif.**



## Signage

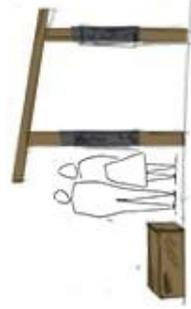
Signage and interpretive elements should be developed in consultation with the community and stakeholders. Indicative sign types suggest integrating local art, historical references, or cultural symbols into sign designs can bring to the CBD with a unique identity and help visitors navigate while immersing them in the town's story with additional signage types and content suitable for this location (Colours indicative and reflect MRC logo). Some sign types serve more than one purpose i.e. both identification and information.



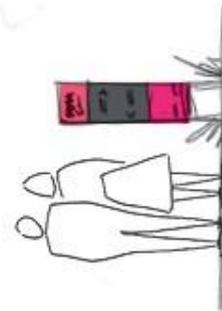
Identification Sign



Information and Orientation Signage / Map



Identification Sign and Map



Minor ID / Direction



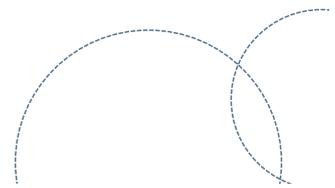
Directional Signage



Interpretive Node



Informational / Educational Signage





## Softscape Planting Palette

Several considerations emerged when selecting a planting palette for Mareeba's CBD streetscape. Community engagement highlighted a strong desire for increased greenery to soften the street environment, as well as the inclusion of more colour in the planting to reflect the vibrancy of the local community and the natural hues of the surrounding landscape.

**Reflecting Local Landscape:** The palette celebrates Mareeba as an "outback oasis" where the savannah and tropical ecosystems meet. With a mix of predominantly native species providing a lush, green feel while supporting local biodiversity, including habitat and food for native birdlife.

**Colourful Planting:** Planting introduces more greenery and seasonal colour to soften streets and enliven public spaces, responding to community aspirations.

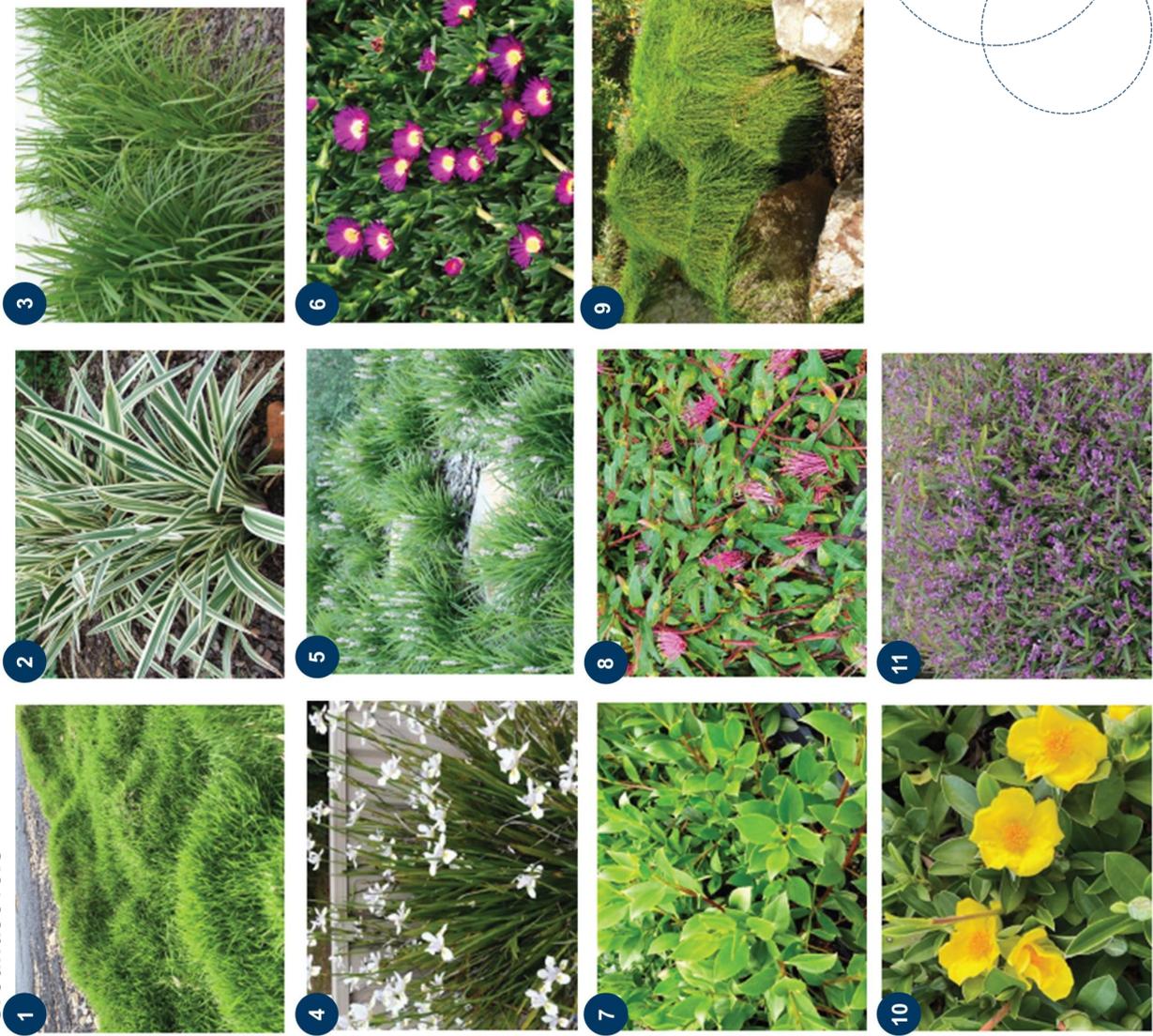
**Safety and Visibility:** Low-level groundcovers and trees with cleared canopies maintain clear sightlines, ensuring safety without compromising shade or visual interest.

**Low Maintenance:** Hardy, low-maintenance species have been prioritised, with ongoing consultation with the council's maintenance team to ensure plantings thrive and are easy to care for. Most planting beds will receive irrigation to support healthy growth while reducing ongoing upkeep requirements.



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Groundcovers



No. Species Common Name

| No.  | Species                         | Common Name           |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Groundcovers 100mm-600mm High</b>   |                                 |                       |
| Low-growing species to form the main matrix of the planting palette, providing continuous green coverage and unifying planting beds. |                                 |                       |
| 1  | <i>Zoysia tenuifolia</i>        | No Mow Turf           |
| 2  | <i>Dianella caerulea</i>        | Flax Lilly            |
| 3  | <i>Lomandra hystrix</i>         | Mat Rush              |
| 4  | <i>Dietes grandiflora</i>       | African Iris          |
| 5  | <i>Liriope muscari</i>          | Lilly Turf            |
| 6  | <i>Carpobrotus glaucescens</i>  | Native Pig Face       |
| 7  | <i>Myoporum ellipticum</i>      | Broad Leaved Boobiala |
| 8  | <i>Grevillea 'Royal Mantle'</i> | Royal Mantle          |
| 9  | <i>Casuarina glauca</i>         | 'Cousin It'           |
| 10   | <i>Hibbertia scandens</i>       | Golden Guinea Flower  |
| 11   | <i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>    | Purple Pea            |
|  |                                 | 'Mini Haha            |

**Shrubs**



**Features**



**No. Species Common Name**

**Shrubs 600mm-1000mm High**  
 Small foliage shrubs used selectively to stand out against the soft green backdrop, adding texture, structure, and seasonal interest while maintaining clear sightlines and visual openness within the streetscape.

|    |  |                     |
|----|--|---------------------|
| 12 | <i>Xanthostemon chrysanthus</i>          | Little Penda        |
| 13 | <i>Syzygium 'cascade'</i>                | Cascade             |
| 14 | <i>Grevillea 'superb'</i>                | Superb Grevillea    |
| 15 | <i>Westringia 'mundi'</i>                | Native Rosemary     |
| 16 | <i>Philodendron xanadu</i>               | Xanadu              |
| 17 | <i>Callistemon 'Great Balls of Fire'</i> | Great Balls of Fire |
| 18 | <i>Phyllanthus multiflorus</i>           | Waterfall Plant     |
| 19 | <i>Alpinia nutans</i>                    | False Cardamom      |
| 20 | <i>Hymenocallis littoralis</i>           | Spider Lilly        |
| 21 |  | Desert Star         |
| 22 | <i>Russelia equisetiformis</i>           | Fire Cracker Plant  |
| 23 | <i>Ixora coccinea</i>                    | West Indian Jasmine |

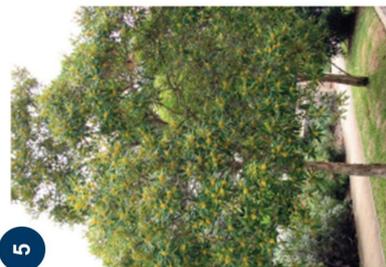
**Features 600mm-1200mm High**  
 Used as singular plantings or in small groups of three to five, feature shrubs act as visual accents that provide bursts of colour and structure. These are best positioned at gateways and key nodes to draw attention and enhance the character of focal areas within the streetscape.

|    |                           |                 |
|----|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 24 | <i>Aloe 'Ivory Tower'</i> | Ivory Tower     |
| 25 | <i>Doryanthes excelsa</i> | Flame Lilly     |
| 26 | <i>Zamia furfuracea</i>   | Cardboard Cycad |
| 27 | <i>Cordyline sp.</i>      | Palm Lilly      |
| 28 | <i>Dioon spinulosum</i>   | Mexican Cycad   |
| 29 | <i>Bromeliad sp.</i>      | Bromeliad       |
| 30 | <i>Croton variegata.</i>  | Croton          |

## Softscape Tree Palette

| No. Species          | Common Name                                      |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>Street Trees</b>  |  |
| 1                    | <i>Syzygium floribundum</i> Weeping Lilly Pilly  |
| 2                    | <i>Buckinghamia celsissima</i> Ivory Curl        |
| 3                    | <i>Syzygium hemilamprum</i> Blush Saintash       |
| 4                    | <i>Syzygium tiarneyanum</i> River Cherry         |
| 5                    | <i>Tristanopsis laurina</i> Water Gum            |
| 6                    | <i>Syzygium bamagense</i> Bamaga Saintash        |
| 7                    | <i>Randia fitzalanii</i> Native Gardenia         |
| 8                    | <i>Harpulia pendula</i> Tulipwood                |
| <b>Feature Trees</b> |  |
| 9                    | <i>Peltophorum pterocarpum</i> Yellow Poinciana  |
| 10                   | <i>Cassia brewsteri</i> Brewster's Cassia        |
| 11                   | <i>Cassia 'Paluma Range'</i> Paluma Range Cassia |

Street Trees



Features





ghd.com

↑ The Power of Commitment

**9.3 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES, TECHNICAL SERVICES OPERATIONS REPORT - JANUARY 2026**

**Date Prepared:** 28 January 2026  
**Author:** Manager Technical Services  
**Attachments:** Nil

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to outline Council's Fleet, Design, Soils Lab, Survey, Quality, GIS, Facilities and Investigation Services activities undertaken by Infrastructure Services during the month of January 2026.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives the Infrastructure Services, Technical Services Operations Report for January 2026.

**BACKGROUND**

**Technical Services**

Design, quality, and investigations:

Investigation activities undertaken in January included:

| Activity                                | New Requests | Closed Requests | Active EOM |
|---|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| <b>Lodged via CRM:</b>                  |              |                 |            |
| Road Infrastructure Review              | 21           | 10              | 65         |
| Drainage Investigations                 | 17           | 2               | 33         |
| Parks Investigations                    | 0            | 0               | 3          |
| Miscellaneous e.g. Planning; Local Laws | 13           | 9               | 22         |

| Routine Activities   | Investigations Completed |
|--|--------------------------|
| Traffic Count / Surveys  | 0                        |
| As Constructed Plans   | 9                        |
| National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) Permits/Investigations | 23                       |
| Before You Dig Requests  | 104                      |

Traffic Counts were not undertaken due to the changed traffic conditions associated with School Holidays and end of year holidays etc.

Soil Laboratory:

Council's Soil Laboratory provides NATA-accredited soil and material testing for internal and external services. The laboratory was closed January.

GIS:

Ongoing improvements to GIS data associated with water, sewerage, roads, underground stormwater and kerbs asset data sets continues, as information is received from other areas of Council.

Operational Works and Subdivisions:

To ensure ongoing compliance with development conditions, both during construction and on-maintenance, Council undertakes routine inspection and monitoring of sites. The following developments remain current:

| Locality                               | Subdivisions Name/Description     | Road                |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Works Approved for Commencement</b> |                                   |                     |
| Koah                                   | Popovic Road Development          | Popovic Road        |
| Kuranda                                | Jum Rum Rainforest Estate Stage 2 | Fallon Road         |
| Kuranda                                | 2-6 Black Mountain Road           | Black Mountain Road |
| Mareeba                                | Quill Street Development          | Quill Street        |
| Mareeba                                | Rayfield Estate                   | Rayfield Road       |
| Mareeba                                | The Edge – Stage 4                | Antonio Drive       |
| Mareeba                                | Amaroo Stage 14A                  | Karobean Drive      |
| Mareeba                                | Wylandra Estate                   | Wylandra Drive      |

