



Project Overview

Ports North is planning ahead.

Fundamental to our commitment to supporting the economic growth of the Far North Queensland region, we've recently initiated the Ports Master Planning Project for both the Port of Cairns and Port of Mourilyan.

The Master Plans will look at 30 years to 2050.

This fact sheet provides a general overview of the master planning process.

Why are these projects important?

Ports North's vision is:

'to be a successful, sustainable Port operator and a valued contributor to regional economic growth'

The master planning projects will help us achieve this vision by informing land use, infrastructure and operational decisions in a sensible and balanced way.

The projects will consider economically feasible future growth pathways whilst ensuring we are protecting environmental values and that our ports are growing compatibly with the communities in which they are located.

Protection of World Heritage Values associated with the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area will be a key consideration.

The Process

Our master planning process will involve the following major steps:



Stage One: **Gap Analysis** - review existing documentation, identify information gaps, determine key environmental, social, operational and economic issues, develop project plan.

Stage Two: **Materiality Assessment** - understand key issues, undertake materiality survey to capture key port planning issues.

Stage Three: **Baseline Assessment** - review existing performance, infrastructure issues, environmental values, land use and berth utilisations, capacity issues, cargo and passenger growth scenarios, port/community interface issues.

Stage Four: **Options Analysis** - develop and test a range of infrastructure and land use options in and around the port for future development, considering short (0-10), medium (10-20) and longer-term (20+years) scenarios. This stage will include assessment and comparative analysis of economic and financial, environmental and community/social outcomes.

Stage Five: **Final Plan Development** - finalise preferred master plans and communicate outcomes.

Our master planning process will be consistent with the Ports Australia Leading Practice Guidelines in terms of the range of issues considered and the final content of planning documents.



What will the project cover?

Development of the plans will be tailored to each port but will include a range of considerations such as:

Demand and Infrastructure

- trade demand, forecasting and feasibility analysis – including reef fleet, marinas, cruise, project cargo, bulk cargo, bulk storage, marine maintenance, navy, fishing, break bulk, containers
- cargo diversity and emerging opportunities
- infrastructure condition, capacity and utilisation
- maintenance and capital dredging requirements
- future land utilisation and allocations

Economic Drivers

- protection of surface transport connections and corridors
- key drivers, constraints, issues and opportunities
- infrastructure opportunities, order of magnitude costs
- economic and financial feasibility analysis

Environment Values

- environmental values and the Great Barrier Reef policy framework - including Reef 2050 policy documents

Community Values

- community and city interface issues – including (at the Port of Cairns) interface with the existing CityPort precinct and the potential Tropical North Global Tourism Hub development precinct

Key stakeholder engagement

The project will involve extensive engagement with stakeholders and port users.

Central to our project will be a survey early in the process seeking input from stakeholders on what they believe are ‘the most important issues’ for the project to consider.

Other engagement initiatives include:

- direct consultation with Government, community and port stakeholders
- a project website featuring key project information and updates
- briefing(s) with State and Commonwealth Government agencies and ministers

Port North also commits to making final plans easily available to all stakeholders so that the vision, initiatives and future developments at each port can be understood.

Who is managing the project?

Ports North is leading the project and has engaged expert Australian consultants, Sprott Planning and Environment, to assist with project management and guidance.

Lead technical consultants will be appointed by mid-2019 to undertake detailed technical work.

These projects are expected to run until early 2020.