

Fraser Coast Advocacy Plan

2024



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A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I am proud to present the Fraser Coast Regional Council Advocacy Plan which aims to guide the major work we will undertake on behalf of the community from 2024 – 2028.

Our goal, as the Local Government leaders of the Fraser Coast, is to build better communities together. On behalf of our residents, businesses and visitors, the Fraser Coast Regional Council has an active role in long-term planning, ensuring infrastructure and services are delivered to support the needs and desires of the community. We want to ensure that our liveability is not only maintained, but improved as we continue to be one of the fastest growing and most dynamic regions in Australia.

Recognising Council is not alone in this journey, this Advocacy Plan sets out a range of projects and priorities that can be delivered through partnerships with the community, key regional business groups and the Queensland and Australian Governments.

As the largest Council in the Wide Bay region of Queensland, representing 120,000 residents, forecast to grow to 150,000 people in the next two decades, our goal is to be a diverse, strong, and well-governed region of vibrant places, connected by our community spirit, respect for our natural environment and our innovative and diverse economy.

I encourage you to consider how you can make a positive difference for the Fraser Coast region and the lives of our community by joining us in our advocacy efforts.



Cr George Seymour
Mayor





The Fraser Coast

Our vision of building better communities together is the cornerstone of everything we do as a Council. The vision aims to ensure our region, and its communities continue to flourish.

We are committed to our vision, and to enhancing the region so that future generations have a great place to visit and an even better place to live. A place that is prosperous, resilient and connected.

Queensland's Fraser Coast is a region that offers a relaxed lifestyle, in a pristine location with many opportunities for investment and to be part of a growing community.

Uniting two world heritage icons, K'gari and the start of the Great Barrier Reef – coupled with the cultural history

and modern charm of Maryborough intertwined with smaller rural townships, the Fraser Coast region's allure is undeniable.

New residents and visitors are captivated by the stunning natural and built environment, as well as the region's family lifestyle and vibrant community focus.

As this region is attracting more recognition, it is experiencing strong growth and exceeding national averages by significant margins, with over 2500 people a year moving to the region over the last decade. This strong growth is expected to continue over coming decades, and as a result, the Fraser Coast needs major Federal, State and Local Government investment into new community infrastructure to ensure the Fraser Coast remains an enviable place to live, work and play.

We have a strong focus on sustainable planning to address urban growth and have identified the need for additional local infrastructure investment and this plan aims to address our challenges and support the needs of our growing communities.

FRASER COAST ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Gross Regional Product

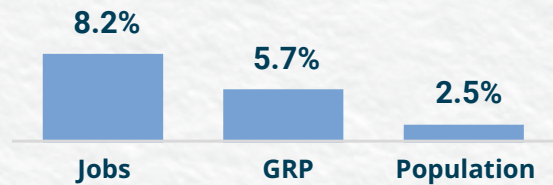


\$5,706M +\$318M (+5.7%)

March 2024 Since March 2023

**NIEIR, 2024; *Annualised*

March 2024 Growth Since March 2023



Jobs



45,483 +3,582 (+8.2%)

March 2024 Since March 2023

**NIEIR, 2024*

Jobs Growth By Industry

+836	Construction
+829	Healthcare & Social Assistance
+578	Accommodation and Food Services
+327	Retail Trade

**NIEIR, 2024; *Since March 2023*

Population



118,505 +1,118 (+0.95%)

June 2024 Since June 2023

.id Population Forecast, 2024

Unemployment



5.2% (-0.5%) 5.7%

March 2024 March 2023

**Jobs and Skills Australia, 2024*

Visitors



1.85M +0.25M (+14%)

March 2024 Since March 2023

**TEQ, 2024; *Over previous 12 months*

Building Approvals



\$1,156M +\$436M (+59%)

23/24 FY Since 22/23 FY

**ABS Building Approvals, 2024; *FYTD*

Median Unit Sales



\$477,398 +\$80,206

(AVG Sale) (+16.8%)

August 2024 Since August 2023

**HTAG 2024*

Median House Sales



\$554,940 +\$27,200

(AVG Sale) (+4.9%)


August 2024 Since August 2023

**HTAG 2024*

Published June 2024. Data sourced from multiple referenced* sources, all utilising most current available data.

