

ENGINEERING SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS AND SIGNIFICANT ISSUES REPORT – MONTH ENDING JANUARY 2010

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Purpose

To review Engineering Services Department highlights and significant issues for the month ending January 2010.

Background and Discussion

Highlights and Significant Issues for period are as follows: -

ENGINEERING SERVICES MANAGEMENT

Coordination of project meetings, briefings and reports on the following projects:

- Meeting with Department Transport and Main Roads regarding the Demolition of Forgan bridge.
- Attendance QTCCC meeting in Brisbane.
- Completion of the Federal Government Community Infrastructure Program – Shade Sails at Apex Park, Sarina.
- Official Commissioning of the southern approach to the city (Bruce Hwy and Farrellys Road Project).

On-going involvement in the following areas:

- Mackay Water Recycling Project (i.e: PCG and PAB), Mackay Development Advisory Board, Management Leadership Forum and Sustainable Futures Committee Meetings.
- LGEG, Transport Working Group and Paget Depot Project Steering Committee.
- Safe Plan, Design and Construct Review Meetings and SES matters.
- CBD Economic Development Advisory Committee, Mackay Community & Public Transport Advisory Committee and Open Space Sports & Recreation Steering Committee.
- Local Disaster Management Group

CONSTRUCTION

Works have been completed on the following projects:

- Wallin Road
- Black Street - footpath

Works have been substantially completed on the following projects:

- Alfred Street between Wellington and Macalister – waiting on Ergon undergrounding of power
- Kennys Road – railway crossing footpath
- Staytes Road – roadworks
- Margaret Street
- Courtney Gap Road
- Kennedy Street - road upgrade
- Barbara Street, Mirani
- Schmidtkes Road - drain upgrade
- Gregory Street - bus shelters
- Iluka Park – all amenities playground
- Flood damage package 1
- Flood damage package 2 – Mackay Urban
- Flood damage package 3 – Mackay Rural
- Rae Street Drain – Stage 2
- Pioneer Street – school lights
- Shakespeare Street – school lights
- Pacific Drive
- Bus shelter/stops upgrade 25%



MECC Carpark

The following projects are in progress:

- Flood damage package 4 – Sarina saturation
- Flood damage package 6 – Mackay outer urban
- Shoal Point Road – reconstruction
- Bridge Road – carpark at Hospital Bridge
- Casey Avenue – culverts
- Blue River Trail footpath
- Gregory Street – resurfacing
- Pittman Street – traffic calming
- MECC car park
- Leisure Court – connection road
- Crightons Road – depot access
- Devereux Creek Road
- Railway Square upgrade
- Rifle Range Road
- Roberts Avenue – reconstruction
- Grasstree Road
- Field Street –
Upgrade between Bridge Road and Webberley Street



Crightons Road

CONSTRUCTION

The following projects have been awarded but not yet started

- Farrellys Road, Connors Road to Milton Street

The following projects have been tendered:

- Lining of City Heart drains

Tenders are being assessed for:

- Brisbane Street reconstruction
- Gorge Road
- Bluewater Trail Caneland Park
- Bluewater Trail Environment Park

Paget Depot Project:

- Design approaching 50% complete
- Scope decided for sustainability initiatives

MAINTENANCE

Since commencing back for the new year all Maintenance crews have been busy with associated heavy rain creating road and infrastructure damage in all areas.

Maintenance Grading in the following areas:

Submergence Repairs - 2008 Rain Event	Abbotts Road, Grimas Road.
Temporary Gravel Road Repairs	Munbura Road, Boyds Road, Barrie Lane

Special Works :

Footpath repairs – Bridge Road, Saunders Street, Wayne Street, Shakespeare Street, Alfred Street, Horse & Jockey Road.

Median Strip repairs – Macalister Street.

Guard Rail Maintenance and bridge repairs - Connors Road and Chelmans Road.

Guardfence Maintenance – Caseys Road.

Maintenance of Delineators – McEwans Beach, Eton.

Pothole Patching:

Paget – Mackay City – South Mackay – West Mackay – East Mackay – Ooralea – Bakers Creek – Glenella – Beaconsfield – Slade Point – Rural View – North Mackay – Andergrove – Shoal Point – Blacks Beach – Erakala – Pleystowe – Farleigh – Eimeo – Wollingford – Munbura – Marwood – Eton.

