

The State of the Region

The Cassowary Coast region's total area is 4701 square kilometres, stretching north to the Bruce Highway 300 metres south of the Eubenangee Road intersection; south to the Bruce Highway at the intersection with McDowell Road at the top of the Cardwell Range; and west to the Bruce Highway 6km west of Henrietta Creek.

Total population at the start of the 2010-11 financial year was 30,843.

In the 2009-2010 financial year, the Cassowary Coast Regional Council recorded a total income of \$67.064 million, and expenditure totalling \$64.337 million.

Land valuations were determined by the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) on all properties in July 2009.

The valuations, reviewed by DERM for the first time in five years, showed an average increase of 59 per cent, but varying from no increase to 1000 per cent.

Average residential valuations increased by 59 per cent, with rises of 220 per cent in Tully to 131 per cent in Innisfail, 50 per cent in Cardwell and 20 per cent in Mission Beach.

Industrial valuations rose by 148 per cent, rural valuations by 98 per cent, and commercial valuations by 62 per cent.

A residential property in Innisfail, attached to all services on the minimum rate, will pay an annual charge of about \$2600.

A similar property in Tully will pay a total bill of about \$2200.

Rural properties now constitute 31 per cent of Council's rate revenue.

This financial year, Council has sent out 14,673 rate notices, based on a differential land use rating system.

The Budget's record \$85.7 million capital works program, bolstered substantially by \$47 million in State Government funding, addresses Council's inherited infrastructure problems.

Projects for this year are bringing the Innisfail sewerage treatment plant to tertiary level at a cost of \$30 million; replacing Innisfail's Jubilee Bridge (\$21.6 million); upgrading the Innisfail water supply (\$16 million); and build-

ing the Tully multi-purpose centre (\$6.1 million).

Projected borrowings to support the program will amount to \$22.36 million, comprising \$17.96 million this year, and \$4.4 million next financial year.

Council forecasts that the balance of the program will be undertaken without additional borrowings

The council intends spending \$375.4 million on capital works over the next 10 years.

WORKS HIGHLIGHTS

Capital works highlights for roads, bridges and foot/bike paths are:

- Jubilee Bridge (Innisfail) replacement (\$18.69 m)
- Wheatley Creek bridge (Mission Beach) replacement (\$525,000).
- Kirrima Range Road bridge (Kennedy) renewals (\$500,000)
- Mourilyan Road (part of Jubilee Bridge works) roundabout (\$412,000)
- Seaview Street (Mission Beach) shared footpath and footbridge (\$380,000)
- Aerodrome Road (Innisfail) upgrade/widening (\$315,000)
- Fitzgerald Esplanade/McGowan Road esplanade, Jubilee Bridge roundabout (\$278,000)
- Upgrade Fitzgerald Esp/Grace Street (Innisfail) intersection (\$230,000)
- Utchee Creek Rd (Mena Creek) sealing, stage 1 (\$215,000).
- Syndicate Rd (Tully) sealing, stage 1 (\$210,000)
- Cardier Rd (Wangan) upgrade (\$210,000)
- Geraldton Bridge (Innisfail) works (\$175,000)
- Tully Gorge Rd (Tully) culvert replacement (\$160,000)
- Fitzgerald Esp bikeway/footpath (\$156,000)
- Wall Rd (Japoonvale) bridge (\$150,000)
- McGowan Dr (Innisfail) walkway (\$150,000)
- Fitzgerald Esp (Innisfail) rehabilitation/ asphalt overlay (\$144,000)
- Flying Fish Point Rd (Innisfail Estate) \$130,000
- East Feluga Rd (Feluga) upgrade and shoulder widening (\$124,000)
- River Avenue (Innisfail) footpath (\$115,000)
- Bluff Rd (Bilyana) sealing (\$100,000)
- Barretts Lagoon Rd (Euramo) road & drainage upgrade (\$100,000)

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- Innisfail water treatment plant \$15,194 m
- Innisfail sewerage treatment plant \$18 m
- Cardwell sewerage scheme \$8 m
- Tully sewerage upgrades \$3.68 m
- Tully Multi-Purpose Centre (completion) \$4.85m
- Upgrading/re-constructing Feldt & Elizabeth Sts (Flying Fish Point) seawalls \$2.25 m
- Plant & equipment purchases \$1.98 m
- Innisfail sewage pump station upgrades \$1.6 m
- Residential land development Pease & Campbell Sts (Tully) \$546,000
- Tully Rural intake upgrades \$350,000
- Fenby Gap (Mission Beach) reservoir roof replacement \$300,000
- Large generator for Johnstone (Innisfail) Shire Hall \$190,000
- Cardwell foreshore sand nourishment \$127,000
- Kennedy walking track bridge (Mission Beach) replacement \$110,000
- Cowley Beach new access track to river/dune rehabilitation \$60,000
- Tully Cemetery, new crypt \$50,000.
- Con Theatre (Innisfail) \$47,840
- Tully Heritage Trail development \$47,840