FRASER COAST SOCIO-ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Population




118,505 **+1,118** (+0.95%)

June 2024 Since June 2023

*.id Population Forecast, 2024

Median Age



51 **38**

Fraser Coast Regional QLD

*ABS 2021 Census

Long Term Health Conditions



42.3% **35.4%**

Fraser Coast Regional QLD

*ABS 2021

Household Composition



38.0% Couples without Children
26.0% Couples with Children
18.4% Lone-person Households

*ABS 2021

Levels of Disability



10.8% **6.3%**

Fraser Coast Regional QLD

*ABS 2021

SEIFA Index

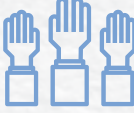


915

Fraser Coast

*ABS 2021; 11th Most Disadvantaged Region in QLD

Volunteering Rates




16.2% **13.1%**

Fraser Coast Regional QLD

*ABS 2021

Job Seeker Recipients




9.8% **14.9%**

JobSeeker Payment (pop. aged 20-64yrs) Youth Allowance (pop. aged 15-24yrs)

*ABS Labour Force 2024


Weekly Income Avg.



Personal	Household
\$533	\$1,062
<small>(Fraser Coast)</small>	<small>(Fraser Coast)</small>
\$737	\$1,403
<small>(Regional QLD)</small>	<small>(Regional QLD)</small>

*ABS 2021

Levels of Education



11%	Bachelor or Higher	17.1%
8.1%	Adv. Diploma/Dipl.	9.1%
26.2%	Vocational	24.1%
44.5%	No Qualification	39.2%

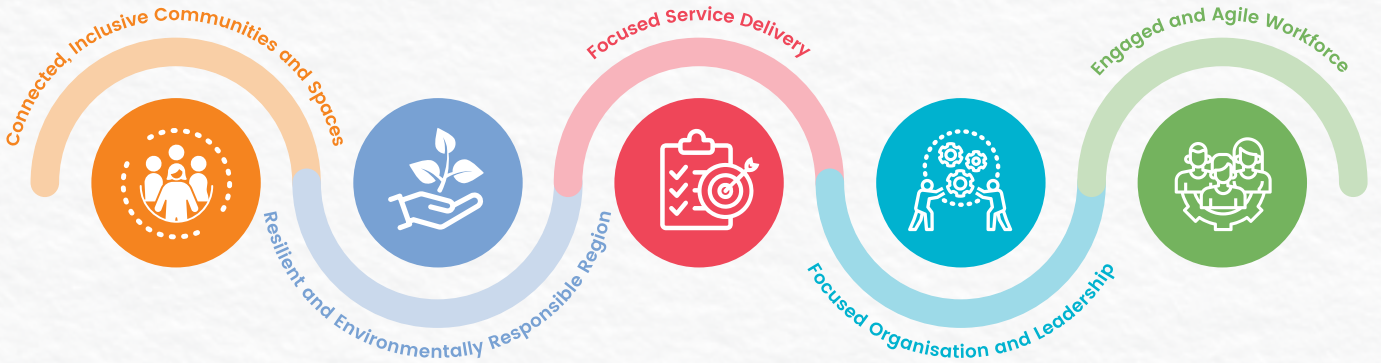
(Fraser Coast) (Regional QLD)

*ABS 2021, 15+ age group

Published June 2024. Data sourced from multiple referenced* sources, all utilising most current available data.