Drainage Maintenance

Culvert Pipe repairs – Simpson Street.

Mowing

Pleystowe Marian – Eton – Balberra – Marwood – Munbura.

Bridge Maintenance:

Bridge Name	Road Name / Location	Description of works	Cost
Bustard Creek	Pinevale Road	Removal of problem tree that continually causes maintenance/safety issues.	\$15,000

Main Roads RMPC:

Culvert / Drainage Works	Mt Ossa-Seaforth Road, Bruce Highway – North.
Tractor Slashing Rural / Urban / Boom Mowing / Clearing Works / Herbicide Spraying / Declared Plant Spraying	Bruce Highway – South, Bruce Highway – North, Mackay-Bucasia Road, Mackay-Slade Point Road, Mackay-Eungella Road, Gargett-Mia Mia Road, Eungella Dam Road, Mirani-Eton Road, Mia Mia Connection Road, Marian-Hampden Road, Mirani-Mt Ossa Road, Yakapari-Seaforth Road, Mackay-Bypass Road, North Eton Road, Rockleigh-North Mackay Road, Mackay-Habana Road, Mt Ossa-Seaforth Road, Yakapari-Habana Road, Eimeo Road.
Rest Area Servicing	Bruce Highway - North
Emergency Call Outs	Rockleigh-North Mackay Road.
Signs / Guide Post Works	Eungella Dam Road.

Flood Damages:

Saturation Works: Progress to date

Package 1 Package 1 is approximately 95% complete with only minor remedial works required to complete.

Package 2 & 3 Packages 2 & 3 are approximately 95% completed with only minor remedial works required to complete.

Package 4 Work has started on package 4 Southern Saturation works in the Sarina Area and is approximately 25% complete.

Package 5 Only one tender was received for this package. The tender price was significantly more the engineers estimate. This tender was declined and the package has been tendered with additional sites as package 8.

Package 6 Work has started on package 4 Mackay outer urban Saturation works approximately 30% complete.

Package 7 Tender has been accepted for package 7 and work is expected to will start within 4 weeks.

Submergence Works: Progress to date

Progress as at mid December 2009

	% Completed
* Mirani	65%
* Sarina	66%
* Mackay	72%

Major Submergence Works:

Rea Street drain stages one and two are 100% completed.

Percy Court retaining wall is 100% completed.

Rock protection work on the corner of Bridge Rd & Elamang Streets is 100% completed.