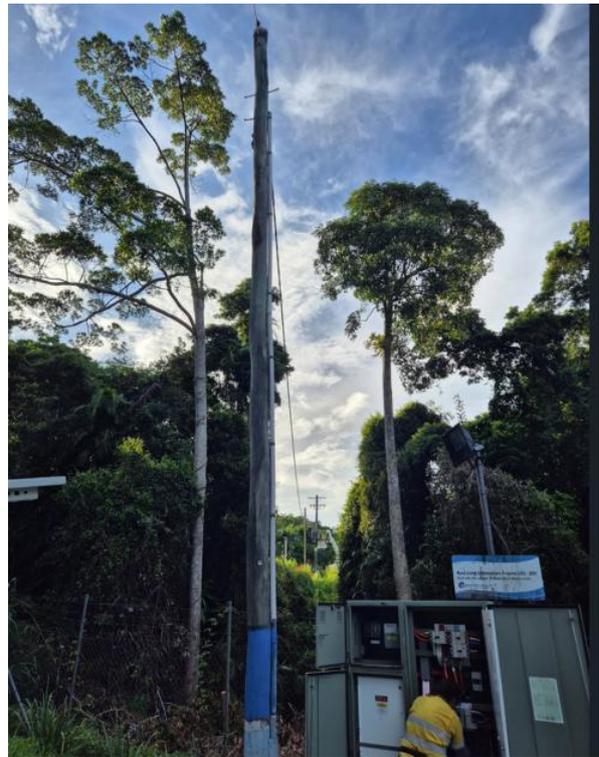
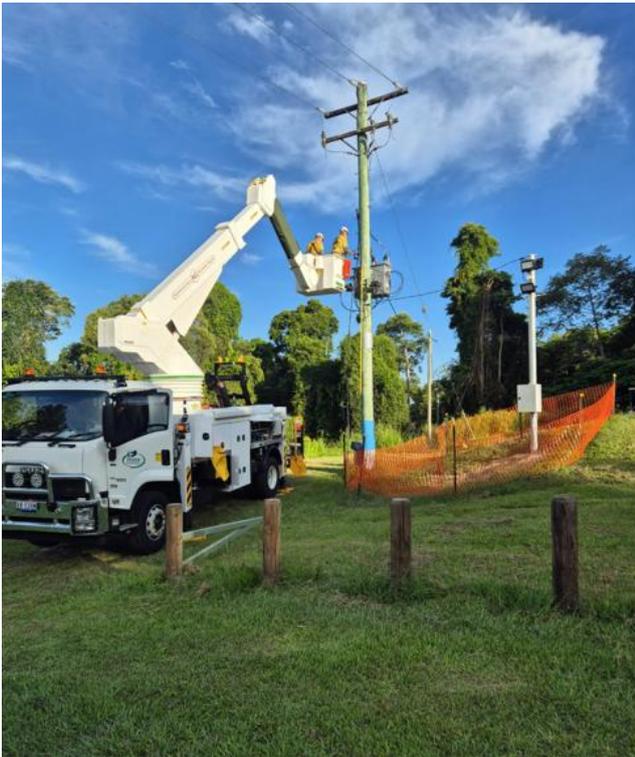
|                              |  |                          |
|------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| <b>On-Maintenance Period</b> |  |                          |
| Kuranda                      | Jum Rum Rainforest Estate Stage 1      | Fallon Road              |
| Mareeba                      | Mareeba Roadhouse & Accommodation Park | Williams Close           |
| Mareeba                      | 9 Kenneally Road                       | Kenneally Road           |
| Mareeba                      | Emerald Creek Service Station          | Malone Road              |
| Mareeba                      | Prestige Gardens Stage 5-6             | Mclver Road              |
| Mareeba                      | Amaroo Stage 13b (Drainage)            | Karobean Drive           |
| Mareeba                      | The Rise: Stage 3 (Drainage)           | Catherine Atherton Drive |
| Mareeba                      | 7 Kenneally Road                       | Kenneally Road           |
| Mareeba                      | St Stephen’s Catholic College          | Mclver Road              |
| Mareeba                      | Country Road Estate Stage 4            | Lee Sye Road             |

|                                  |                             |             |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Off-Maintenance for Month</b> |                             |             |
| Mareeba                          | Amaroo Stage 13a (Drainage) | Moondani Av |

Facilities

Operational works delivered by the team, include several highlights for the month.

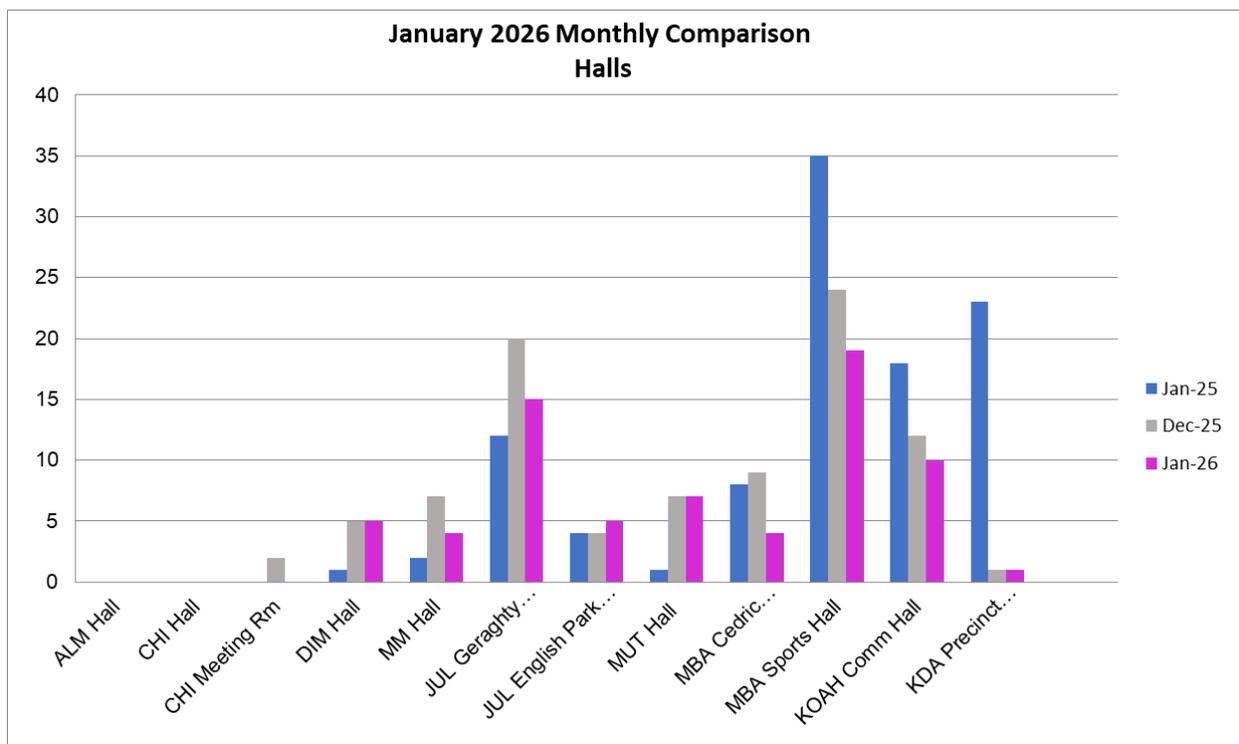
| Facility                     | Works completed   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Kuranda Amphitheatre - Power | Aerial Power Supply to Amphitheatre was damaged by falling trees. New Service Pole’s and aerial supply organised. |



*Kuranda Amphitheatre: Power Supply Reinstatement*

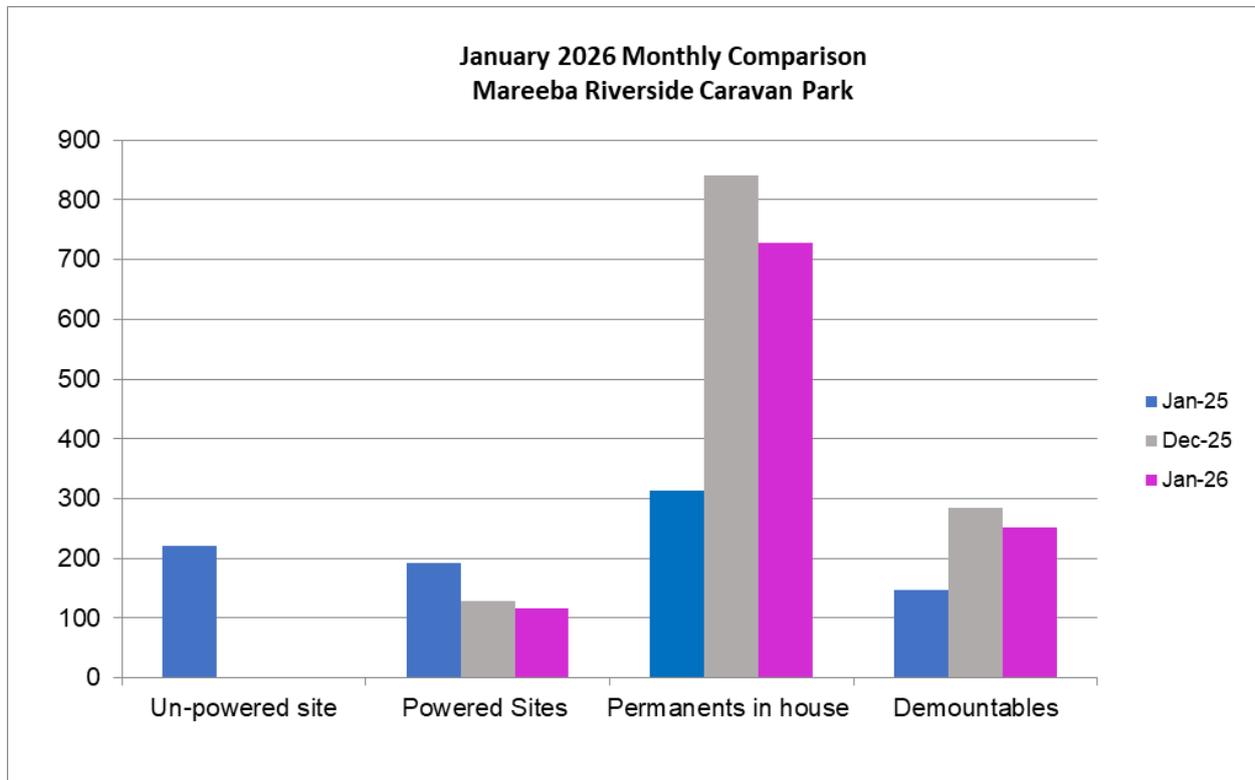
**Community Halls:**

Maintaining safe and efficient access to Council’s Community Halls is recognised as an important aspect for the community's ongoing wellbeing. Utilisation for community managed facilities was impacted by the holiday period. Kuranda Precinct figures for January 2025 also included the users of Bartley Park; this has now been corrected for future reporting to report on the Hall only.

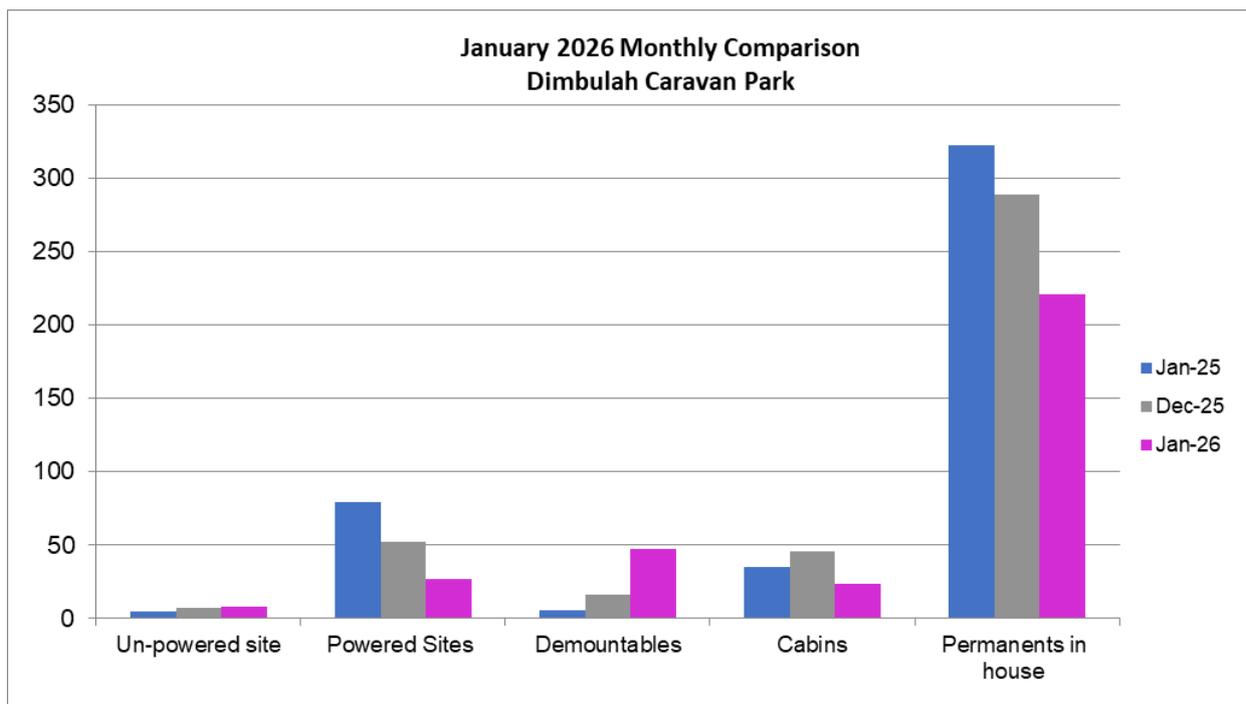


Caravan Parks:

Mareeba Riverside Caravan Park: January saw a further slight reduction in numbers due to the holiday period and the ongoing park improvements. No new tenant bookings are being taken until next month and completion of current park improvements which is weather dependent.

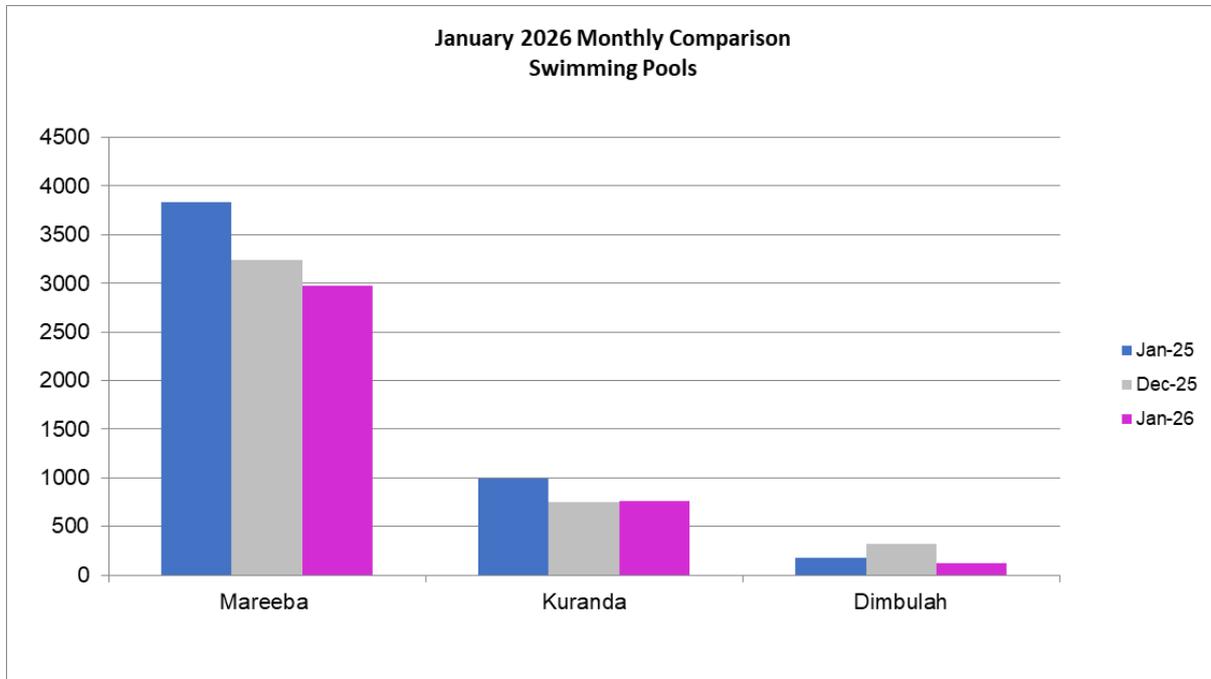


Dimbulah Caravan Park: Overall utilisation of the park saw a downturn due to the annual picking season now being over, however, there was a strong gain in the demountable occupancy for the month.