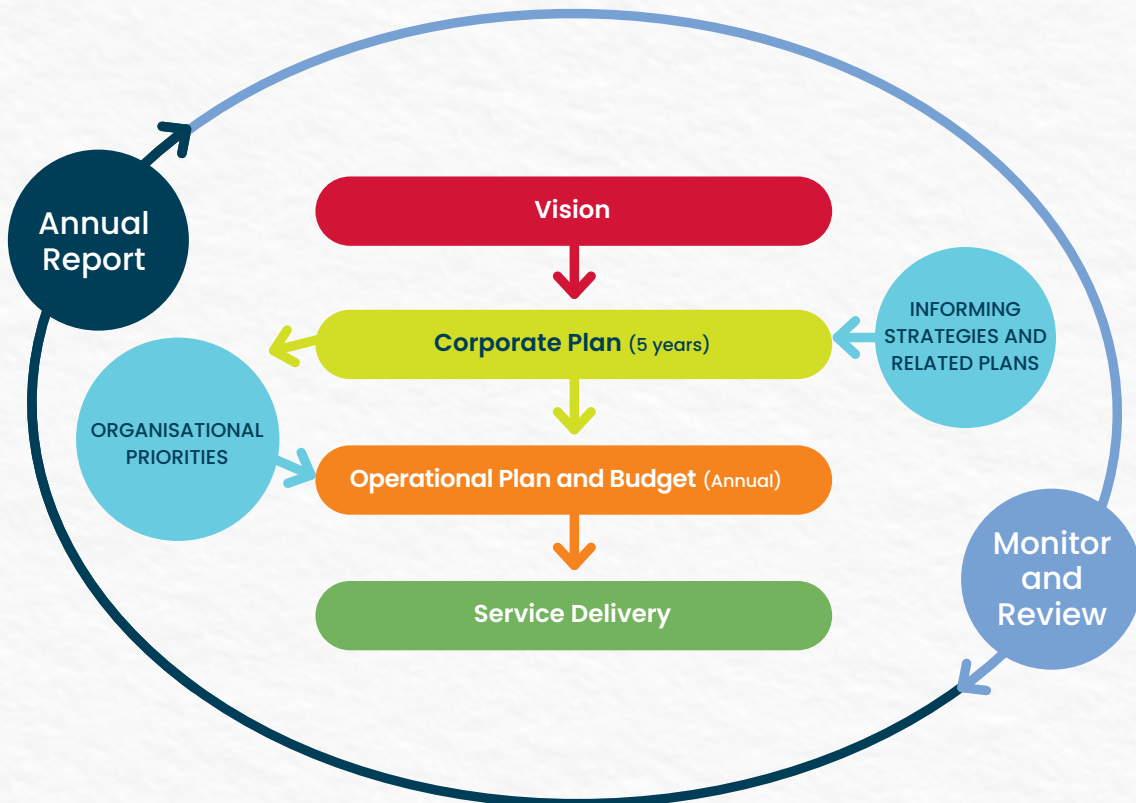
ASSOCIATED STRATEGIES AND PLANS

The Fraser Coast Advocacy Plan outlines the proposed major programs and projects to support our growing communities. This will align with the overall direction outlined in our Corporate and Operational plans supporting the delivery of Council’s five Focus Areas.



COUNCIL FOCUS AREAS

The Corporate Plan sets our strategic direction over the five-year period (2023-2028) with five focus areas supported by a range of objectives. It is the umbrella under which Council’s annual operational plan and this Advocacy Plan have been prepared.



If successfully implemented, the Fraser Coast Advocacy Plan will underpin and support Council’s vision to deliver a prosperous future for the residents of the Fraser Coast.

HOW THE COMMUNITY CAN GET INVOLVED

Fraser Coast Regional Council is committed to meaningful conversation and engagement with our community.

Council has established a dedicated platform so our community can learn more about our strategic focus and have their say on matters of significance to the Fraser Coast region.

Residents can register to participate in discussions on key Council projects and advocacy efforts at our dedicated engagement hub at:

frasercoast.engagementhub.com.au

In addition to participating in organised engagement activities through the engagement hub, residents of the Fraser Coast can also get involved through other mechanisms, this includes attending a Council meeting and making a Community Presentation, or by lodging a petition with Council to raise a project or topic you consider important. You can find details of how to register to make a Community Presentation or how to lodge a petition at the following website:

frasercoast.qld.gov.au/council-meetings



LIST OF PARTNERS / STAKEHOLDERS IN ADVOCACY

COMMUNITY	INDUSTRY	GOVERNMENT	ALLIANCES/ PARTNERS
Fraser Coast Neighbourhood Centres	Queensland Train Manufacturing Project John Holland Downer Group	Regional Development Australia – Wide Bay	Tafe UniSC Central Qld University Qld University of Technology
Fraser Coast Young Professionals	Major Manufacturers/ Commercial Business ESI Hyundai Rotum Hyne Rheinmetall NIOA Munitions	Tourism and Events Queensland Department of Tourism and Sport Tourism Australia	Business Chambers Hervey Bay Maryborough Tiaro
Butchulla Aboriginal Corporation (BAC) Kabi Kabi People's Aboriginal Corporation	Tourism Operators	Maritime Safety Queensland Community Safety Organisations	Jobs Fraser Coast
Butchulla Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (BNTAC)	Sealink	Economic Development Queensland	Fraser Coast Property Industry Association (FCPIA) Australian Medical Association (Queensland)
Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee	Qantas Group and Aviation Partners	Queensland Tourism Industry Council	Fraser Coast Tourism and Events
Other Environment and Community Groups	Major health and social services businesses – eg St Stephen's Hospital	Queensland Government Federal Government	Urban Development Institute of Australia – Fraser Coast

KEY ADVOCACY ACTIONS

The Fraser Coast Regional Council will undertake engagement and key actions to advance the outcomes of this advocacy plan.

