

ENGINEERING SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS AND SIGNIFICANT ISSUES REPORT – MONTH ENDING FEBRUARY 2011

Author: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

Purpose

To review Engineering Services Department highlights and significant issues for the month ending February 2011.

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:

- Attended State Disaster Coordination meeting relating to Cyclone Yasi
- Attended LDMG relating to Cyclone Yasi
- Met with Main Roads staff to discuss Malcomson Street
- Attended the Executive De-brief for Cyclone Yasi
- Attended onsite meeting at Broken River QPWS Office and Crediton Hall, Diggings Road Eungella & Finch Hatton with Parks Coordinators
- Attended Media Training with CEO and Directors
- Attended DDC meeting relating to Cyclone Yasi
- Attended Queensland Coastal Climate Change Adaptation Guideline Workshop in Brisbane

On-going involvement in the following areas:

- Corporate Projects Committee, Sustainable Futures Advisory Committee, Rural Affairs Advisory Committee
- Safe Plan, Design and Construct Review Meetings and SES matters
- Transport Working Group

CIVIL PROJECTS (CONSTRUCTION)

Works have been completed on the following projects:

DAY LABOUR

- Bridge Road footpath between - Leisure Court and Irving Street
- Casey Avenue Leisure Court extension
- Additional New Bus Shelters 4 number
- Illuka Park Drainage works

CONTRACTS

- Progress on all projects has been somewhat hindered by the weather this month due to significant rainfall and events such as Tropical Cyclone Yasi (early February 2011)
- Brisbane Street Reconstruction
- Flood Package 9 – Mackay North 2, 2008



Klingner Street

Works have been substantially completed on the following projects:

DAY LABOUR

- Lawson Street River to Victoria Street
- Stockbridge Street reconstruction
- Jenvey Court Footpath
- Klingner Street roadwork
- O'Keefe Road roadwork
- Hodges Street roadwork
- Traffic Facility works at various locations

CONTRACTS

- 2009 Flood Saturation Damage Restoration Package 901
- Bluewater Trail Caneland Park
- Mackay South 2 Flood Damage Restoration Package 12, 2008
- Flood Package 8, 2008 – Mackay Central Urban Flood Damage
- Rifle Range Road Reconstruction – Plane Creek Crossing



Rifle Range Road Reconstruction – Plane Creek Crossing, repairs after washouts at causeway

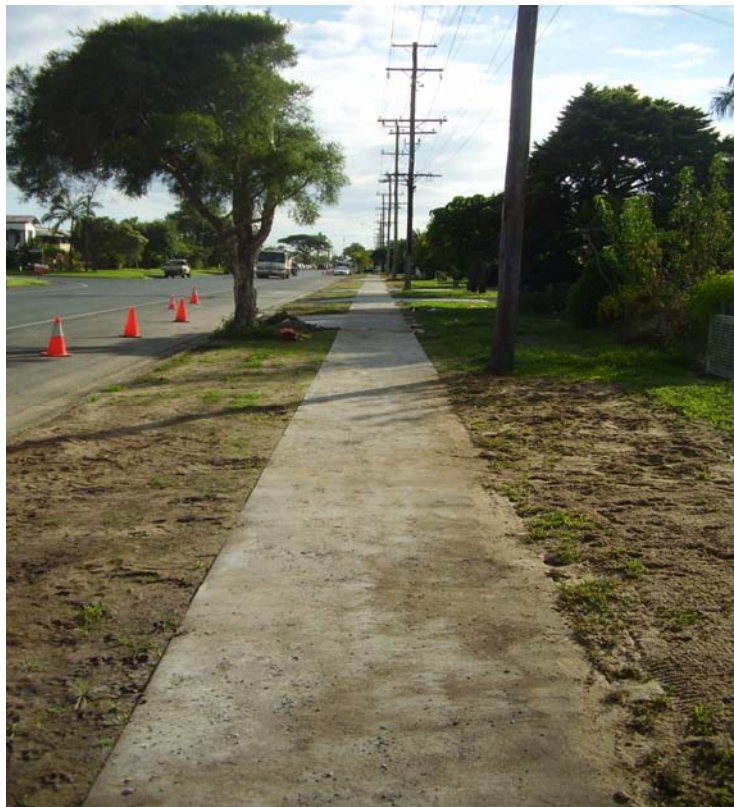


Penn Street

The following projects are in progress:

DAY LABOUR

- Kinchant Dam reconstruction
- Bontanic Garden carpark
- Middle Creek Road
- Norris Road at Beaconsfield Road
- Freshwater Point Boat Ramp
- Casey Avenue Drainage at Bridge Road
- Traffic Facility works at various locations
- Mackay Bucasia Footpath
- Hume Street footpath
- Pacific Drive footpath
- Victor Creek car park area



Hume Street

CONTRACTS

- Flood Package 11 – Midge Point 2008
- Crediton Loop Road
- Roger Road Culverts
- Optic Fibre Communications
- Glenpark Street Signalisation
- 2009 Flood Saturation Damage Restoration Package 902
- 2009 Flood Saturation Damage Restoration Package 903
- 2009 Flood Saturation Damage Restoration Package 904
- 2009 Flood Saturation Damage Restoration Package 905
- 2009 Flood Saturation Damage Restoration Package 906
- Mango Avenue Reconstruction



Glenpark Street Signalisation Project – started in January 2011

The following projects have been awarded:

CONTRACTS

- 2009 Flood Saturation Damage Restoration Package 907
- Perry Road Reconstruction

The following projects have been put to tender:

CONTRACTS

- Panel of Suppliers - Flood Saturation 2011
- Evans Street Drain Culvert (Hague Street)

CIVIL OPERATIONS (MAINTENANCE)

Maintenance Grading in the following areas:

Formation Grading	Bonson Scrub road, Habana Wharf Road, Black Mountain Road, Mulherins Road, Bobongies road, Long Mile Road, Surprise Creek Road, Gordons Road, Jansens Road, Mathers Creek Road, Schumanns Road, Bee Creek Road, Sonny Boy Creek Road, Crediton Loop Road, Plateau Road, Lex Creek Road, Capellos Road, Dunwold-Lumburra Road, Dunwold-Cattle Creek Road, Devereux Creek Road, Pinnacle – Septimus Road, Newbury-Mt Vince Road, Kennys Road, Badger-Wales Road, Vellas Road, Powells Road, Thomas Road, Oakenden-Sarina Road, Balberra Road, Sarina town area, Cliftonville Road, Campbell Road, William Street, Finato Road, Sarina area, Starrs Road, Thomson Road, Koumala area, Harris Road.
Temporary Gravel Road Repairs	
Shoulder Grading	Bald Hill Road, Wainai Road, Marwood Road, O’Shea’s Road.
Pavement Repairs	Bald Hill Road.

Special Works:

Footpath repairs – Bridge Road, Ivana Court, Alfred Street, Shakespeare Street, Macalister Street, Evan Street, Main Street, Black Street, Mackenzie Street.

Vegetation Control – NIL

Sign & Guidepost repairs – NIL

Culvert, Pipe & Catchpit repairs – Fenners Road, Gold Street, Kenilworth Street, Cartney Court, Platinum Court, Milne Lane, Enterprise Street, Nebo Road, Pirie Street, Black Street, Jackson Street.

Kerb & Channel repairs – Barbara Street, Norris Street.

Water Board Patching – Harbour Road, Zammit Street, Davey Street, Mansfield Drive, Burgess Street, Scawfell Street, Pheasant Street, Slade Point Road, Skylark Street, Manzelmann Street, Glenpark Street, Bradford Street, Dampier Drive.

Street and Gutter Collection – NIL

Concrete Crew works – Mt Martin Loop Road, Devereux Creek Road, Pittonis Road, Kowari-Gorge Road, Sugarloaf Road, Devils Pool road, Group Road, Johnsons Road.

Suckins and Digouts - Ian Redcliffe Drive, Holts Road, Bobongies Road, Bald Hill Road, Maple Drive, Palmer Street, Vassallo Drive, Arana Drive, Bedford Road.

Special Works – cyclone preparations, repair flood boom gates, sweeping – Blacks Beach, Eimeo, North Mackay, Sarina, Northern Beaches, Slade Point, Walkerston, City Heart and West Mackay areas, line markers – Mackay Harbour area, Constant Creek Boat Ramp – replace timber, heavy patching – Leisure Court, Graffunder Street, Warland Street, Sandbags – Aquatic Place.

