

Federal Election Priorities

Council has been active in lobbying for support for its priority projects. Council believes that these projects will create jobs and enable growth of Hinchinbrook Shire's economic potential in agriculture, tourism, recreation and cultural platforms, supporting the Australian Government's Agenda for Northern Australia – the gateway to global markets and prosperity of the North.

Dungeness Marine Access Improvement Project

Increase accessibility of Enterprise Channel at Dungeness in order to attain all-tide access and safe passage for boating vessels. Restricted tidal access constrains Council's ability to develop tourism as an economic stimulus for the region, given the inability to operate commercial tourism from a tide book. Council request Federal Government funding to assist dredging and beach replenishment, including a comprehensive

Environmental Impact Statement at Dungeness to facilitate development of tourism in the area.

New Boat Ramp/Jetty Facilities at Forrest Beach

Marine access in Hinchinbrook Shire is limited to recreational purposes (tide dependent), with the exception of the Lucinda jetty, operated by Queensland Sugar Limited. There is also an inadequate ability to provide safe and efficient marine access for people and goods within the region, including access to Palm and Orpheus Islands and access for Maritime Safety Queensland vessels.

Council request Federal Government funding to undertake the business case, including comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement for the establishment of ramp and jetty facilities at Forrest Beach.

Heated Silo Storage Facilities

Due to the cyclical nature of world sugar pricing,

alternate cropping industries must be established with a view to breaking the sugar cane monoculture and introducing complimentary cropping to counter yield decline through soil improvement. Identified constraints are lack of agronomy services to teach and instil knowledge and expertise in farmers; and lack of bulk storage facilities to improve transport efficiencies to market further south.

Council request Federal Government funding towards heated silo storage facilities for pulse rice and comparable grain production.

Bio Precincts – North Queensland Bio-Energy (NQBE) Project – Ingham

NQBE was incorporated by the growers to diversify the way they conduct their business and not only be sustainable into the future, but grow jobs and the economy. It is envisaged this will be the start of a bio precinct in Hinchinbrook Shire.

Council request the Federal Government provides financial assistance towards the NQBE Renewable Energy Facility, which is a shovel ready project.

Herbert River Weir Project

An in-stream weir facility within the Herbert River will seek to protect salt water intrusion of fresh water supplies, whilst increasing the opportunity for irrigated horticulture, complementary to sugar cane production, by availability of supplementary irrigation. In addition, it will also increase recreational opportunities for fishing, water sports and tourism adjacent to the township of Ingham.

Council request Federal Government funding towards a business case for establishment of an in-stream weir facility within the Herbert River.

Dungeness Boat Ramp Car Park Extension

Council request Federal Government funding towards the extension

of the Dungeness Boat Ramp car park. This project value adds to recently completed pontoon upgrades at the Dungeness Boat Ramp and has the capability to triple current capacity by approximately 190 bays. The expansion hopes to reduce current vehicle congestion, as well as allowing for an increasing demand on boating facilities and future growth in the area.

Restoration of Financial Assistance Grants

Council requests the Federal Government restore Financial Assistance Grants to at least one (1) percent. This will assist Council to maintain assets and infrastructure, benefiting the local community through additional services and facilities.

Dutton Street Bridge Construction

During flood events north and south Ingham are divided by Palm Creek which prevents residents accessing emergency services, hospital and other critical

care facilities and vice-versa. The construction of a bridge over Dutton Street will build community resilience during floods and mitigate future emergency service costings due to the need for additional resourcing.

Council requests the Federal Government provide funding for construction of a bridge over Dutton Street.

For further information the Federal Government Priorities document can be viewed on Council's website News and Announcement page.

Hopefully in next week's issue we will be able to advise of the Federal election candidate's position in regards to Council's priorities.

Ramon Jayo
Mayor



Council Facilities Closure

Residents are advised that the Lannercost Street Office, Hinchinbrook Shire Library, TYTO Regional Art Gallery and Warrens Hill Transfer Station will be closed between **12.30pm and 4.15pm on Thursday 9 May 2019**.

Council apologises for any inconvenience this may cause and looks forward to being of assistance to you outside of this time.

For urgent enquiries during this time please call Council on 4776 4600.

Attention Local Suppliers, Contractors and Service Providers

Offers are invited for suitably qualified contractors to undertake works for the following tenders:

- **RF003100** – Halifax Heritage Lights
- **RF003185** – Halifax Fairy Light Installation
- **RF003183** – Macknade Creek Bridge Remedial Works
- **RF003184** – Dalrymple Creek Bridge Remedial Works

Further information is available by downloading the offer documents via Council's website, *Current Procurement and Tenders* page.

THINK BUSINESS

HINCHINBROOK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERIES

Marketing Essentials for Business Workshop - Presented by Russell Boswell, BozOz

Marketing Essentials for Businesses is open to all businesses, using best practice examples from tourism and other industries.

Date: Monday 13 May 2019

Time: 5:30pm to 8.30pm

Cost: \$25.00 including light supper

For more information on the Think Business Series, or to book your spot please visit Council's website, Economic Development, *Business Workshops* page.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Forrest Beach Boat Ramp

Council wishes to advise that maintenance to the **Forrest Beach Boat Ramp** will be taking place between **Monday 13 May 2019 and Friday 17 May 2019** weather permitting.

During this time boat ramp will be closed to the public while works are being undertaken.

For further information on current roadworks, please visit Council's website, Roadworks page or contact Council on 4776 4671.

Council takes this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation and patience during this necessary phase of works.

HINCHINBROOK WORK SAFE HEALTH FORUM

with guest speaker **Shane Webcke**

Thursday 9 May 2019

doors open 12.30pm for a 1.00pm start

Hinchinbrook Shire Hall

The Forum featuring footy legend and Queensland Safety Ambassador **Shane Webcke** will focus on health, wellbeing, safe work practices and injury prevention.

Tickets are **FREE**, however bookings are essential.

To book please call Council's **Human Resources team on 4776 4603** - Group bookings welcome.

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