- Regular meetings with local State and Federal Representatives to seek State and Federal funding to advance priority projects.
- Seek grant funding for implementation of specific projects.
- Develop partnerships with local business and industry to collaborate on, and nurture projects that the private sector can advance.
- Harness community support and advocacy to drive community-focused projects.
- Work with the not-for-profit and community sector to partner on specific initiatives.
- Undertake bi-annual advocacy visits to Brisbane and Canberra to meet with State and Federal Ministers elevating the profile of the Fraser Coast, our local community's needs and advance priority projects.
- Participate in networks such as the Local Government Association of Queensland, Regional Development Australia, Regional Capitals Australia and other peak bodies to advocate for and elevate the profile of the Fraser Coast Region.
- Prepare submissions to Parliamentary and other inquiries, as well as pre-budget submissions ensuring the Fraser Coast's local needs are recognised by all levels of Government.
- Partner with local media and the community on public awareness campaigns highlighting issues of importance to the Fraser Coast region.



Lenthalls Dam



Teddington WTP

MAJOR ADVOCACY PROJECTS

CORE INFRASTRUCTURE

Fraser Coast Water Grid

\$60,000,000

Fraser Coast Water Grid – Securing our water future.

In March 2022, the Fraser Coast Regional Council resolved the Fraser Coast Water Security Strategy, providing the strategic direction to deliver a secure, reliable, climate, and disaster resilient water supply to our growing region.

The Strategy recommends infrastructure investment that would be delivered in two stages:

- Stage 1 – Connecting our communities.
- Stage 2 – Supply and diversify.

Stage 1 - Connecting our Communities will link the region’s major dams, water treatment plants, and drinking water network through the construction of the Fraser Coast Water Grid. The project is consistent with the aim and principles of the National Water Grid Fund to deliver economically and environmentally responsible projects that improve water security.

Stage 1 will improve water security:

- to support our growing population
- during periods of major water treatment shutdowns and maintenance
- in response to climate change or disaster events, and
- by utilising existing water infrastructure and allocations.

Council is advancing stage one to be shovel-ready, having completed the early-stage assessment, concept design and preliminary business case in 2024. Detailed design and approvals will commence in 2024 to ensure the project is ready for funding opportunities.

Stage 1 will deliver an economically responsible investment, with the concept design estimate of \$60M (including a 30% contingency) and Benefit Cost Ratio of 1.54.



Teddington Weir



Fraser Coast Sports and Recreation Precinct



Pulgul Creek Sewage Treatment Plant

\$60,000,000

Hervey Bay is continuing to experience significant population growth and to accommodate this growth there is the need to increase the capacity to treat sewage. This is to be achieved through a major capacity increase of the existing sewage treatment facilities including the recycled water system. Currently the Pulgul STP performs well, however the plant is currently approaching its design capacity. The proposed plant upgrade is required to increase the overall treatment capacity to 10ML/day.



Pulgul Creek STP

Fraser Coast Sports and Recreation Precinct

\$50,000,000

In 2006, the Fraser Coast Sport Recreation and Open Space Strategy 2006–2025 was commissioned to chart a course for the development of a major centralised sporting precinct for the Fraser Coast region.

The initial works were followed up with significant additional planning and local investment to create the Fraser Coast Sports and Recreation Precinct. This precinct is home to Football, Netball, Otago and cycling groups. When compared to other similar sized regions, the Fraser Coast suffers from a significant lack of local sporting facilities.

In 2022, Council endorsed the updated Fraser Coast Sports and Recreation Precinct Master Plan. This plan is the strategic vision for the future of the Fraser Coast Sport and Recreation precinct and funding is sought for any, or all, of the following masterplan elements:

- Indoor Leisure Centre
- Athletics Facility
- Beach Volleyball
- Outdoor Stadium including facilities for entertainment/events
- Sporting Fields

These works will support the sporting and recreational needs of this growing community and assist in attracting larger scale sporting events further enhancing economic outcomes.

REVITALISATION PROJECTS

Hervey Bay Esplanade Masterplan Implementation

\$30,000,000

Fraser Coast Regional Council endorsed the Esplanade Masterplan in 2022 which guides the future development of significant upgrades to the Hervey Bay Esplanade, which is an asset with regional significance.