TECHNICAL SERVICES

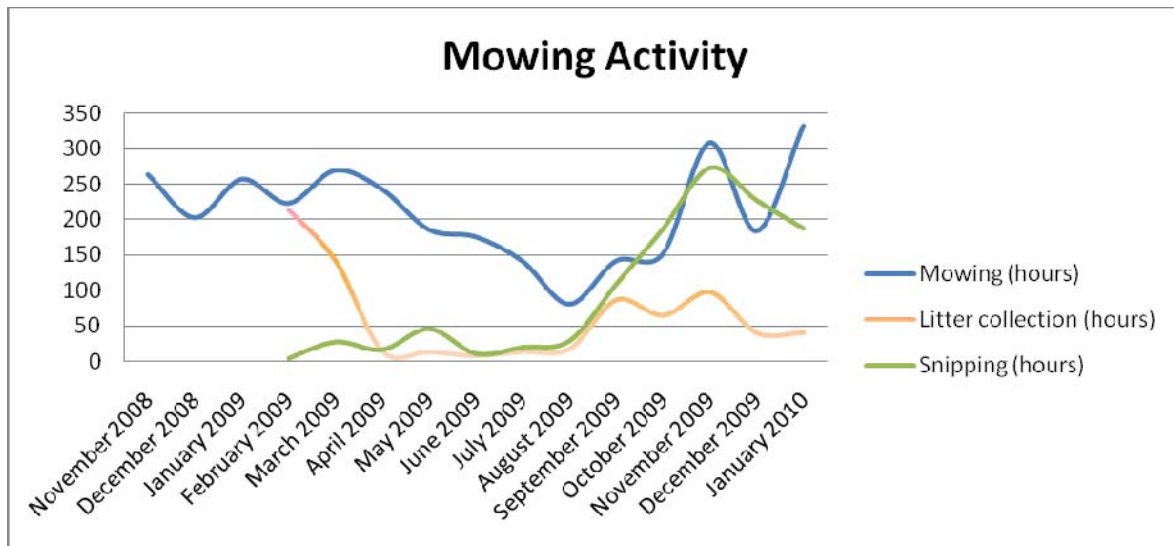
- Development and design of projects for saturation damage projects throughout the Council area.
- Development and design of projects within Capital Works Programme.
- Development and ongoing modification of draft 20yr Capital Works Programme making provision for all current projects and proposed development projects for long term Financial Plan purposes.
- Discussions with GHD & utility providers regarding proposed road construction Connors Road (Archibald to Farrelly's). Land acquisitions in progress and Ergon Telstra cost estimates received and orders placed. Construction sequencing plan and discussions proposed.
- Detail design commenced for intersection upgrading on Malcomson Street at Charles Hodge and Greenfields intersections.
- Design completion Canelands Park and Environmental Walkway projects including receipt of Environmental permits. Tender specifications complete
- Detail design of culvert crossing Casey Avenue, concept development and detail design for stadium access, car park and Bluewater Trail extension ongoing. DA lodged and awaiting approval
- Concept and detail design for future Milton/Bridge and Bridge/Paradise intersections commenced as part of Paget intersection and traffic study.
- Detail design of Caledonian Drive Stormwater Quality Improvement Device complete. Waiting final plan delivery.
- Ongoing discussions with DMR, Developer and Council staff with regard to detail design and division of costs for Bruce Hwy/Boundary Rd intersection and section of Boundary Road from Hwy to Rainlover Street.
- Completion of negotiation with developers regarding Farrelly's East construction (Connors to Milton) and hand over to construction process
- Submission of Whitsunday RRG Works and LRRS Safety program for adoption by Regional Roads Group
- Attendance Meetings with DMR on Dutton Street upgrade, Strategic Planning Stakeholders meeting, Transport Working Group, Carbon Pollution Reduction Committee, Climate Change Adaption group and Management Forum

PARKS AND ENVIRONMENT

The Parks & Environment report for the month of January contains information on activities undertaken throughout the month by the staff within the program.

Wet weather during the month has promoted grass growth and caused minor disruption to schedules, however there have been no significant disruptions to maintenance activities throughout the month.

- **Administration** – There were 4 positions vacant in January, 129 full time staff and 7 temporary staff in the program. 11 Park Bookings were received and 16 key enquiries for the month.
- **Customer Requests** – 295 received, 240 attended
- **Horticulture Activities** – 93,758m² gardens serviced, 13.5 hours herbicide spraying, 3.5 hours vandalism repairs
- **Grass Maintenance Activities** – 3,114,200m² of parks mowed; 160,160m² of drains mowed; 1,085,878 m² of easements mowed and 347,050m² of medians mowed in January. 187.82hours of whipper snipping and 40.5hour of litter pickup (Australia Day at Harbour was majority of this time). Wet weather continues to promote dense grass growth, some weekend overtime is required due to vehicles parked in industrial areas during the week, and attending to requests in CBD area which are difficult to service during normal operational hours.



- **Natural Environment Activities** – Councillors Bus inspection conducted, Green Army graduation for 8 temporary employees attended, attended 17 meetings with various community based groups and other authorities in January. There were 11 hours of volunteers time given at the Swayne Street Natural Environment Centre nursery.
- **Arboriculture Activities** – 348 tree pruned, 141 trees remove, 200 tree fertilized, 185 branch pick ups requests attended, 59 major prunes and 17 minor pruning job completed, 33 street trees planted, 12 hours emergency after hours response.
- **Marine Beach Activities** – 40 hours repairs to 4 swimming enclosures due to heavy weather, Seaforth enclosure closed due to jellyfish in enclosure, 400m of beach fencing was repaired, 1,500m² weed spraying conducted at Shoal Point, inspection of access tracks conducted in vicinity of swimming enclosures.
- **Parks Building Services Activities** – Capital projects at Illawong Beach Toilet block repairs and upgrade was the major project this month, with works continuing at Grasstree Beach Toilet upgrade. Armstrong Beach Toilet block ceiling replacement was required due to termite infestation, materials were ordered for projects scheduled in next three months.