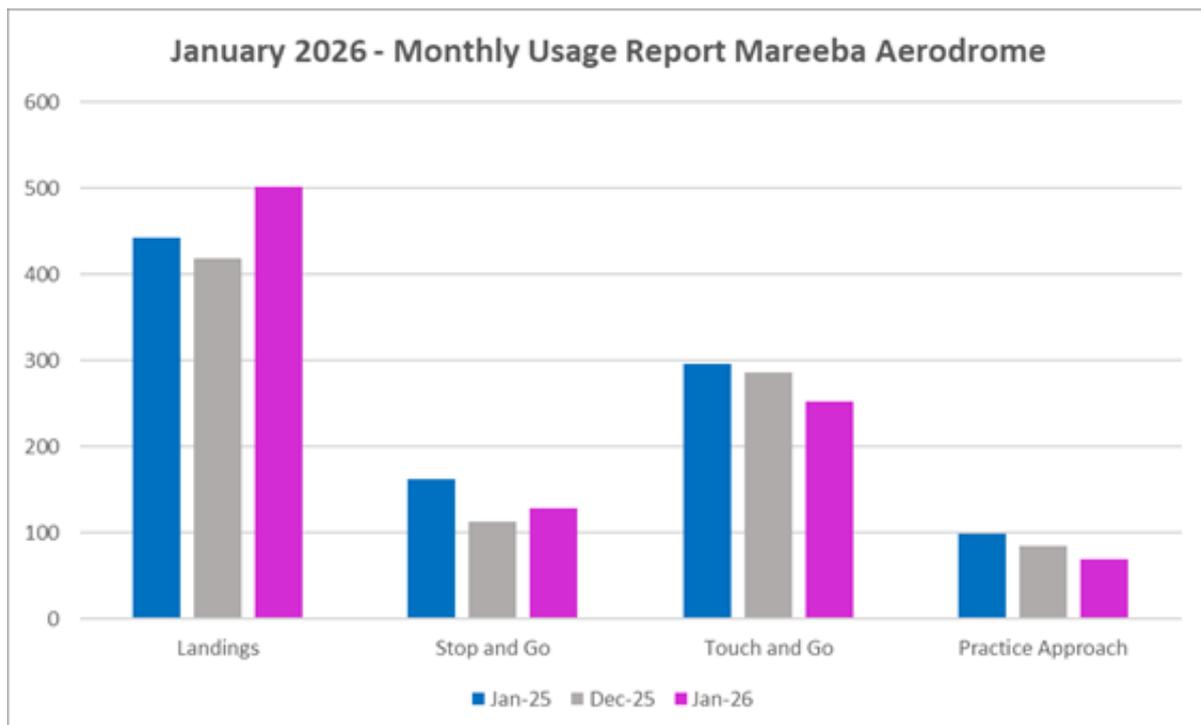
Aquatic Centres

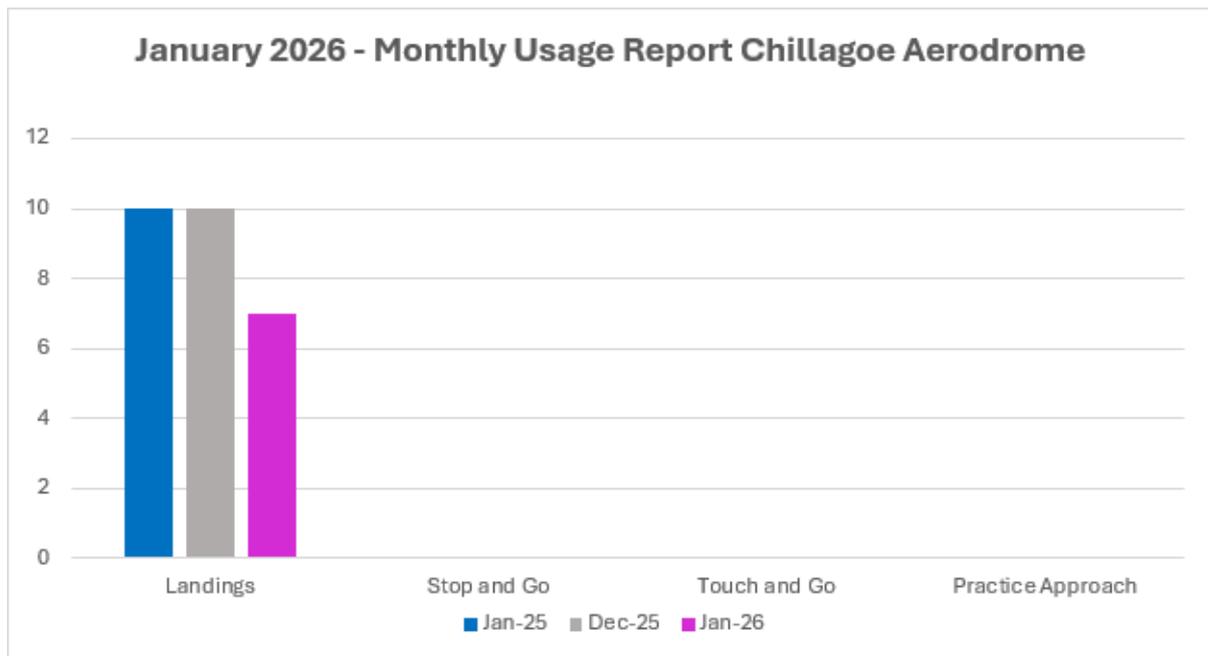
Attendance at the Centres was less than previous months for Mareeba and Dimbulah due to the holiday period and the completion of the picking season. The continued wet weather also is a contributing element in the reduction of attendees.



Aerodromes:

The data recorded below is current for the month of January, however there is usually a lag of some data for each current month from the service provider, which continues to be updated into the next month.





**LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN**

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**Community and Culture:** An informed, engaged and resilient community which supports and encourages effective partnerships to deliver better outcomes.

**Transport and Infrastructure:** The provision of quality infrastructure to service our growing community using sound asset management principles.

**Economy and Growth:** Promote and encourage investment in local industry to build a resilient economy.

**IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION**

Nil

**9.4 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES, WATER AND WASTE OPERATIONS REPORT - JANUARY 2026**

**Date Prepared:** 28 January 2026  
**Author:** Manager Water and Waste  
**Attachments:** Nil

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to summarise Council’s Water and Waste activities undertaken by the Infrastructure Services Department during the month of January 2026.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives the Infrastructure Services, Water and Waste Operations Report for January 2026.

**BACKGROUND**

**Water and Wastewater Treatment:**

All treatment plants are generally performing satisfactorily. Interim measures are in place to address damage to Kuranda Water Treatment Plant intake infrastructure which resulted from Cyclone Jasper and ongoing rain.

Connections have been updated with information provided by the rates section to correspond with annual KPI reporting.

| <b>Water Treatment</b>                             | <b>Mareeba</b> | <b>Kuranda</b> | <b>Chillagoe</b> | <b>Dimbulah</b> | <b>Mt Molloy*</b> |
|--|----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Water Plant Average Daily Production (kL)          | 5259           | 625            | 179              | 182             | 100               |
| Number of Connections                              | 4609           | 1134           | 174              | 287             | 126               |
| Average Daily Water Consumption per Connection (L) | 1141           | 552            | 1028             | 635             | 791               |

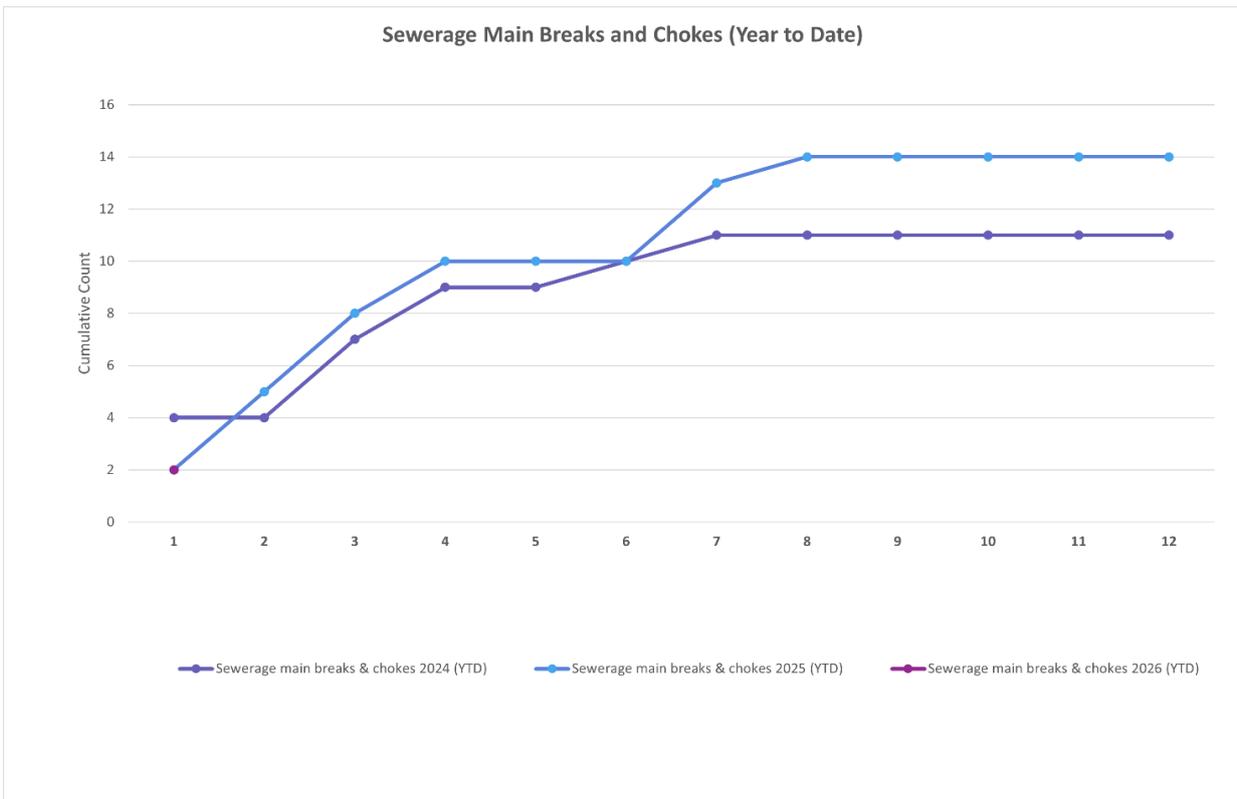
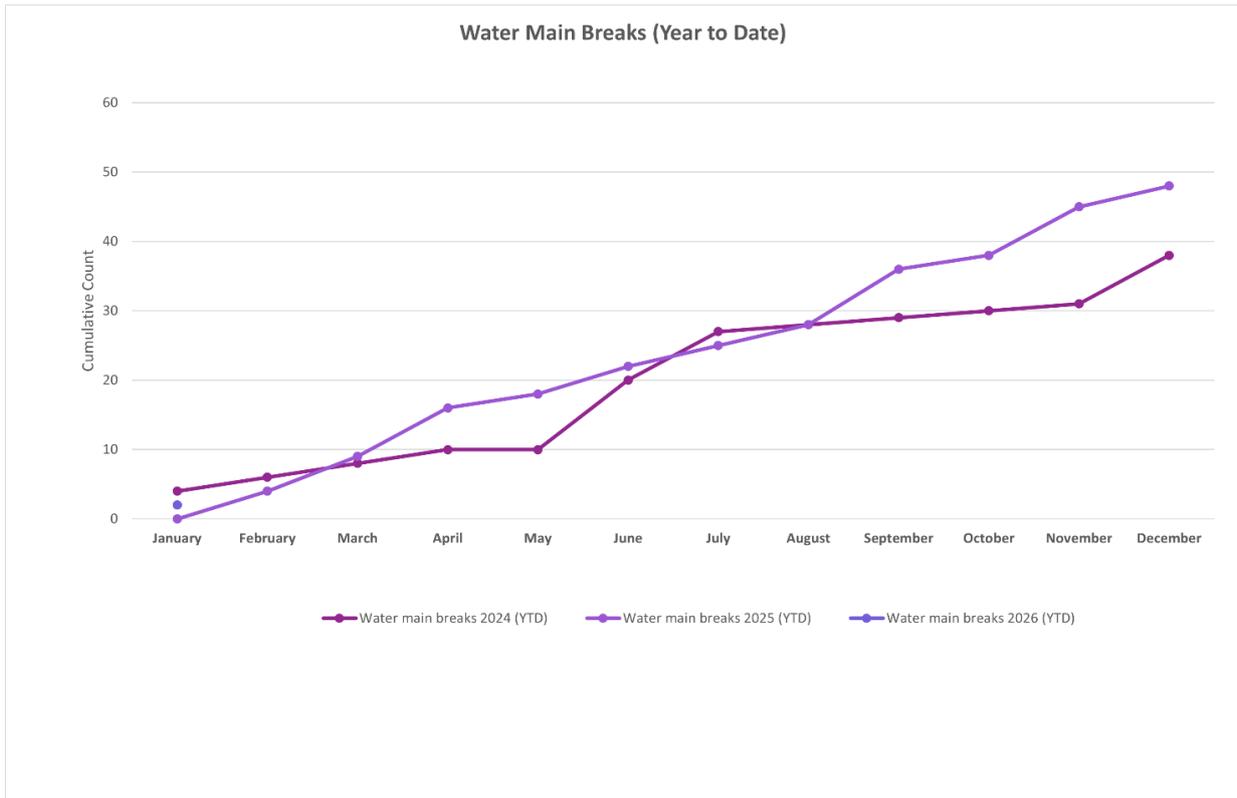
\* Mt Molloy is an untreated, non-potable water supply.

| <b>Wastewater Treatment</b>                   | <b>Mareeba</b> | <b>Kuranda</b> |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Wastewater Plant Average Daily Treatment (kL) | 5759           | 247            |
| Number of Connections                         | 4021           | 385            |
| Average Daily Inflow per Connection (L)       | 1432           | 641            |

**Water and Wastewater Reticulation:**

Council's water reticulation crew attended two (2) water main breaks and two (2) sewer main chokes in January, and average response times were within targets set out in Council's Customer Service standard for water services.