The implementation of this plan will involve a large range of targeted projects across the following Esplanade areas:

- Point Vernon
- Pialba
- Scarness
- Torquay
- Urangan.

The Esplanade is the key lifestyle and tourist precinct attracting 100,000's of visitors per year and this plan aims to provide:

- New off-road pathways to improve active transport
- Expansion and improvement to parkland and public realm areas
- Possible one-way traffic areas to create additional space for parkland, separated pathways and al fresco dining areas
- New lookouts and public meeting areas for residents and visitors to enjoy.
- Additional facilities and locations for water-based activities.
- Improvements to resiliency and coastal protection through both constructed and vegetated barriers
- Improvements to parking and traffic management, including construction of carparking in surrounding streets to remove traffic from the Esplanade
- Upgrades to pedestrian crossings at key areas along the entire Esplanade.
- Projects which acknowledge and celebrate the unique culture, people and history of the area.

Hervey Bay City Centre Placemaking + Public Realm Vision Implementation

\$50,000,000

The Fraser Coast Regional Council recently adopted its placemaking and public realm plan for the Hervey Bay City Centre. The Council has commenced implementation of the plan with the project to build a new state of the arts library and administration centre on the corner of Main Street and Torquay Road.

Council now seeks funding support for the design and delivery of streetscape improvements in Main Street, Pialba between Old Maryborough Road and Torquay Road. Additionally, this plan will provide raised pedestrian crossing facilities at the intersection of Main Street and Torquay Road, along with a mid-block raised pedestrian crossing facility between Torquay Road and the Esplanade and consideration for off-street parking.

Revitalisation of Maryborough CBD

\$30,000,000

The Fraser Coast Regional Council intends to refurbish its Library in Maryborough, strengthening Council's footprint in the CBD. Following a structural investigation in 2018, the old Maryborough Administration Building, 'Demaine House' at 431-433 Kent St Maryborough had reached its end of life and has subsequently been demolished. This project seeks to revitalise the Maryborough CBD, by developing an adaptable, sustainable and flexible library, improving community facilities and service delivery within the CBD, and provide a modern customer service experience.

Additional projects which are proposed, include a range of placemaking and public realm improvements. These improvements include development of a new parkland on the site of the State Heritage listed Maryborough Baby Clinic Site, new and enhanced pedestrian facilities along historic lower Kent Street, connecting residential areas of Granville to the CBD and projects to activate private commercial buildings across the CBD.



Maryborough CBD



Hervey Bay Master Plan



Hervey Bay Esplanade



Mary River, Maryborough

ENVIRONMENT

Coastal Protection Plan

\$6,500,000

Council seeks funding support to implement key actions from its Coastal Hazards Adaptation Strategy ('Coastal Futures'). Our Coastal Futures strategy was adopted by Council to guide works to improve resiliency and deal with the challenges of climate change and sea level rise.

The program of works will develop a long-term plan for Council to respond, manage and mitigate coastal hazards on its highly valued coastline to 2100.

The funding will support targeted and bespoke mitigation actions for at-risk communities across the following localities:

- Burrum Heads
- Toogoom
- Dundowran and Craignish
- Hervey Bay Esplanade
- River Heads and Booral
- Mary River
- Great Sandy Strait Townships

Council's Coastal Futures strategy supports investigation into a viable sand source for large-scale beach nourishment. Investigations are currently underway to secure approvals; however capital investment will be required to undertake the works. Additionally, priority revetment walls have been designed as last lines of defence in priority locations to protect essential public infrastructure.

Numerous beach accessways will also require upgrade or renewal to ensure resilience from coast hazards. This project provides for design and construction of capital renewal and/or upgrade of multiple coastal beach access points with staircases.

ECONOMIC

Moonaboola Industrial Estate

\$15,000,000

Fraser Coast Regional Council owns a large parcel of partially developed land, neighbouring the Moonaboola Industrial Estate in Maryborough West, strategically situated between the Bruce Highway and the North Coast Rail Corridor Spur. This district is a key industrial site servicing the Fraser Coast and Wide Bay more broadly, which Council proposes to develop across three stages, enabling the sale of land to businesses looking to establish or grow in the Fraser Coast.