- **Electrical Operations** – 16 traffic signals received lamp replacements, 11 traffic control system faults were attended, some from wet weather causing water to penetrate fittings. A wide load caused signal damage at Connors/Farreley’s Road intersection. Christmas trees around the region were disconnected and dismantled, 16 Park lighting requests attended to repair and replace bulbs blown, fittings vandalised, and minor maintenance repairs. 8 electrical services were conducted for Property Services program, 8 depot and site office requests were attended in January.
- **Cemetery Operations** – 23 days mowing over all 9 cemetery locations, 20 days whipper snipping, 6 days garden maintenance, 8 burials at Mt Bassett, 6 burials at Walkerston, 1 burial at Mackay and 4 burials at Sarina for the month.
- **Capital Projects** – The following capital projects were in progress during January:-
 - Grasstree Beach Shelter replacement program – 20%
 - Nebo Road Centre Median – 75%
 - Camilleri Street Park Upgrade – 70%
 - Boulder Creek Picnic Facility – 90%
 - Allan Cameron Park Barbeque – 35%
 - Apex and Grasstree Beach Toilet upgrades – 65%
 - Midge Point Shelter & BBQ – 60%
 - Railway Corridor – 5%
 - St Helens Beach Esplanade – 35%
 - Queens Park Rotunda – 50%
 - Mirani Railway Park – 40%

The following projects are completed-

Pioneer Pool Garden Shed	Annie Wood Park Footbridges
Jaycees Park Picnic Facilities	Apex Park Sarina
Peak Downs Highway Beautification	Habana Park Tree Planting
Seaforth Fencing	Iluka Beach Playground Installation
Illawong Beach Seat replacement	Tamarind Toilet Botanic Gardens
Shelter Roof Replacement Program	Caneland Soundshell Demolition
RLCIP Shade to Playground	Gargett Entry Feature Landscaping

MACKAY REGIONAL BOTANIC GARDENS

Throughout January:

Horticultural and Site Works

The wet weather of January has kept the horticultural crew focussing on weed control (89 hours) and maintaining lawns to a standard (76 hours mowing, 145 hours snipping). Planting has continued with staff planting 225 plants in the Sarina - Proserpine Garden and volunteers included Gardens Friends and Scouts planting 140 plants in the Malta, Geology, Tropical Shade and Heritage Gardens.

Master Plan Review & HRG

The Masterplan Review had its final meeting in early February, but a significant amount of hours were undertaken by committee members in January. Close to 200 hours was committed by staff and volunteers on the masterplan review, especially in section 4 on the Regional Ecosystems – the core design element of the future /Meadowlands’ Section of the Gardens,

The Masterplan is planned to be completed in February after the final review meeting and presented to Council in March for public comment and adoption

Visitor Services Program

School Holiday programs were well attended and in most cases completely booked, even with the hot weather. Maya Harrison focussed on three themes for the three weeks of the workshops, that took school aged children and their parents and carers on tours through the Gardens, discovering wildlife and flora. These sessions are now so popular that many parents booked multiple sessions for their children on announcement and pre-book Easter ‘no matter what the theme’, a testament to Maya’s success in engaging families with Gardens. General visitation at the Gardens was low, but steady due to the extreme heat (one day recorded 37.8°C at the Gardens) and the café has been slow but steady. Numbers in February are expected to fall until Easter after the school holidays have finished, but should see an increase in school visits and weddings from March onwards.



Maya Harrison at the wildlife workshop

Consultation

There has been consultation with Engineering Services Program Managers.

Resource Implications

Nil.

Conclusion

The onset of the wet season has had an obvious impact on the activities for the period with works in the Parks and Environment program focused on grass control and maintenance and monitoring of our foreshores due to extreme king tides. Similarly, road maintenance has concentrated on ensuring that the road network is kept trafficable. Delays have been experienced across Council’s capital works program due to the impact of wet weather.

The Master Plan development for the Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens is in its final stages and will provide the ‘blueprint’ for the future of the gardens.

Officer’s Recommendation

THAT this report be received.