Monthly statistics are shown on the water reticulation main breaks and sewerage main breaks and chokes:

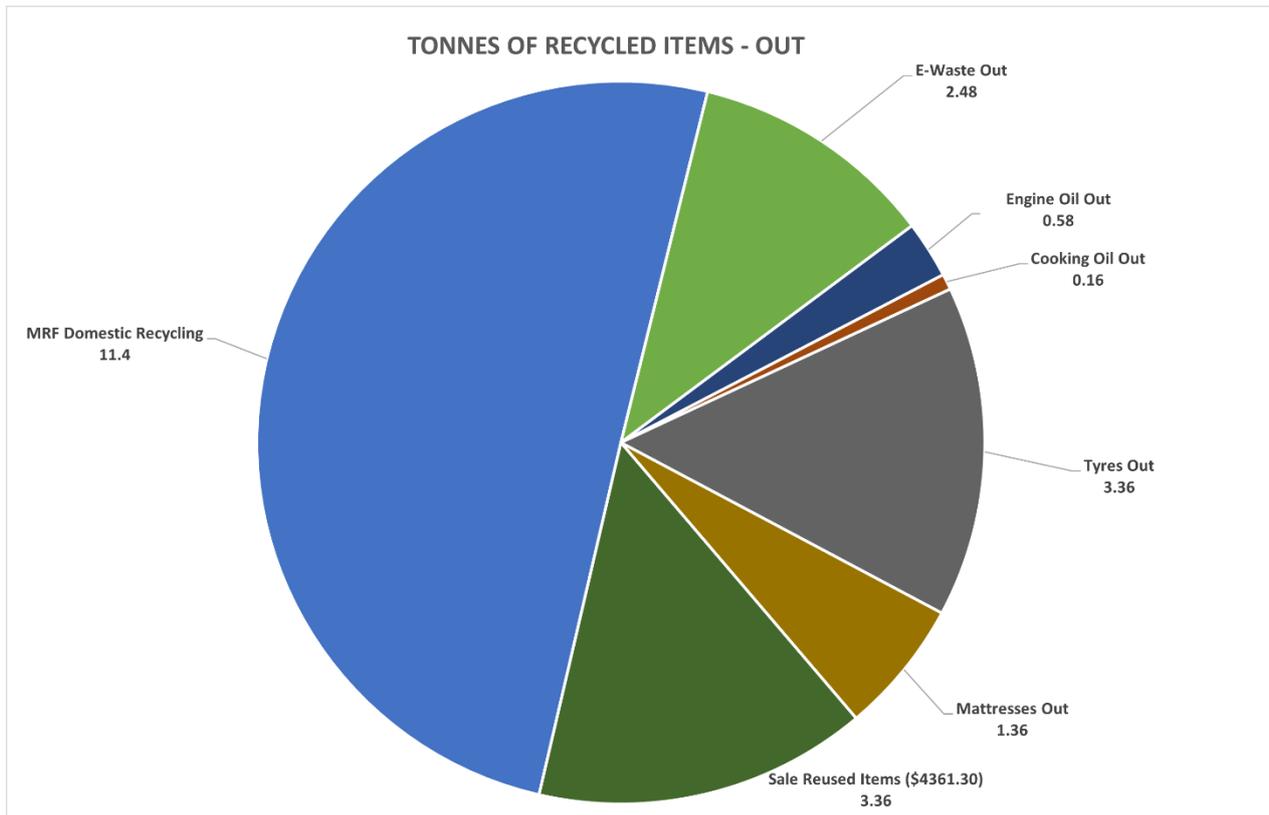


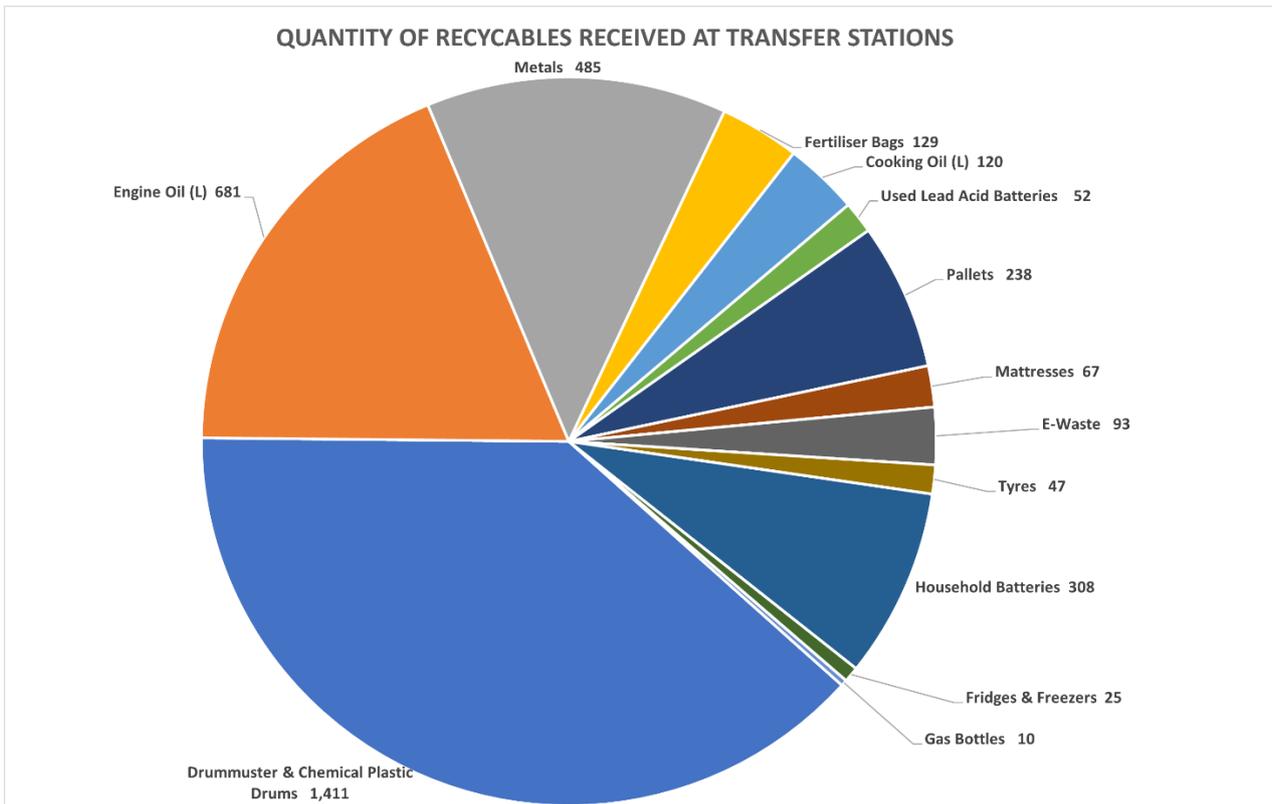
**Waste Operations:**

The ARRF facility in Cairns is currently non-operational due to a fire, meaning Veolia is unable to process kerbside waste in accordance with Contract 1396. As a result, all kerbside waste is being transported to Springmount Waste Facility instead of Cairns. A long-term arrangement is currently being negotiated.

Recycling

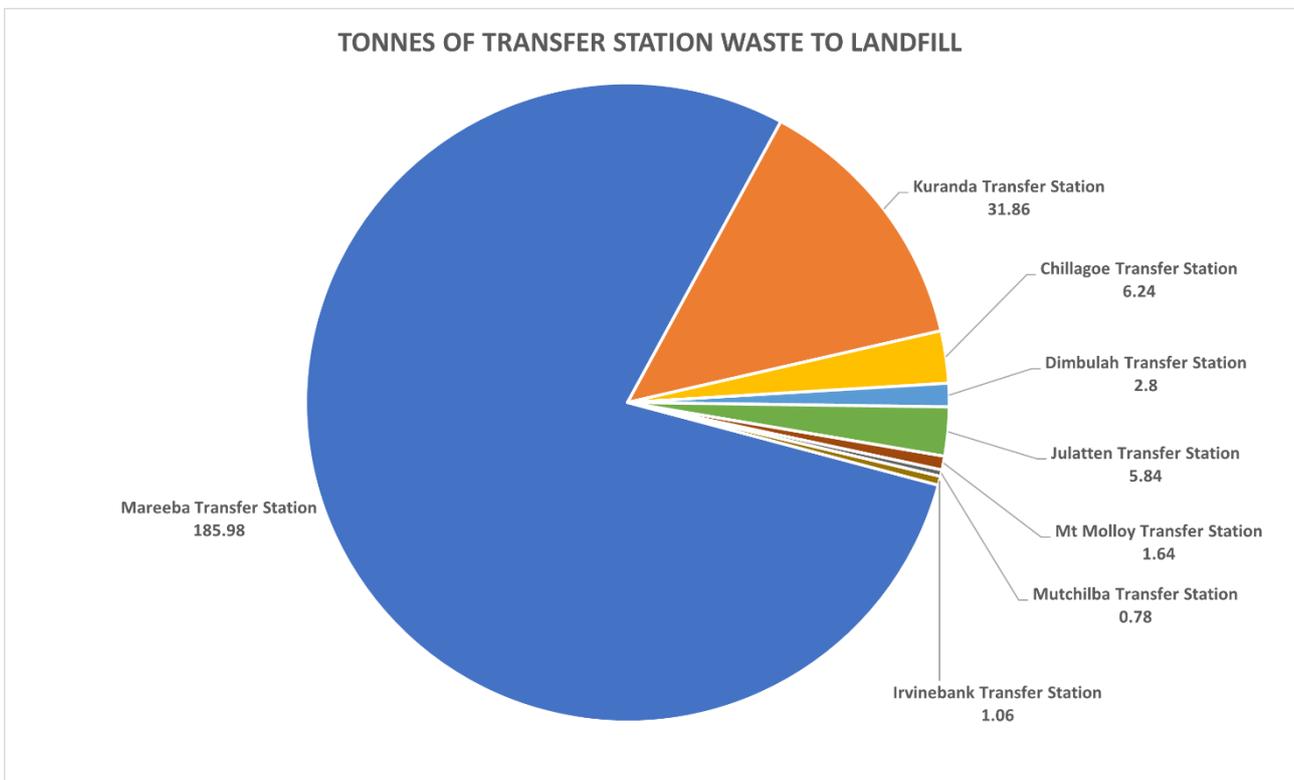
Residents continue to actively recycle at transfer station. During January, 11.4 tonnes of domestic items were recycled at the Material Recovery Facility (MRF). The highest count of recyclable items received at transfer stations were 1411 fertiliser bags, 681L of engine oil and 485 items of metal.





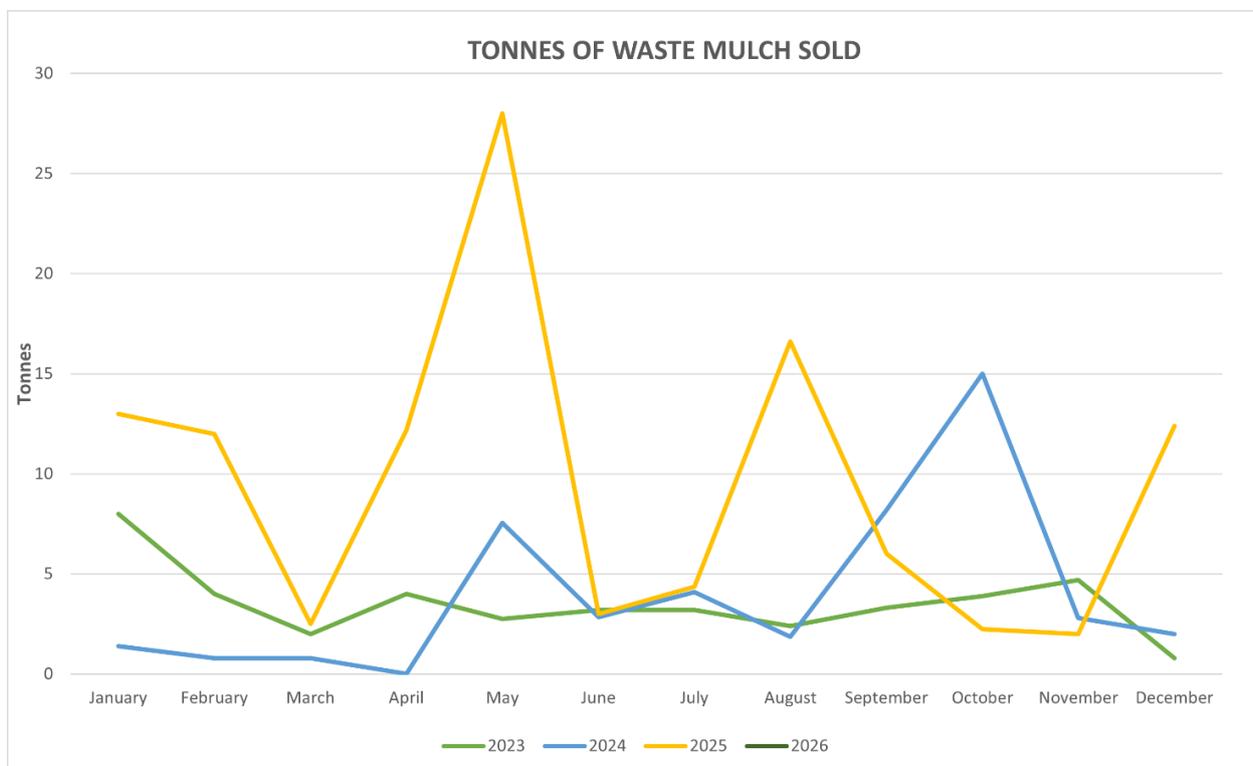
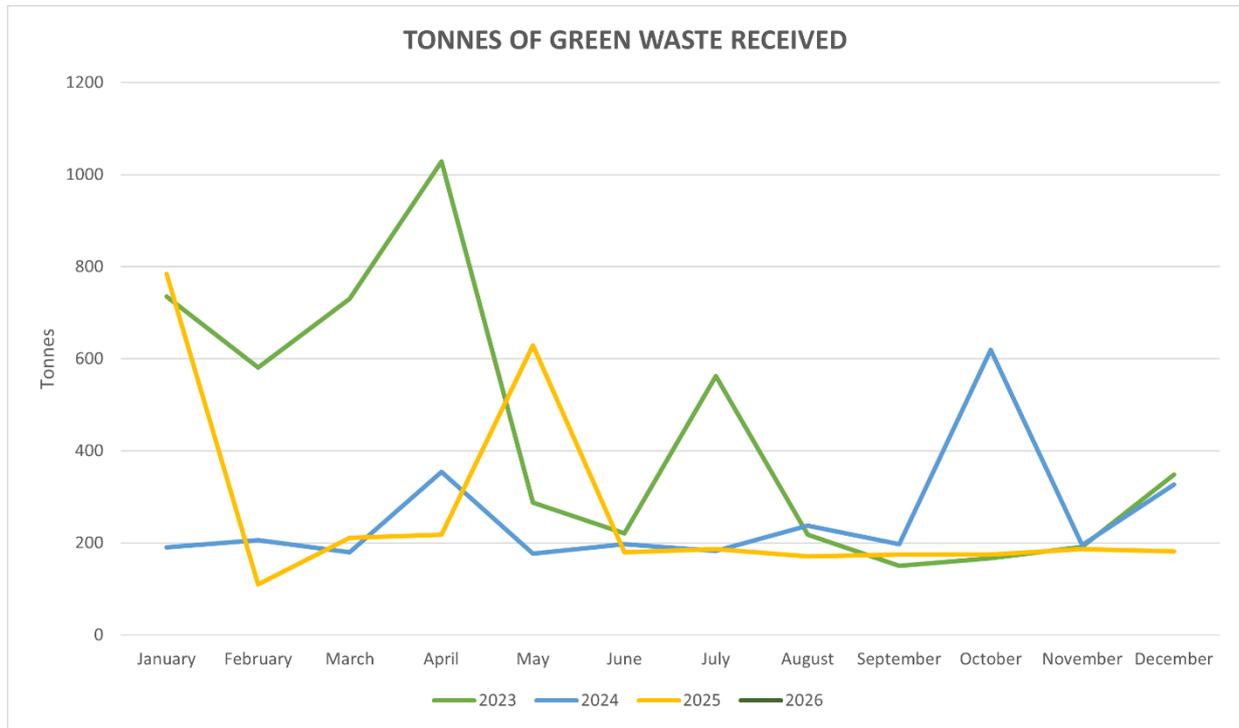
**Kerbside Collection Waste and Transfer Station Waste**

Kerbside Collection waste and Transfer Station waste is transported to the Springmount Waste Facility. During January, 236.2 tonnes of waste from transfer stations and 544.84 tonnes from kerbside collection waste was sent to landfill.