Stage 1 of the development has commenced, with two lots developed for sale to manufacturing businesses, including an innovative large-scale battery manufacturing facility. To proceed with further development of the site, Slaughterhouse Road will need to be upgraded and extended to enable sufficient road access to the remaining lots.

There is a very limited supply of high impact industrial land within the Fraser Coast, and enabling this land to be developed for sale is crucial to ensuring future growth and economic opportunities for the Fraser Coast and Wide Bay region.

OTHER COUNCIL PROJECTS

Boundary Road Upgrade (Robert Street to Booral Road)

\$40,000,000

This project provides for the reconstruction of Boundary Road between Robert Street and Booral Road. These works will align with urban standards, as part of a staged upgrade of Boundary Road to four lanes. Boundary Road is a major east-west transport corridor, providing access to the Hervey Bay CBD, major shopping centres, tourist destinations and the medical precinct.

The existing roadway has reached the end of its useful life, and is constructed to a rural standard. The project will provide for the construction of 1,160m of two-lane roadway including on-road cycle lanes, capacity improvements and signalisation of Senorita Parade and an off-road shared pathway with sections of the existing roadway converted into a service road.

Active Travel Signature Projects

\$6,000,000

The delivery of signature projects from the Active Travel Strategy, including Ann Street between Ferry Street and Fort Street, Denmans Camp Road between Boundary Road and Doolong Road. A new Sempfs Road shared pathway which includes the construction of a 2m wide footpath in Sempfs Road for 2.2km from Ansons Road to Sawmill Road.

The construction of 2m shared pathway along Sawmill Road between Sempfs Road and the foreshore for 480m, and the construction of a 1.5m pathway along Ansons Road between Sempfs Road and the foreshore for a distance of 650m along with crossing treatments.

Mary to Bay Rail Trail

\$10,000,000

This project provides for the upgrade of sections of the Mary to Bay Rail Trail. These upgrades will improve all weather access through drainage improvements, the development of a diversion around the Colton Coal mine lease, and other enhancements such as upgrades to sections of the trail to improve ride quality through sealing of the surface.

The Council also seeks State support to design and build the critical crossing of Maryborough – Hervey Bay Rd which creates a blockage of the trail at present.

DDA Compliance for Active Travel Initiatives

\$1,000,000

This project provides for upgrading of active travel paths across the Fraser Coast to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) in line with audits Council has undertaken. Specific projects will be considered by Council's Inclusive Access Advisory Committee based on available funding ensuring the highest priority areas are upgraded first.



Mary to Bay Rail Trail



Urangan Pier



Howard

Circular Economy – Glass Recycling Facility

\$8,000,000

To improve the regional circular economy, the glass beneficiation facility would produce sand replacement aggregates to quality standards out of recycled glass. This would reduce recycled glass transport out of the region and limit the use of virgin materials. An overall carbon footprint reduction will be achieved as well.

Howard Upgrades

\$5,000,000

Funding is required to provide improvements to the liveability of Howard via the upgrade of essential infrastructure. Upgrades include bitumen sealing of unsealed road shoulders to reduce dust nuisance, footpath upgrades to improve accessibility and drainage improvements to reduce existing ponding issues. These upgrades and improvements have the potential to be transformational for the residents of this township and is critical to capitalise on the Queensland Train Manufacturing Project which has commenced construction at Torbanlea.

Sawmill Road Upgrade

\$6,000,000

Funding is being sought for the completion of the upgrade of Sawmill Road from the Pialba-Burrum Heads Road to Brennan Park, enabling the construction of a new 2.5m shared pathway. These works will provide accessibility improvements for residents to the foreshore and aligns with Council's Active Travel Strategy.

Urangan Pier Refurbishment

\$4,000,000

This project provides for the works to maintain Urangan Pier, including the replacement of timber decking boards, maintenance of connections and pylons. The pier is one of Queensland's tourism icons and a major hub of activity along the picturesque Hervey Bay Esplanade providing views of the world's largest sand island, K'gari.

Urraween Road Upgrades

\$30,000,000

The proposed upgrade of Urraween Road to four lanes. Funding is sought to upgrade the road from the Maryborough Hervey Bay Road, for approximately 850m to the entrance to the Hervey Bay Hospital and medical precinct, thus providing safety and capacity improvements. This project also provides for the reconstruction of Urraween Road between Blaxland Road and Drury Lane, as the existing roadway has reached the end of its useful life. The scope of works for this section includes 770m of road reconstruction, along with the upgrade of the intersection of Scrub Hill and Urraween Roads.