**Green Waste:**

During January, Council received a total of 173.8 tonnes of green waste no mulch was sold. Kuranda recorded 5.05 tonnes of green waste from locations registered as being potentially contaminated with Electric Ants.



**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

**Environmental**

Council holds an Environmental Authority issued under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* to operate landfill facilities.

**LEGAL/COMPLIANCE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS*****Capital***

Nil

***Operating***

Nil

**LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN**

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**Economy and Growth:** Promote and encourage investment in local industry to build a resilient economy.

**IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION**

Nil

**9.5 TENDER AWARD - TMSC2025-32 KERBSIDE COLLECTION SERVICES**

**Date Prepared:** 5 February 2026  
**Author:** Manager Water and Waste  
**Attachments:** Nil

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an assessment of the tenders received for TMSC2025-32 Kerbside Collection Services.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council awards Tender TMSC2025-32 Kerbside Collection Services to JJ Richards & Sons Pty Ltd to commence 1 December 2026 for a seven (7) year and seven (7) month term with extension options up to three (3) years.

Upon finalisation of the services to be delivered, the value of the contract will be determined by resolution of Council.

**BACKGROUND**

Kerbside collection services are an essential community service that provide a weekly waste service to residents and waste collection across Council facilities and waste transfer station network. The proposed contract will commence from 1 December 2026 for seven (7) year and seven (7) month term with an extension option of up to three (3) years.

Council issued a public Request for Tender on 14 October 2025 to procure the collection of mobile (kerbside), bulk and roll-on roll-off (RORO) bins across the service area, and with the objective to establish a long-term collaborative service delivery arrangement. Council conducted a virtual tender briefing for potential Tenderers on 23 October 2025.

To understand cost of service delivery and consider options for any future service expansion, the tender also sought pricing for optional services comprising:

- Kerbside recycling services (fortnightly) to a service area defined for Mareeba/Kuranda;
- Kerbside Garden Organics ('GO') (fortnightly) to a service area defined for Mareeba/Kuranda; and
- Public Place Bin (PPB) servicing.

On the tender closing date on 3 December 2025, two (2) tenderers submitted proposals: Cleanaway and JJ Richards.

- Cleanaway: One (1) conforming offer and one alternate offer
- JJ Richards: One (1) conforming offer

Cleanaway and JJ Richards submitted conforming responses to the tender. Cleanaway submitted an alternate offer based on mandatory commencement of the optional services from 1 December 2026 and this was not considered further.

A summary of the tender prices at opening for the collection of mobile (kerbside), bulk and roll-on roll-off (RORO) bins is provided below;

| <b>Tenderer</b>            | <b>Tendered Price (excluding GST)</b> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| JJ Richards & Sons Pty Ltd | \$14,700,00.00                        |
| Cleanaway Pty Ltd          | \$15,600,00.00                        |

### **Tender Evaluation**

The evaluation panel evaluated the responses in accordance with the evaluation plan to select a preferred tenderer.

Tenders were first assessed for mandatory compliance with the Request for Tender requirements, including insurances, documentation, response format, and any declared deviations.

All tenderers demonstrated the technical and commercial capability to provide collection services, with satisfactory experience in service provision to regional and rural local government authorities.

Tenders were assessed in accordance with the non-price evaluation criteria as provided below:

| <b>Criteria</b>         | <b>Weighting</b> |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Capability & Experience | 20%              |
| Methodology             | 50%              |
| Contract Management     | 20%              |
| Social & Local Benefit  | 10%              |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>100%</b>      |

On completion of the 'non-price' scoring, the evaluation panel were provided access to the price schedules and financial evaluation. This enabled assessment of the total price (40% weighting) and non-price score (60% weighting), which were normalised to give a total score out of 100% for each tender.

Value for money (VfM) was assessed over the contract term specified in the General Terms seven (7) years and seven (7) months using the tendered service rates for the following services:

- Mobile (kerbside) Bins;
- Bulk Bins; and
- RORO Bins to Council transfer stations.

### **Optional Services**

Kerbside recycling (fortnightly) and kerbside Garden Organics (GO) (fortnightly) service pricing was tendered as an optional service that can be introduced throughout the contract term, with recycling transported to the Cairns MRF for processing and GO transported to Shark Recycling for processing. The service area encompasses the Mareeba and Kuranda townships and surrounds.

Previous waste audits identified that kerbside recyclables and GO are comparable in terms of volumes able to be redirected from landfill through a kerbside collection service.

The kerbside recycling service is forecast to cost each household, in Mareeba and Kuranda townships, at least \$144/annum, based on collection and processing. One-off costs for bin delivery and education are not included in this forecast.

The kerbside GO service is forecast to cost an additional minimum amount of \$88.50/annum. The amount will depend on the number of properties included.

A community engagement process will be undertaken to seek residents' views on these services.

It is recommended that the Public Place Bin (PPB) collection service proposal is rejected as it is not cost effective.

## **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

### **Environmental**

A functional waste collection service is essential for Council to meet its environmental obligations.

## **LEGAL/COMPLIANCE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The tender process has been undertaken in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy and is being overseen by a probity advisor.

## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

### ***Operating***

While the final cost is yet to be determined, the new contract will result in greater costs to households.

Additional costs in relation to this new contractual arrangement will be included as part of the 2026/27 operational budget preparation.

### ***Is the expenditure noted above included in the current budget?***

This arrangement will come into effect from 1 December 2026, i.e. in the upcoming 2026/27 financial year's budget.

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**Liveability and Environment:** Improve the liveability of the Shire by enhancing amenity and valuing natural assets.

**Economy and Growth:** Promote and encourage investment in local industry to build a resilient economy.

**IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION**

Tenderers will be notified of the outcome of this report. Officers propose that community engagement be undertaken to seek residents' views on provision of optional services for kerbside recycling and/or GO collection.

Officers will then undertake further negotiation with the preferred tenderer to finalise the contract.

**9.6 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES, DISASTER RECOVERY OPERATIONS REPORT - JANUARY 2026**

**Date Prepared:** 28 January 2026  
**Author:** Manager Disaster Recovery  
**Attachments:** Nil

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to outline the progress of Council’s activities funded under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) during the month of January 2026.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives the Infrastructure Services, Disaster Recovery Operations Report for January 2026.

**BACKGROUND**

The Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) is a jointly funded program between the Australian Government and State Government, providing financial assistance to help communities recover from eligible disasters. Current projects and their respective weather events are provided herein.

**2024 DRFA – Tropical Cyclone Jasper, associated rainfall and flooding, 13 – 28 December 2023**

Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets (REPA) Projects

| Project Name  | Update   |
|---|--|
| T-MSC2024-10 Jarawee Road Stabilisation                           | Civform Pty Ltd engaged to deliver contract.<br>Works ongoing to finalise and close out.   |
| T-MSC2024-33 MSC DRFA 2024 Eastern Roads Package                  | Contract awarded to Ikin Civil Pty Ltd.<br>Works ongoing.  |
| PDQ-MSC2025-10 Black Mountain Road Culvert Replacement (Julatten) | Contract awarded to Dempsey Crane and Construction.<br>Minor works outstanding. Works to be completed early 2026, delays due to wet weather. |
| T-MSC2025-33 Warril and Mount Haren Landslip Remediation          | Recommendation for award provided to Council at February 2026 meeting.   |
| T-MSC2025-34 Ivcevic Road Landslip Remediation                    | Contract awarded to Gregg Construction Pty Ltd.  |

Water & Sewer Program (exceptional circumstances package)

| Project Name  | Update  |
|---|---|
| T-MSC2025-09 Lloyd Street Sewer Replacement Project | Project awarded to A&B Civil.<br>Contract preliminary tasks underway. |

Betterment Fund (exceptional circumstances package)

Assistance for the following projects under the 2024 Betterment Program, has been provided by the Australian and Queensland Governments through the jointly funded Commonwealth-state Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA):

| <b>Project Name</b>                       | <b>Update</b>   |
|---|---|
| T-MSC2025-24 Gully Betterment Program     | Project awarded to S&K Civil Contracting Pty Ltd.<br>Works on Torwood and Bolwarra Concrete works complete. Project to resume after the wet season. |
| T-MSC2025-25 Wolfram Road Culvert Upgrade | Tenders closed 18 December 2025.<br>Tender assessment underway.   |
| T-MSC2025-26 Lockwood Road Upgrade        | Tenders closed 16 December 2025.<br>Tender assessment underway.   |

Local Recovery and Resilience Grants (LRRG)

Local Recovery and Resilience Grants are available to eligible local councils significantly impacted by Tropical Cyclone Jasper, 13 - 28 December 2023 in Far North Queensland. Funding will help councils address economic, social and community recovery needs and support future resilience measures.

Approval has been received for Council’s submission, which included a range of retrospective and future projects.

**2025 DRFA – North and Far North Tropical Low 29 January – 28 February 2025**

Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets (REPA) Projects

| <b>Project Name</b>                        | <b>Update</b>  |
|--|--|
| Hastie Road Embankment                     | Approval received for geotechnical solution.<br>Onsite investigations complete.  |
| Kuranda Depot Access Slip                  | Approval received for geotechnical solution.<br>Temporary works complete to stabilise site prior to the 25/26 wet season.<br>Onsite investigations to be scheduled.  |
| Top Eureka Creek Culvert                   | Rock protection works complete. Rock mattress works to be undertaken in 2026.  |
| Fallon Road Pavement                       | Approval received for minor pavement works on Fallon Road.   |
| PDQ-MSC2025-16 Park Avenue RCP Replacement | Approval received for replacement of stormwater line on Park Avenue. Works awarded to Gregg Construction.<br>Temporary works undertaken whilst concrete pipes are being sourced (extended lead times). Permanent works scheduled for early 2026. |

| Project Name                               | Update   |
|--|--|
| PDQ-MSC2025-17 Maria Close RCP Replacement | Approval received for replacement of stormwater line on Maria Close. Works awarded to Terra Novus.<br>Works scheduled to commence April 2026 weather pending.                                    |
| Cooktown Crossing, Kondaparinga Road       | Approval received for replacement of Cooktown Crossing on Kondaparinga Road. Construction to be as per current DAF guidelines (like for like).<br>Investigations to commence in dry season 2026. |

**2026 DRFA – North Queensland Monsoon Trough, Associated Tropical Cyclone Koji and Severe Weather (commencing 24 December 2025)**

Mareeba Shire Council has activated for the ‘North Queensland Monsoon Trough, Associated Tropical Cyclone Koji and Severe Weather (commencing 24 December 2025)’ weather event.

Emergency Works (EW)

Council is undertaking Emergency Works as required on local roads.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

**Financial**

Funding arrangements state that eligible expenditure is reimbursed.

Expenditure is considered eligible when:

- 1) Extraordinary costs are incurred that could normally not be absorbed by, or reasonably managed within, the local government or state agency’s financial, human and other resource capacity; and
- 2) Costs are directly associated with the delivery of eligible works on eligible essential public assets that have been damaged by an activated eligible disaster.

No ineligible cost reported for active projects. Risk of ineligible expenditure is mitigated through engagement of suitably qualified consultants.

**LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN**

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**9.7 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES, WORKS SECTION ACTIVITY REPORT - JANUARY 2026**

**Date Prepared:** 28 January 2026

**Author:** Manager Works

**Attachments:** Nil

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to summarise Council's Transport Infrastructure, Parks and Open Spaces, TMR Routine Maintenance Performance Contract (RMPC) and Land Protection operational activities undertaken by Infrastructure Services during the month of January 2026.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives the Infrastructure Services, Works Progress Report for the month of January 2026.

**BACKGROUND**

A summary of works completed in January 2026 is provided below.

**TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE**

The major maintenance activities carried out in January 2026 are listed below.

| Activity                  | Location   |
|---------------------------|--|
| Unsealed Road Grading     | Barron Street, Davies Creek Road, Henry Hannam Drive, West Mary Road   |
| Bitumen Patching          | Chewko Road, Anzac Avenue, Barang Street, Barnwell Road, Barron Falls Road, Bilwon Road, Black Mountain Road, Butler Drive, Chewko Road, Euluma Creek Road, Fallon Road, Fantin Road, Greene Lane, Highland Drive, Koah Road, Malone Road, Masons Road, Mclver Road, Mount Lewis Road, Oak Forest Road, Ray Road, Rob Veivers Drive, Sides Road, Speewah Road, Springmount Road, Springs Road, Torrissi Road, Tyrconnell Road, Veivers Street, Walsh Street, Warril Drive  |
| Unsealed Road Maintenance | Armstrong Road, Chapmans Road, Constance Street, Fantin Road, Hawkins Road, Petersen Street, Selby Road  |
| Tree Trimming             | Bakers Road, Barron Falls Road, Barron Street, Black Mountain Road, Bullaburrah Creek Road, Carr Road, Cathedral Street, Churchill Creek Road, Clacherty Road, Crothers Street, Egan Street, Euluma Creek Road, Ganyan Drive, Hickory Road, Highland Drive, Kelly Road, Koah Road, Kuranda Heights Road, Malone Road, Masons Road, McDougall Road, McLeans Bridge Road, Morrish Road, Mount Haren Road, Myola Road, Nine Mile Road, Oak Forest Road, Pinnacle Road, Rob Veivers Drive, Rosewood Drive, Sides Road, Silkwood Avenue, Speewah Road, Springs Road, Stoney Creek Road, Tower Street, Warril Drive, Wetherby Road, West Mary Road, Williamson Drive, Wrights Lookout Road |

| Activity                        | Location   |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Slashing                        | McDougall Road, Mount Lewis Road, Veness Road  |
| Road Furniture – Repair/Replace | Anzac Avenue, Bolton Road, Butchers Creek Road, Byrnes Street (North), Constance Street, Coondoo Street, East Mary Road, Jordison Road, Leadingham Creek Road, Mason Street, Mclver Road, McLeans Bridge Road, Mitchellvale Road, Molloy Street, Morrish Road, Mount Spurgeon Road, Norris Road, Ootann Road, Orchid Close, Pine Close, Pump Road, Reynolds Street, Speewah Road, Springs Road, Thongon Street, Wetherby Road, West Mary Road, Boggy Creek Road, Lappa-Mount Garnet Road, Weston Rd (Previous No Name Rd 112), Garioch Heights Road, Antonio Drive |
| Illegal Dumping                 | Barnwell Road, Byrnes Street, Leadingham Creek Road  |
| Drainage Maintenance            | Scenic Drive   |

**TMR ROUTINE MAINTENANCE PERFORMANCE CONTRACT (RMPC)**

The following RMPC works were carried out in January 2026.

| Location   | Activity   |
|--|--|
| 32A - Kennedy Highway (Cairns - Mareeba)         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rest Area Servicing at Edmund Kennedy Bridge</li> </ul>   |
| 34A - Mulligan Highway (Mareeba – Mount Molloy)  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural Slashing two (2) cut width - Brady Road to River Road Biboorah</li> <li>Herbicide Spraying full length of road</li> <li>Emergent Works, Event 26E - Pothole patching at various locations</li> </ul>  |
| 34B - Mulligan Highway (Mount Molloy - Lakeland) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roadside Litter Collection at Rifle Creek and Mount Carbine Truck Stop</li> <li>Rest Area Servicing at Rifle Creek</li> <li>Herbicide Spraying full length of road</li> <li>Emergent Works, Event 26E - Pothole patching at various locations</li> <li>Emergent Works, Event 26E - Clearing Landslips on Rex Range</li> </ul>   |
| 653 - Mossman-Mount Molloy Road                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roadside litter collection at Hunter Creek, Environ Park and Lyons Park</li> <li>Rest Area Servicing at Hunter Creek</li> <li>Herbicide Spraying including Range</li> <li>Repair/Replace guide markers full length of Road, as required</li> <li>Emergency Callout to remove fallen tree blocking road</li> <li>Emergent Works, Event 26E - Place out Road Closed Signs at Bushy Creek and reopen as required</li> <li>Emergent Works, Event 26E - Pothole patching at various locations</li> </ul> |
| 89B - Burke Developmental Road (BDR)             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eureka Creek Rest Area Servicing and ground maintenance</li> <li>Repair/Replace Guide Markers Full length of Road, as required</li> </ul>   |
| 664 – Mareeba to Dimbulah Road                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Herbicide Spraying full length of road</li> <li>Rural slashing Mareeba to Dimbulah - full cut width</li> <li>Replace keep left signs and other regulatory signs</li> <li>Emergent Works, Event 26E - Pothole patching at various locations</li> </ul>   |

| Location                        | Activity  |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 6632 - Herberton - Petford Road | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emergent Works, Event 26E - Clearing silt from causeways and major road repairs along gravel section of road from Watsonville to Alice Street</li> </ul> |

## PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

The following Parks and Open Spaces works were carried out in January 2026.

| Description           | Comment   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Mowing                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mowing roughly every 10-14 days in the following regions: Mareeba, Dimbulah, Kuranda, Mt Molloy/Julatten, and Chillagoe</li> </ul>   |
| Playing fields mowing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Davies Park twice (2) x week at 50mm</li> <li>Borzi Park twice (2) x week at 25mm</li> <li>Firth Park twice (2) x week at 25mm</li> </ul>  |
| General maintenance   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weeding and mulching garden beds and medians in Mareeba</li> <li>Kuranda garden maintenance Centenary Park and Coondoo streets</li> <li>Herbiciding around trees, culverts in mowing areas Biboorah and Northern Approaches</li> </ul>                                     |
| Gurney Crew           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pressure clean all concrete areas at Kuranda Library Community Hub.</li> </ul>   |
| Playgrounds           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replace Swing seat in Mt Molloy</li> <li>Replace swing seat at Amaroo Playground in Mareeba.</li> </ul>  |
| Slashing              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slashed Eastern area, Rail Trail, Shaban Park and Molloy approaches.</li> </ul>  |
| Burials               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mareeba – one (1) Ashes in ground Lawn Plaque on Beam, two (2) Coffins in Full Grave Slab section, one (1) Coffin in Above Ground Vault Section</li> <li>Dimbulah – one (1) in Mausoleum Wall.</li> <li>Kuranda – one (1) coffin in Lawn Plaque on Beam Section</li> </ul> |
| LOA                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mowing, brush cutting and general maintenance of: Mareeba Cemetery, Pioneer Cemetery, Dimbulah Cemetery and Dimbulah Tennis Courts</li> </ul>  |
| Contractors           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two (2) dead trees removed in Mt Molloy</li> <li>Two (2) dead trees removed in Kennedy Street, Mareeba</li> </ul>  |
| Tree Trimming         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tree trimming in all towns for ease of mowing and Street Sweeper access, also Stump grinding as they go.</li> </ul>  |
| Fire Management       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attended Mt Molloy RFB General meeting.</li> </ul>   |
| Events                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take down Xmas Trees in Mareeba, Kuranda, Dimbulah, Mt Molloy, and Chillagoe</li> <li>Assist with Australia Day function.</li> </ul>   |

**LAND PROTECTION**

The following Land Protection works were carried out in January 2026.

| Weed/Pest                     | Activity   |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Parthenium Weed               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspections carried out on all sites. All landholders are complying with their bio security obligation</li> </ul>   |
| Broadleaf Weeds               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foliar spraying of Broad leaf weeds such as Japanese Sunflower, and lantana Mareeba and Biboohra areas</li> <li>• Japanese Sunflower post treatment Kenneally Rd, Mareeba:</li> </ul>  |
| Barleria (Barleria Prionitis) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow up treatment of Berleria on McGrath Road, Mareeba</li> </ul>   |
| Feral Pigs                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nine (9) pigs trapped in Mt Molloy, Speewah and Kuranda</li> <li>• Pig damaged sugar cane in Julatten:</li> </ul>   |

**CUSTOMER REQUESTS**

During January, the Works Group received 283 Customer Requests (CRs) with 242 resolved (resolved requests include those received prior to January 2026). The table below shows the number of requests lodged per Works Section for the month.

| Month   | Roads | Parks and Gardens | Pest Management |
|---------|-------|-------------------|-----------------|
| January | 201   | 70                | 12              |

At the time of reporting, the Works Group had 44 open requests.

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

***Operating***

All operational works are funded by the section specific 2025/26 maintenance budgets.

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**IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION**

Nil



**9.8 TENDER AWARD - T-MSC2025-33 MSC DRFA 2024 - WARRIL & MOUNT HAREN LANDSLIP REMEDIATION**

**Date Prepared:** 5 February 2026  
**Author:** Manager Disaster Recovery  
**Attachments:** Nil

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the assessment of tender submissions for T-MSC2025-33 MSC DRFA 2024 – Warril & Mount Haren Landslip and provide recommendation on award of the tender.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council awards the contract for T-MSC2025-33 MSC DRFA 2024 – Warril & Mount Haren Landslip to Australian Ground Engineering Pty Ltd for a value of \$2,999,139.13 (excl. GST) subject to receipt of funding approvals from the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA).

**BACKGROUND**

Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) declared the '*Tropical Cyclone Jasper, associated rainfall and flooding 13 – 28 December 2023*' (the Event) a natural disaster event, triggering Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) which provides local governments with assistance to reinstate essential infrastructure.

Landslips occurred on Mount Haren Road (Separable Portion A) and Warril Drive (Separable Portion B) in Kuranda during the event. These were downslope failures and impacts on the ongoing stability of the roadway. Council engaged ARO Industries to undertake site investigations and detailed design for the reinstatement of the sites.

Separable Portions A and B both include the full delivery of geotechnical stabilisation works, encompassing site establishment, survey and set-out, environmental and safety management, traffic control, erosion and sediment controls, detailed batter excavation, installation and testing of ground anchors and drainage systems, reinforcement and shotcrete application, pavement reconstruction and sealing, guardrail installation, vegetation clearing and contaminated material management, quality control, testing and commissioning, authority liaison, and full site reinstatement in accordance with the Project drawings and specifications.

In addition to the above, Separable Portion B includes the replacement of damaged drainage infrastructure and associated civil works, including construction of kerb and channel, installation of signage and line marking, and related earthworks and reinstatement works required to complete the Works in accordance with the project requirements.

Council has funding approved under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

**TENDERS RECEIVED**

Council invited tenders from suitably qualified contractors for the works through 'VendorPanel' on Monday 17 November 2025. Tenders closed 11:00am, on Tuesday, 9 December 2025. Council received submissions from eight (8) tenderers.

A summary of the tender prices at opening is provided below;

| <b>Tenderer</b>                          | <b>Tendered Price Separable Portion A<br/>Mount Haren<br/>(GST excl)</b> | <b>Tendered Price Separable Portion B<br/>Warril<br/>(GST excl)</b> | <b>Total Tendered Price (GST excl)</b> |
|--|--|---|--|
| Australian Ground Engineering Pty Ltd    | • \$2,298,271.00   | • \$701,166.00  | • \$2,999,437.00                       |
| Durack Civil Pty Ltd                     | • \$3,071,611.43   | • \$1,177,125.22  | • \$4,248,736.65                       |
| Ground Stabilisation Systems Pty Limited | • \$2,872,657.60   | • \$1,217,546.91  | • \$4,090,204.51                       |
| Naviq Pty Ltd                            | • \$3,410,557.36   | • \$1,346,505.38  | • \$4,757,062.74                       |
| Pan Civil Pty Ltd                        | • \$3,389,354.58   | • \$1,904,854.47  | • \$5,294,209.05                       |
| PCA Ground Engineering – Conforming      | • \$2,961,020.00   | • Nil   | • \$2,961,020.00                       |
| PCA Ground Engineering – Alternative     | • \$1,929,020.00   | • Nil   | • \$1,929,020.00                       |
| See Civil Pty Ltd                        | • \$1,974,650.42   | • \$824,705.51  | • \$2,799,355.93                       |
| Northern Civil Earthworks Pty Ltd        | • \$1,795,676.51   | • \$816,683.11  | • \$2,612,359.62                       |

Upon review, errors in submitted documentation were identified, including:

- 1) Rounding discrepancies.
- 2) Rates submitted with more than two (2) decimal places.

To ensure consistency and compliance with the Request for Tender (RFT) requirements, tendered prices were adjusted accordingly.

Tenders were also shortlisted based on tendered pricing and conformance with the Tender Conditions. The following submissions were not shortlisted:

- 1) PCA Ground Engineering's conforming tender was not shortlisted, as pricing was not provided for Separable Portion B (Warril Drive), which is a mandatory requirement under the RFT pricing schedule and conformance criteria.
- 2) PCA Ground Engineering's alternative tender was also not considered, as it proposed a Design and Construct delivery model that does not align with the Principal's nominated procurement approach for the works, as set out in the RFT.
- 3) Durack Civil, Ground Stabilisation Systems, Naviq and Pan Civil were not shortlisted based on price.

A summary of shortlisted tenderers is provided below.

| <b>Tenderer</b>                       | <b>Tendered Price Separable Portion A<br/>Mount Haren<br/>(GST excl)</b> | <b>Tendered Price Separable Portion B<br/>Warril<br/>(GST excl)</b> | <b>Total Tendered Price (GST excl)</b> |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Australian Ground Engineering Pty Ltd | • \$2,297,949.33   | • \$701,189.80  | • \$2,999,139.13                       |
| See Civil Pty Ltd                     | • \$1,974,450.32   | • \$824,750.44  | • \$2,799,200.76                       |
| Northern Civil Earthworks Pty Ltd     | • \$1,795,676.51   | • \$817,515.65  | • \$2,613,192.16                       |

Amended pricing due to rounding discrepancies was confirmed by the recommended tenderer.

**TENDER ASSESSMENT**

Tenders will be assessed in accordance with the evaluation criteria stated in the tender documentation and as provided below;

| <b>Criteria</b>                | <b>Criteria Weighting (%)</b> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Relevant Skills and Experience | 15%                           |
| Demonstrated Understanding     | 25%                           |
| Key Personnel                  | 10%                           |
| Local Content                  | 10%                           |
| Value for Money                | 40%                           |

Each submission assessed, will be evaluated and scored against the criteria, with the criteria scores then weighted to provide a total weighted score for each submission. Additionally, each will be assessed for conformance, compliance and discrepancies, against the requested response schedules.

**SUMMARY**

A summary of the tender assessment and evaluation against conformance, price and non-price criteria, resulted in the ranking of submissions displayed below.

| <b>Tenderer</b>                       | <b>Score</b> | <b>Rank</b> |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Australian Ground Engineering Pty Ltd | • 78.00      | • 1         |
| See Civil Pty Ltd                     | • 77.00      | • 2         |
| Northern Civil Earthworks Pty Ltd     | • 76.50      | • 3         |

**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

**Financial**

Funding arrangements state that eligible expenditure is reimbursed.

Expenditure is considered eligible when:

- 1) Extraordinary costs are incurred that could normally not be absorbed by, or reasonably managed within, the local government or state agency's financial, human and other resource capacity; and
- 2) Costs are directly associated with the delivery of eligible works on eligible essential public assets that have been damaged by an activated eligible disaster.

Risk of ineligible expenditure is mitigated through engagement of suitably qualified consultants and award of Contract once approvals have been received by QRA.

### **Infrastructure and Assets**

The reinstated civil infrastructure will meet pre-existing condition and current engineering standards and therefore should not impact the long-term cost to Council.

### **Legal and Compliance**

Tenders were sought in line with Council's Procurement Policy.

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

#### ***Capital***

Nil. All eligible costs are able to be sought for reimbursement through DRFA.

#### ***Operating***

Nil. The replacement civil infrastructure will meet pre-existing condition and current engineering standards, and therefore should not increase the operational costs associated with maintaining the network.

### **LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN**

**Financial Sustainability and Governance:** A financially sustainable council that applies strategic decision making and good governance to deliver cost-effective services.

**Community and Culture:** An informed, engaged and resilient community which supports and encourages effective partnerships to deliver better outcomes.

**Transport and Infrastructure:** The provision of quality infrastructure to service our growing community using sound asset management principles.

**Economy and Growth:** Promote and encourage investment in local industry to build a resilient economy.

### **IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION**

Application has been made to the QRA for project funding and tenderers kept informed of the approval status as required.

Nil

**9.9 PEST MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE - TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Date Prepared:** 4 February 2026

**Author:** Director Infrastructure Services

**Attachments:** 1. Draft Terms of Reference - Pest Management Advisory Committee (PMAC) [↓](#)

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Pest Management Advisory Committee (PMAC) is established to provide expert advice to Council on community biosecurity matters and advise on emerging pest management issues and projects.

The purpose of this report is to adopt the revised Terms of Reference for the group.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council adopt the revised Pest Management Advisory Committee Terms of Reference as attached.

**BACKGROUND**

The Pest Management Advisory Committee (PMAC) is an advisory committee to Council under Section 265 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*. The PMAC provides Council with strategic guidance and/or recommendations in relation to its regional pest management role.

The PMAC Terms of Reference (ToR) were first adopted by Council in September 2022, with a scheduled review in September 2024. The first PMAC meeting after the adoption of the ToR took place on 3 October 2024.

In November 2024, officers proposed Council extend the review period of the ToR to allow time for proper implementation.

Officers consider that the ToR adequately align with the objectives and functions the PMAC, therefore only minor changes to the ToR have been proposed to reflect current names for organisations and departments, and list of invited observers.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

**LEGAL/COMPLIANCE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS*****Capital***

Nil.

***Operating***

Internal resources for investigation and follow up actions.

**LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN**

**Financial Sustainability and Governance:** A financially sustainable council that applies strategic decision making and good governance to deliver cost-effective services.

**Community and Culture:** An informed, engaged and resilient community which supports and encourages effective partnerships to deliver better outcomes.

**Transport and Infrastructure:** The provision of quality infrastructure to service our growing community using sound asset management principles.

**IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION**

Nil.