Bridge Replacement Program – Burrum River

\$50,000,000

Replacement of Burrum River Bridge including the inclusion of a pedestrian facility. The project includes removal of the old bridge structure and construction of a new reinforced concrete bridge. The work also consists of widening both approaches to the bridge, which will require both sides of the embankment to be widened and stabilised.

River Heads Barge Ramp Reconstruction

\$2,500,000

The existing River Heads barge ramp, which services barges that travel between River Heads and K'gari, has reached the end of its useful life and requires replacement. It is proposed to replace the River Heads barge landing with a new 8m wide reinforced concrete landing facility. The access is critical for hundreds of thousands of visitors to the world heritage listed K'gari. This ramp provides the only viable connection for residents of the island to mainland Hervey Bay for both day to day activities and importantly during times of natural disaster.

Glenwood Community Centre

\$6,000,000

Funding to replace the existing hall with a new community hall which is designed to service the growing population of Glenwood and its surrounds. Council has recently completed a Glenwood Community Space Masterplan and this project forms one of the community's highest priorities for implementation to support this strongly growing regional community.

Scrub Hill Road Upgrade

\$8,500,000

Upgrade to Scrub Hill Road, Dundowran from Empire Circuit to Urraween Road, including the upgrade of the Scrub Hill / Urraween Road intersection and a 2.5m shared pathway. Funding for the construction of road upgrades, intersection safety and capacity improvements and new shared pathways providing improved road safety and active travel connectivity for the emerging communities in this area. The project will also provide for linkages to employment generation areas and schools.

Crime Prevention

\$2,000,000

Funding to implement a range of Crime Prevention initiatives through Environmental Design (CPTED) projects which stem from a recent safety audit of the Hervey Bay Esplanade. Projects would advance the aim of the recently completed Hervey Bay Esplanade Masterplan and CPTED audit and include low-cost interventions such as opening sight lines, target hardening of public spaces to reduce crime, artworks and other low-cost beautification projects to improve the sense of community safety.

Desalination Plant

\$300,000

This project will undertake the Preliminary Evaluation (PE) of the desalination option recommended in the Fraser Coast Water Supply Security Strategy. The PE will reaffirm the strategic outcomes, consider options to achieve the outcome assessing costs, risks, and benefits of this future water supply project. Upon completion of the PE, the project would be expected to progress to development of a detailed Business Case which would be followed by Site Selection & Concept Design.



Glenwood Community Hall



River Heads



STATE GOVERNMENT PRIORITY PROJECTS OR AREAS OF ADVOCACY

Bruce Highway – Gympie Road Interchange – Torbanlea

\$25,000,000

The project provides for grade separation of the current at-grade intersection to improve road safety. This is the main northern gateway to the growth coastal regions of Burrum Heads through to Hervey Bay and River Heads. Flood immunity works nearing completion on Pialba – Torbanlea Road will provide the primary evacuation route out of Hervey Bay, further enhancing the importance of this intersection. Gympie Street currently carries approximately 3,400 vehicles per day; due to the 100km/hr speed on the Bruce Highway, crashes at this intersection are generally fatal or serious injury in nature. This project will also support the new Queensland Train Manufacturing Facility which has commenced construction at Torbanlea.

Maryborough–Hervey Bay Transport Corridors

\$150,000,000

The Maryborough–Hervey Bay Road is a critical road network connecting two major cities in the Fraser Coast. Upgrades would cater for increased trip demand and improved road safety to handle increasing heavy vehicle movements. A direct link/access to Hervey Bay from the Bruce Highway would provide for a key regional strategic transport link to enable stronger connectedness between the Bruce Highway and major regional roads and significantly improve safety and economic opportunities.

The Maryborough–Hervey Bay Road, which is approximately 35km in length is predominantly 100kph and carries approximately 12,000 vehicles each day. These traffic volumes are generally on par or even exceed those experienced on numerous sections of the Bruce Highway. Improvements to this corridor to cater for four lanes and the construction of the proposed Hervey Bay Gateway connection to the Bruce Highway would reduce travel time to Hervey Bay, allow better access for heavy vehicles to industrial precincts and provide increased safety and amenity benefits for Maryborough with the reduction of through traffic volumes.