**Terms of Reference – Pest Management Advisory Committee (PMAC)**

|                     |                                  |                |            |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Policy Type         | Governance reference             | Version:       | 2.0        |
| Responsible Officer | Director Infrastructure Services | Date Approved: | 18/02/2026 |
| Review Officer:     | Chief Executive Officer          | Review Due:    | 18/04/2028 |
| Author:             | Director Infrastructure Services | Commencement:  | 18/02/2026 |

**1. PURPOSE**

The Pest Management Advisory Committee (PMAC) is established under the *Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld)*<sup>1</sup> to provide expert advice to Council on community biosecurity matters to assist Council in achieving its Corporate Plan objectives and advise on emerging pest management issues and projects.

**2. SCOPE**

These Terms of Reference apply to Councillors, Committee members and staff of Mareeba Shire Council.

**3. FUNCTIONS**

The functions of the Advisory Committee are to:

1. Advise on the preparation and ongoing review of the Mareeba Shire Community Biosecurity Plan.
2. Provide advice on prioritising invasive plant and animal species, including emerging species, to plan for management strategies and resource requirements.
3. Provide a forum to share knowledge and collaborate on invasive species management, control and sustainable environmental solutions including; site rehabilitation, restoration and revegetation.
4. Identify and advise on funding and partnership opportunities for resourcing and cost sharing
5. Provide expert advice on other matters as referred to the Advisory Committee by the Council regarding Biosecurity.

**4. COMPOSITION**

Advisory Committee members must be committed to the strategic objectives outlined in these Terms of Reference. The following will apply:

- The Chairperson of the Advisory Committee will be a Councillor.
- Two (2) Councillors will be appointed by Mareeba Shire Council to the Advisory Committee—one (1) serving as Chair and the other as Deputy Chair.
- One (1) representative will be appointed to the Advisory Committee from each of the following:
  - Department of Primary Industries
  - Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development
  - Terrain NRM
  - Gulf Savannah NRM

<sup>1</sup> See *Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld)* ch 8 pt 2 div 2. See especially ss 264-265.

|   |
|---|
| Terms of Reference – Pest Management Advisory Committee |
|---|

- Cape York NRM
- Remaining Advisory Committee members will be appointed by Council and will hold extensive knowledge and experience in Biosecurity or pest management.
- The Advisory Committee may from time to time seek the advice of persons with specialist knowledge and invite them to attend a meeting.

#### **5. TERMS OF APPOINTMENT**

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The Advisory Committee is appointed for the term up to the next Council election or for the lifespan of the Committee, whichever is the earlier event and is subject to review by Council at any stage.<sup>2</sup> The following will apply:

- The Advisory Committee has no decision-making powers and will make recommendations only for consideration by Council.
- Advisory Committee members are appointed on a voluntary basis and meeting fees are not available.
- Advisory Committee members are expected to be available for regular communication by email and telephone.
- Where a member is appointed, they must receive notification of the appointment in writing.
- Council may remove an Advisory Committee member from office for:
  - conduct in breach of Council's *Employee Code of Conduct*;
  - failure to attend three consecutive meetings without leave of absence.
- The Advisory Committee may be renewed with the same membership following the next Council election or when public nominations are called for positions.

#### **6. CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP**

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Advisory Committee members are to comply with Council's *Handbook for Advisory Committees* and *Employee Code of Conduct*. The following will apply:

- Advisory Committee members have a duty to act honestly and in good faith, exercise reasonable skill, care and diligence.
- Advisory Committee members are to exercise common courtesy on all occasions.
- Advisory Committee members are to work collaboratively towards the purpose of the Advisory Committee.

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<sup>2</sup> See *Handbook for Advisory Committees* (MSC) s 3.1.

## Terms of Reference – Pest Management Advisory Committee

- Advisory Committee members are not authorised to speak directly to the media or public on behalf of the Council or with regard to any matter that has or is to be discussed by the Advisory Committee unless otherwise determined and agreed by Council. All media inquiries and requests for comment by members must be directed to the Advisory Committee Chairperson.
- Where an Advisory Committee member ceases employment with the organisation their membership to the Advisory Committee ceases, and the membership organisation are to appoint a replacement in writing.
- The office of an appointed Advisory Committee member becomes vacant if the member submits resignation in writing to the Secretariat of the Advisory Committee or is unable to continue their duties as an Advisory Committee member under these Terms of Reference.

## 7. MEETINGS

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Advisory Committee Meetings will be conducted in accordance with Council's *Handbook for Advisory Committees*.<sup>3</sup> The following will apply:

- Meetings are to be held as and when items of business arise but must be at least twice annually.<sup>4</sup>
- Meeting of the Advisory Committee will be held at a venue in Mareeba unless otherwise determined.
- A quorum will be determined to be 50% of the total number of Advisory Committee members, of which at least one must be a Mareeba Shire Council Councillor.<sup>5</sup>
- If after ten to fifteen (10-15) minutes have elapsed from the advertised time of the meeting without a quorum being present, the meeting will be abandoned. The chairperson is to reconvene the Advisory Committee as convenient, but no later than the next scheduled meeting date.<sup>6</sup>
- An appointed member who has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in a matter under consideration by the Advisory Committee must disclose the nature of the interest to the Advisory Committee. Such a disclosure must be recorded in the minutes of the Advisory Committee.<sup>7</sup>
- Voting procedure will be conducted in the manner consistent with requirements under Council's *Handbook for Advisory Committees*.<sup>8</sup>
- Advisory Committee members will not nominate alternate members (proxies) or representatives to attend meetings in their absence.
- Observers are permitted in attendance by approval of the Chairperson.

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<sup>3</sup> Ibid s 3.4.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid s 3.4.2.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid s 3.4.3.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid s 3.4.7.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid s 3.4.

|   |
|---|
| Terms of Reference – Pest Management Advisory Committee |
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**8. ADMINISTRATION**

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The Advisory Committee will undertake an assessment of performance against these Terms of Reference at an agreed time. Council Officers will provide information, secretarial and other assistance to the Advisory Committee as required.

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**9. REPORTING**

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The Advisory Committee will provide updates to Council by submitting reports when required. The following will apply:

- The Advisory Committee's advice and recommendations will be recorded in the Meeting Minutes and presented for Council consideration and assessment in a report.
- Meeting Minutes will be of formal resolutions and may note discussion topics and will comply with Council's *Handbook for Advisory Committees*.<sup>9</sup>
- Approved Meeting Minutes are available to the public and will be published on Council's website.
- All written material associated with the Advisory Committee is subject to the *Right to Information Act 2009* (Qld) and may be made available to the public.

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**10. DEFINITIONS**

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**Advisory Committee** – means the Pest Management Advisory Committee

**Alternate member** – means a person who attends meetings of the committee and acts as a member of the committee only if another member of the committee is absent from the meeting of the committee.<sup>10</sup>

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**11. RELATED DOCUMENTS AND REFERENCES**

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*Employee Code of Conduct* (MSC)  
*Handbook for Advisory Committees* (MSC)  
*Local Government Regulation 2012* (Qld)

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**12. REVIEW**

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It is the responsibility of the Director Infrastructure Services to monitor these Terms of Reference and effect the necessary changes following each council election.

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<sup>9</sup> See *Handbook for Advisory Committees* (MSC) s 3.4.6.

<sup>10</sup> See *Local Government Regulation 2012* (Qld) s 266.

|   |
|---|
| Terms of Reference – Pest Management Advisory Committee |
|---|

**List of Observers**

- Bar-Burrum Aboriginal Corporation
- Barron River Catchment Care Group
- Cairns Regional Council
- Carpentaria Shire Council
- Cook Shire Council
- Croydon Shire Council
- Department of Environment, Science Tourism, Science and Innovation
- Department of Transport and Main Roads
- Djabugay Aboriginal Corporation
- Douglas Shire Council
- Etheridge Shire Council
- Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils (FNQROC)
- Karma Waters Station
- Kuranda Conservation Nursery
- Kuranda Envirocare
- Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council
- Mbarbarum Aboriginal Corporation
- Mareeba District Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association
- Mitchell River Watershed Management Group
- Muluridji Tribal Aboriginal Corporation
- Nguddaboolgan Native Title Aboriginal Corporation
- Sunwater
- Tableland Canegrowers Association
- Tablelands Regional Council
- Wetherby Station
- Wet Tropics Management Authority
- Western Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation



## 10 OFFICE OF THE CEO

### 10.1 SMALL BUSINESS FRIENDLY COUNCIL COMMITMENT 2026-27

**Date Prepared:** 6 February 2026

**Author:** Tourism & Economic Development Officer

**Attachments:**

1. [MSC Small Business Action Plan 2026-27](#) ↓
2. [SBF Commitment Document](#) ↓

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an overview of the Small Business Friendly (SBF) Program and outlines the rationale for Council renewing its commitment to the program. The report details recent enhancements to the Queensland Small Business Commissioner's (QSBC) SBF Program, including the introduction of a new Small Business Friendly Action Plan document and changes to the Commitment document which replaces the previous Charter signed by Council in 2021.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council continues to demonstrate leadership in supporting small and family businesses and remains an active and compliant member of the SBF Program and:

1. Endorses the renewed participation of Mareeba Shire Council in the Queensland Small Business Friendly Program;
2. Signs the updated Small Business Friendly Commitment document; and
3. Approves the Small Business Action Plan for implementation.

#### BACKGROUND

##### Introduction

This report provides an overview of the Small Business Friendly (SBF) Program and outlines the rationale for Council renewing its commitment to the program. The report details recent enhancements to the Queensland Small Business Commissioner's (QSBC) SBF Program, including the introduction of a new Small Business Friendly Action Plan document and changes to the Commitment document which replaces the previous Charter signed by Council in 2021.

##### Background

Small and family businesses sit at the heart of Queensland's economy and local communities. They generate employment, drive local economic activity, and contribute significantly to the vibrancy and liveability of regions such as the Mareeba Shire.

The Queensland Small Business Commissioner established the Small Business Friendly Program to support local governments, Queensland Government agencies, and large enterprises to create more enabling environments for small business success. The program is built on practical commitments that improve how organisations interact, transact with, and support small businesses.

Mareeba Shire Council is already a member of the SBF Program (having joined in 2021), connecting with a network of 51 participating councils across Queensland (out of a total of 77 councils).

Council's participation reflects an ongoing commitment to supporting local enterprise and strengthening the regional economy.

### 1.1 Program Evolution and Enhancements

In 2025 the Office of QSBC undertook a human-centred design process to strengthen the SBF Program. This process included:

- Consultation with a dedicated member working group; and
- A survey of program members and small businesses.

Feedback highlighted the need for clearer expectations, a more practical framework, and improved accountability. In response, the QSBC has developed a new Small Business Friendly Commitment, which replaces the previous Charter document.

The revised commitment (see attached) provides a simpler, more consistent framework that is:

- Clear and actionable – setting out practical expectations for members;
- Scalable – recognising councils vary in size, capacity, resources, and location; and
- Measurable – supporting transparency and accountability across the program.

This transition is intended to strengthen collective impact while ensuring councils can realistically meet program requirements.

### 1.2 What the New Commitment Means for Council

As an existing SBF Program member, Council is not being asked to rejoin the program. Instead, Council is asked to **renew its commitment** by signing the new SBF Commitment document. By doing so, Council commits to:

- Upholding the principles and deliverables set out in the new Commitment (see attached); and
- Meeting annual membership requirements, including:
  - Appointing an organisational representative and proxy;
  - Implementing an annual Small Business Action Plan;
  - Participating in at least four (4) SBF Program activities each financial year;
  - Attending the SBF Annual Conference (in person or virtually);
  - Publicly promoting at least two (2) small business activities each financial year; and
  - Submitting an Annual Report to the QSBC by 30 September each year.

The QSBC will continue to support members to meet these requirements and acknowledges that challenges such as staff vacancies or resourcing constraints may occur, and asks Councils communicate these challenges to the QSBC team.

### 1.3 Why this initiative matters for the Mareeba Shire?

Within the Mareeba Shire, there are approximately **2,242 small businesses** operating across key sectors including agriculture, tourism, construction, transport, retail, and professional services. Participation in the SBF Program offers tangible benefits to Council and the local business community, including:

- Increased trust and confidence between Council and local businesses;
- Reduced avoidable contact and more efficient Council processes;

- Enhanced public reputation as a business-friendly organisation;
- Improved staff capability and engagement;
- Greater local economic resilience and stronger supply chains;
- Access to collaboration, shared learning, and advocacy through the QSBC network; and
- Improved opportunities for local businesses to participate in Council procurement.

Renewing Council's commitment aligns with existing economic development and small business support initiatives already underway in the Mareeba Shire.

## **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

### **Financial**

Nil.

### **Environmental**

Nil.

### **Infrastructure and Assets**

Nil.

### **Political and Reputational**

Nil.

### **Legal and Compliance**

Nil.

### **Health and Safety**

Nil.

### **Service Delivery and IT**

Nil.

## **LEGAL/COMPLIANCE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

### ***Capital***

N/A

### ***Operating***

There are no direct budget implications related to participating in the SBF Program; however, there may be some indirect costs associated with fulfilling the commitments and meeting the member requirements which are covered in the current Tourism & Economic Development budget.

### ***Is the expenditure noted above included in the current budget?***

Yes.

**LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN**

**Economy and Growth:** Promote and encourage investment in local industry to build a resilient economy.

**IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION**

Nil.



# Small Business Action Plan 2026-27



| Issues  | Value proposition   | Beneficiaries   |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rising operational costs (energy, insurance, rent, wages etc)</li> <li>Access to financial literacy and upskilling opportunities</li> <li>Access to reliable telecommunications</li> <li>Digital adoption pressure and pace of technological change ie AI</li> <li>Impacts and disruptions from natural disasters</li> <li>Workforce shortages and skills gaps</li> <li>Regulatory compliance and complexity</li> <li>Tax debt, access to finance and cash flow management options</li> </ul>                            | <p>Mareeba Shire Council will bring people together to enhance the operating environment to help small and family businesses thrive by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uplifting the capability of small businesses</li> <li>Fostering ecosystems that help small businesses thrive</li> <li>Promoting small businesses and vibrant economies</li> <li>Enabling small business development and success</li> <li>Working together for small business</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local small and family businesses – all sectors</li> <li>Entrepreneurs, startups and home-based businesses</li> <li>Chambers of Commerce and Industry Associations</li> <li>Mayor and Councillors</li> <li>Mareeba Shire Community</li> <li>Government (at all levels)</li> <li>Queensland public</li> <li>Visitors to Queensland</li> </ul>   |
| Partners  | Activities  | Engagement  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mareeba Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>Mareeba Shire Tourism Inc</li> <li>FNQ Growers</li> <li>Indigenous Associations</li> <li>Gulf Savannah NRM</li> <li>Other LGA's</li> <li>Queensland Small Business Commissioner (QSBC)</li> <li>Department of Customer Services, Open Data and Small and Family Business (DCDSB), State Library of QLD</li> <li>RDA Tropical North QLD, Advance Cairns, TIQ</li> <li>James Cook and Central Queensland Universities, TAFE</li> <li>Industry &amp; Corporate Stakeholders</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate with industry and business groups</li> <li>Develop networks that position Mareeba Shire for industry and investment success</li> <li>Celebrate Small Business Month</li> <li>Develop and promote place-based programs for small business as grant funding permits</li> <li>Deploy timely information for small business via multiple communication channels</li> <li>Secure investment in Mareeba Airport Aviation Park and Mareeba Industrial Park</li> <li>Continue to embed small business-friendly practices across all Council service areas</li> <li>Council procurement policy continues to support local businesses and industries where practicable</li> <li>Continue to implement practices for managing business disruption during capital works projects</li> <li>Ongoing support for small business resilience and recovery with respect to natural disasters</li> <li>Support advocacy for Mareeba Shire projects</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Connect to funding partners and grants</li> <li>Participation in RDA/TIQ Roundtables</li> <li>Skills and capacity building programs</li> <li>Information exchange via webinars, workshops and presentations</li> <li>Attend Mareeba Chamber of Commerce meetings and events</li> <li>Support of biannual Mareeba Chamber of Commerce Awards</li> <li>Attend Mareeba Shire Tourism Inc meetings and events</li> <li>Industry networking events and conferences</li> </ul> |
| Resources   | Outputs   | Communications  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mayor, Councillors and CEO</li> <li>Tourism &amp; Economic Development Officer</li> <li>MSC Operational Plan and Budget</li> <li>QSBC office and resources</li> <li>Quarterly QSBC Roundtables (online meetings)</li> <li>Other LGA Tourism &amp; Economic Development Officers</li> <li>Council meeting rooms and facilities</li> <li><a href="#">Business Queensland</a></li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase access opportunities for business learning and development</li> <li>Mareeba Shire Business Resilience Program</li> <li>Mareeba Shire Monthly Munch &amp; Learn Program with State Library of QLD</li> <li>Customer satisfaction and positive feedback for SBF initiatives</li> <li>Access for the Mareeba Shire Community to free or low cost experts, mentors and online resources</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Targeted direct email via Tourism &amp; Economic Development Officer network</li> <li>Inclusion in Council e-Newsletter</li> <li>Council's Facebook, Instagram &amp; LinkedIn</li> <li>Quarterly Tourism &amp; Economic Development Report for Council</li> <li>Council website</li> <li>Partner channels and platforms</li> <li>In person at events</li> </ul>  |
| Budget / Costs  | Critical factors  | Measures of success   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aligned with Council's annual Tourism &amp; Economic Development budget</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resourcing to deliver SBF program – staff and funds</li> <li>Continued partner and community support and input</li> <li>Mayor and Councillor support</li> <li>Executive and Senior leadership team support across Council</li> <li>Flexibility to adjust to requested needs and opportunities as they arise</li> <li>Strong communication, promotion and reporting</li> <li>Delivering value to ratepayers and small businesses</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Timely delivery of activities scheduled</li> <li>Number of engagement activities undertaken</li> <li>Improvement of reputation and standing across industry &amp; government</li> <li>Growth in small business following on socials and e-Newsletter open rates</li> <li>Positive regard for SBAP by Mayor and Councillors</li> </ul>  |

# Small Business Friendly Commitment

The Small Business Friendly (SBF) Program brings people together to enhance the operating environment to help small and family businesses thrive.

**Mareeba Shire Council commits to working with small businesses, industry, community, and government to be more small business friendly by:**

- Uplifting the capability of small businesses
- Fostering ecosystems that help small businesses thrive
- Promoting small businesses and vibrant economies
- Enabling small business development and success
- Working together for small business.

We recognise that being small business friendly is an ongoing commitment and pledge to meet or exceed the program commitment and requirements.

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Angela Toppin  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Franks  
CEO



\_\_\_\_\_  
Nicolle Kelly  
Acting Queensland Small Business  
Commissioner



## What our commitment means

### We will uplift the capability of small businesses by:

- Providing support and guidance to improve capabilities
- Helping to improve digital literacy and drive the use of technology
- Promoting opportunities to grow skills and workforce.

### We will foster ecosystems that help small businesses thrive by:

- Actively communicating and engaging with small businesses
- Enhancing our policies, practices and minimising red tape
- Building resilience to respond and recover from disasters and major business disruptions.

### We will promote small businesses and vibrant economies by:

- Promoting opportunities and raising the profile of small businesses
- Supporting place-making and the creation of circular economies
- Supporting trusted networks that help small businesses learn and succeed.

### We will enable small business development and success by:

- Creating an annual Small Business Action Plan, or equivalent (each financial year)
- Developing our understanding of the economic environment
- Championing small business investment and procurement.

### We will work together for small businesses by:

- Advocating about challenges and opportunities facing small businesses
- Collaborating and partnering to enhance the operating environment for small business
- Monitoring and reporting on our performance.

## Our membership requirements

### We will meet our membership requirements by:

- Authorising an organisational representative and proxy to champion our commitment
- Implementing an annual Small Business Action Plan, or equivalent (each financial year)
- Actively participating in at least four SBF Program activities (each financial year)
- Attending the SBF Program Annual Conference (in person or virtually)
- Publicly promote local small business initiatives
- Submitting a financial year Annual Report to the QSBC by 30 September each year.



**10.2 NAMING OF BUSHY CREEK BRIDGE AT CHAPMANS ROAD JULATTEN - VERRI'S BRIDGE**

**Date Prepared:** 9 February 2026  
**Author:** Director Corporate and Community Services  
**Attachments:** Nil

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

A request has been received from the Verri family proposing that the bridge at the Bushy Creek crossing on Chapmans Road, Julatten, be named after the Verri family.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council name the bridge at the Bushy Creek crossing on Chapmans Road, Julatten, as Verri's Bridge.

**BACKGROUND**

The Verri family have a long-established connection to the Julatten area, including more than 40 years at their Chapmans Road property and around 70 years within the Julatten district.

This family have continued to be accommodating and generous in granting access through their private property, to neighbouring property owners and Council, for periods of impact and upgrades to Council infrastructure.

The bridge at this crossing is not currently named after a person/family.

This request meets all aspects of Council's Road and Water Crossing Naming Policy and Procedure. It is recommended that this request be approved by Council.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

**LEGAL/COMPLIANCE/POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Council's Road and Water Crossing Naming Policy states that:

*"Council will consider input from community members for naming of roads or water crossings after historical or significant places, themes, families and individuals within the relevant district.*

*Any submission involving a request for a name which is not already on an approved list for the relevant district will be referred to Council for approval."*

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS****Capital**

Nil.

**Operating**

Approximately \$1,000.

***Is the expenditure noted above included in the current budget?***

It can be catered for within the existing budget.

**LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN**

**Financial Sustainability and Governance:** A financially sustainable council that applies strategic decision making and good governance to deliver cost-effective services.

**Community and Culture:** An informed, engaged and resilient community which supports and encourages effective partnerships to deliver better outcomes.

**Transport and Infrastructure:** The provision of quality infrastructure to service our growing community using sound asset management principles.

**Liveability and Environment:** Improve the liveability of the Shire by enhancing amenity and valuing natural assets.

**Economy and Growth:** Promote and encourage investment in local industry to build a resilient economy.

**IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATION**

The Verri family will be informed of the decision and if approved, a suitable sign will be installed at the bridge.

**11 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS**

Nil

**12 BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE**

**13 NEXT MEETING OF COUNCIL**



**14 FOR INFORMATION****14.1 AUDIT COMMITTEE - MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 13 AUGUST 2025****Date Prepared:** 9 December 2025**Author:** Executive Support Officer**Attachments:** 1. [Audit Committee Minutes 30 September 2025](#) 

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Please see the following Minutes of the Audit Committee Meetings held 30 September 2025. These Minutes will be confirmed at the 10 March 2026 Audit Committee meeting.



# **MINUTES**

**Tuesday, 30 September 2025**  
**Audit Committee Meeting**

**MINUTES OF MAREEBA SHIRE COUNCIL  
AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
ON TUESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 10:00AM**

**1 MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

John Andrejic (Chair), Cr Mary Graham, Cr Amy Braes

**2 OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Peter Franks (Chief Executive Officer), Elisa Tatti (Manager Finance), Andrea McGrath (Statutory Accountant), Cr Angela Toppin (Mayor), Cr Mladen Bosnic, Natalie Kolakowski (Queensland Audit Office - QAO via Teams), Shona Cram (Grant Thornton via Teams), Kelly Graham (Grant Thornton)

**3 APOLOGIES**

Jennifer McCarthy (Director Corporate and Community Services), Glenda Kirk (Director Infrastructure Services), Roy Ladner (Manager Information Systems & Governance), Cr Lenore Wyatt, Cr Ross Cardillo, Cr Edward Brown, Carolyn Eagle (Pacifica), Tracy Townsend (Pacifica), Sian Ferguson (Pacifica), Amira Mediodia (Pacifica), Sri Narasimhan (QAO)

**4 DECLARATION OF ANY MATERIAL PERSONAL INTERESTS/CONFLICTS OF INTEREST BY AUDIT COMMITTEE AND OBSERVERS**

Nil

**5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2025/24**

Moved: Cr Mary Graham

Seconded: Cr Amy Braes

That the minutes of Audit Committee Meeting held on 13 August 2025 be confirmed.

**CARRIED**

**6 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, REPORTING AND INTERNAL CONTROL**

**6.1 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERIOD ENDING 31 AUGUST 2025**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2025/25**

Moved: Cr Amy Braes

Seconded: Cr Mary Graham

That the Audit Committee note the Financial Report for the period ending 31 August 2025.

**CARRIED**

**6.2 CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2025/26**

Moved: Cr Mary Graham

Seconded: Cr Amy Braes

That the Audit Committee note the attached report.

**CARRIED**

**6.3 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2025**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2025/27**

Moved: Cr Mary Graham

Seconded: Cr Amy Braes

That the Audit Committee receive and note the report for execution.

**CARRIED**

**7 INTERNAL AUDIT**

**7.1 INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2025/2026**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2025/28**

Moved: Cr Mary Graham

Seconded: Cr Amy Braes

That the Audit Committee endorse the proposed annual internal audit plan for the financial year ending 30 June 2026.

**CARRIED**

**8 EXTERNAL AUDIT**

**8.1 EXTERNAL AUDIT STATUS REPORT**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2025/29**

Moved: Cr Mary Graham

Seconded: Cr Amy Braes

That the audit committee receives and notes the modified management responses as below;

**25CR-4 No change management policy**

**Management response**

Council notes the recommendation and will develop a formal change management policy.

**24CR-2 Activities of privileged users are not monitored or reviewed**

**Management Response:**

Council has identified payroll and accounts payable as potential high-risk areas and has implemented monthly reports logging changes which are reviewed by an independent person.

In addition to this Council will implement a monthly report identifying system changes to delegations and new user accounts which will be reviewed by an independent person.

**CARRIED**

**9 LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE**

**9.1 PURCHASING REPORT AUGUST 2025**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2025/30**

Moved: Cr Amy Braes

Seconded: Cr Mary Graham

That the Audit Committee receive and note the report.

**CARRIED**

**10 NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT LEGAL MATTERS - CEO**

Nil

**11 MATTERS TO BE REPORTED TO COUNCIL**

Nil

**The Meeting closed at 11:08am.**

**The minutes of this meeting are to be confirmed at the next Audit Committee Meeting.**

.....  
**CHAIRPERSON**



**14.2 GREAT WHEELBARROW RACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 28 JANUARY 2026**

**Date Prepared:** 11 February 2026

**Author:** Corporate Communications Officer

**Attachments:** 1. **Great Wheelbarrow Race Advisory Committee - Minutes of meeting held Wednesday, 28 January 2026.** [↓](#)

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The purpose of this report is to present the Minutes of the Great Wheelbarrow Race Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 28 January 2026.



## Great Wheelbarrow Race

### Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, 28 January 2026

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**Time commenced: 5:00pm**

**Location: Mareeba Shire Council Boardroom**

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**Present:** Cr Ross Cardillo, Cr Nipper Brown, Frances Schafer, Narelle Duncan, Rochelle Harding, Jared Hohns, Terry Roos, Jordan Hohns (calling in).

**Apologies:** Nil

**Absent:** Nil

#### Agenda Items

**1. Declaration of conflict of interest from committee members**

Nil

**2. Business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting**

- Set up a meeting with the police to discuss the traffic conditions at the Gorge to seek advise about whether to close this section as one lane or keep it open. This needs to be done before we apply for TGSs and permits. - Ongoing
- Cr Ross will ring local Cross Fit groups to tell them about the new category and will visit the park run club on Saturday morning. - Complete
- Cr Nipper has confirmed that the Dimby Do will be possible in 2026. - Noted

**3. Volunteer Update**

- An update was provided that a number of new volunteers will be joining the event.

**4. Sponsorship Update**

- Media – TV ad has been running since December
- Meeting with SCA radio to come on board as a new media sponsor
- Meeting scheduled with 4AM to discuss media sponsorship, potential for live broadcasting
- Mareeba and Dimbulah Community Bank staying on as the naming sponsor
- A summary was provided of new sponsors
- In the process of applying for the Mount Emerald Community Benefit Fund

**5. Supplier Update**

- Will undergo an EOI process to find a photographer and videographer
- Working with a supplier for the design of a committee shirt
- In the process of getting quotes for runner's sign-up item and researching a small finisher's item to celebrate finishing the race.
- Committee voted yes to having a snow cone van, will consider ice-cream van
- Need to source audio and screen, will request quote
- Will also need quote for First Responders
- Marquee ordered

**6. Registrations to date**

- Registrations close on 1 March 2026.
- Summary provided of teams signed up so far (12)

**7. Business Arising**

- Chillagoe Festival – Cr Nipper will meet with event organisers to discuss plans for Sunday
- Need to request lighting from Rotary for Saturday night

**Proposed meeting dates**

For meetings at 5pm in the boardroom.

- 18 February 2026
- 18 March 2026
- 22 April 2026
- 8-10 May 2026 – event
- 27 May 2025 – Debrief

**Actions**

| Task  | Person Responsible        | By -      |
|---|---------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Quotes and Suppliers</b>                     |                           |           |
| Investigate starting merch item for competitors | MSC                       | Ongoing   |
| Investigate finisher item                       | MSC                       | Ongoing   |
| Photography                                     | MSC Officer               | Ongoing   |
| Marquee   | MSC Officer               | Ongoing   |
| Submit committee shirt design                   | MSC Officer               | Ongoing   |
| Sound quote                                     | Cr Nipper and MSC Officer |           |
|   |                           |           |
| <b>Event Prep</b>                               |                           |           |
| Draft Event Management Plan                     | MSC Officer               | Ongoing   |
| Set meeting with police about traffic           | MSC Officer               | Ongoing   |
| Submit application for TGS                      | MSC Officer               | Ongoing   |
| Submit permits – TMR, Police, MSC               | MSC Officer               | After TGS |
|   |                           |           |
| <b>Sponsorship</b>                              |                           |           |
| Apply for Mount Emerald Grant                   | MSC Officer               | January   |
| Continue reaching out to potential sponsors     | Cr Ross                   | Ongoing   |
|   |                           |           |
| <b>Volunteers</b>                               |                           |           |
| Reach out to local groups for assistance        | Cr Ross / MSC             | Ongoing   |
|   |                           |           |
| <b>Advertising / Marketing</b>                  |                           |           |
| Facebook posts                                  | MSC Officer               | Ongoing   |
| Radio ads                                       | MSC Officer               | Ongoing   |
| Competitor safety video                         | Jared and Jordan          | Ongoing   |

**Meeting closed: 6.30pm**

**Next meeting: 5pm Wednesday, 18 February 2026**