The Fraser Coast Regional Council advocates for the following:

- Commence planning to construct a four lane Bruce Highway – Hervey Bay connection to reduce traffic congestion in Maryborough, improve road safety, and shorten the time taken to travel to Hervey Bay.
- Upgrade the Maryborough Hervey Bay Road to four lanes, for its entire length, to reduce congestion and improve road safety.

Fraser Coast Industrial Land Study

\$300,000

An Industrial land demand supply strategy, including site identification and delivery plan, is urgently required as industrial land is in short supply across the region. The State Government's Wide Bay Burnett Regional Plan released in 2023 highlights this as a priority action and Council is seeking to progress this project.

Granville Bridge

\$60,000,000

Replacement of the Granville Bridge including enhancing the approaches and to improve flood immunity.

Urangan Harbour Master Plan

TBA

A new masterplan and a detailed implementation plan is required to steer the long-term future development opportunities for the Urangan Harbour. The Harbour (seabed lease) is at its capacity and there are several industry groups seeking to expand and/or diversify services. The existing masterplan for the harbour was prepared as a joint effort between the State and Council and is dependent upon an extension of the seabed area. The extension area available would increase the seabed lease, however, would not meet long term growth and service demands.

The Fraser Coast Regional Council is seeking State Government action to:

- Resolve constraints around land tenure;
- Explore feasibility for relocation or colocation of Government services located within the marina precinct;
- Facilitate expansion plans of existing tenants;
- Identify development and investment opportunities;
- Invest significant funding for upgrades to infrastructure and masterplan implementation.

Booral Road, Main Street Floodway Upgrade

\$5,000,000

The existing floodway at Booral Road near the intersection of Main Street is subject to frequent inundation resulting in road closures. The Fraser Coast Regional Council is advocating for the State Government to improve road flood immunity through providing drainage capacity upgrades and associated road reconstruction works along Booral and Main Street.

Cambridge Street and Odessa Street Intersection Upgrade

\$3,000,000

Fraser Coast Regional Council is seeking State support to upgrade the Odessa/Cambridge Street intersection to improve efficiency and safety.

K'gari Brand Recognition Support

\$10,000,000

The State Government has recently reinstated the traditional name of K'gari, formerly Fraser Island. The renaming needs significant financial backing to ensure the support of the largest tourism drawcard in the Fraser Coast region. This funding will drive brand awareness and recognition, and continues to support the region's strong and growing tourism industry, particularly in the attraction of interstate and international visitors.

Granville Bridge



Urangan Harbour



Pialba-Burrum Heads Road

\$120,000,000

Pialba-Burrum Heads Road is a state-controlled road that is a primary link to the northern settlement areas of the Fraser Coast region. The corridor provides an essential transport link to the suburbs of Burrum Heads, Toogoom, Craginsh and Dundowran. Recent forecast population growth suggests that Hervey Bay is projected to accommodate 78% of the total population growth in the Fraser Coast region having to accommodate up to an additional 28,000 residents by 2041 in the Hervey Bay area alone.

The northern suburbs are predicted to accommodate a further 2,700 dwelling sites in the next 20 years, approximating an additional 6,500 residents being serviced by the Pialba-Burrum Heads Road corridor.

Over the past 20 years, the growth of traffic upon the corridor has grown steadily with the release and development of land for residential settlement and industry. Current traffic volumes range in the order of 12,700 vehicles/day (2022 count) with an expected annual growth of 2% over the next 10 years and lead to the recent intervention of TMR to upgrade the corridor to four lanes between Wide Bay Drive to Maryborough-Hervey Bay Road inclusive of the proposed upgrade of the intersection with Maryborough-Hervey Bay Road.

Council advocates that the corridor needs to be upgraded to accommodate at least four lanes between Wide Bay Drive to Castles Road with suitable land acquisitions, buffers, and consolidated access restrictions/intersections to address the population forecast demands on the network. The upgrade and corridor footprint should be planned to accommodate current and future residential, commercial, and industrial land release impacts, active travel and principal cycle network initiatives and acoustic generations experienced by the orderly traffic and forecast population growth of the region.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PRIORITY PROJECTS OR AREAS OF ADVOCACY

- Infrastructure funding to deal with record population growth
- Funding for the Maryborough to Hervey Bay Transport Corridor Project
- Funding to four lane the Bruce Highway from the Gympie Bypass to Maryborough

Boundary Road Extension



PO BOX 1943 Hervey Bay QLD 4655
enquiry@frasercoast.qld.gov.au
1300 79 49 29
F (07) 4197 4455
www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au