Pothole Patching: Golflinks Road, Holts Road, Glenpark Street, Grendon Street, Refalo Drive, Evans Avenue, Pioneer Street, Bona Vista Street, Malcomson Street, Davey Street, Schapers Road, Sologinkin Road, Phillip Street, Cape Hillsborough Road, Port Newry Road, Bedford Road, Blacks Beach Road, Mt Pleasant area, Lynette Drive, Roberts Avenue, Bald Hill Road, Keeleys Road, Ron Searle Drive, Zammit Street, Pleystowe Connection Road, Kowari Road, Newmans Road, Pup Creek Road, Kowari-Gorge Road, Mt Martin Loop Road, Owens Creek Loop Road, Walz Lane, Benholme Road, Gorge Road, Eungella Dam Road, Kinchant Dam Road, Marian-Eton Road, Nellie Court, Munbura Road, Marwood Road, McNichols Road, Hannans Road, Maus Road, Armstrong Beach Road, Miran Khan Drive, Sarina-Coast Road, Eversleigh Road, Campwin Beach Road, Grasstree Beach Road, Palms Road, Wollingford Road, Napier Street, McCulloch Street, Amhurst Street, Glenella-Richmond Road, Farleigh-Habana Road, Holmes Drive,

Mansfield Drive, Jarrah Street, Pittman Street, Bucas Drive, Admiral Drive, Glendaragh Road, Canberra Street, Sugarshed Road, Grendon Street, Highway Plaza, Hamilton Street, Ungerer Street, Badila Court, Kidston Avenue, Celeber Drive, Vassallo Drive, Willets Road, Bovey Street, Burgess Street, Renae Street, Nebia-Coningsby Road, Pleystowe-Connection Road, Corney Street, Warrener Street, McGuire Street, Apollo Drive.

Drainage Maintenance: Golf Links Road, Ian Wood Drive, Sugarshed Road, Bonson Scrub Road, Farleigh-Dumbleton Road, Zunkers Road, Ashburtons Road, Cyclone Yasi cleanup - preparation and post event – all areas, Devereux Creek Road, Newbury Mt Vince Road, south and north side drains where dry, Grasstree Beach Road, Manon Street, Eversleigh Road, Frank Miles Road, Rainforest Road, Armstrong Beach Road, Muller Road.

Mowing & Slashing: Trevaskis Road, Knobles Road, Ian Redacliff Drive, Bonson Scrub Road, Nebia Conningsby Road, Mandarana Road, McKinleys Road, Eton Area, Homebush Area, Munbura Area, McEwens Beach Area, Oakenden Area, Bakers Creek Area, Racecourse Area, and Palmyra Area.

Main Roads RMPC:

<p>Other Bituminous Works / Pothole Patching / Pavement Repairs</p>	<p>Bruce Highway (South), Marlborough-Sarina Road, Sarina Coast Road, Bruce Highway intersection to Owen Jenkins Drive Peak Downs Highway intersection to Eungella Mackay-Bucasia Road intersection to Farleigh-Habana Road intersection City Gates to Showgrounds Showgrounds to intersection Heath/Sams Road Showgrounds to River Street McEwens Beach Road intersection Showgrounds to Sams Road intersection Drapers Siding to Police Station Sandy Creek floodway Near the Cliftonville Road intersection</p>
<p>Heavy Formation grading / gravel resheeting / other formation works</p>	
<p>Culvert / Drainage Works</p>	<p>Isaac Boundary to Armstrong Beach Road intersection Near Schmidtkes Road/Farrellys Road Intersection Oasis Drive to Riverside Drive Bruce Highway intersection to Seaforth End of gravel to Mezzins Road Bottom of the Sarina Range</p>
<p>Tractor Slashing Rural / Urban / Boom Mowing / Clearing Works / Herbicide Spraying / Declared Plant Spraying</p>	<p>Isaac Boundary to Showgrounds Isaac Boundary to intersection Bruce Highway, Sarina Intersection Bruce Highway to intersection Marlborough-Sarina Road Intersection Bruce Highway to intersection Sarina- Homebush Road Intersection Bruce Highway to intersection Eton- Homebush Road Intersection Peak Downs Highway to intersection Sarina-Homebush Road Intersection Bruce Highway to intersection Maraju-Yakapari Road Intersection Bruce Highway (Nth Mackay) to intersection Bruce Highway (The Leap) Intersection Mackay-Eungella Road to intersection Mia Mia Connection Road Eungella township to Crediton Road Intersection Mackay-Eungella Road to intersection Peak Downs Highway Intersection Mackay-Eungella Road to Intersection Marian-Eton Road Intersection Mirani-Eton Road to intersection Gargett-Mia Mia Road Intersection Mackay-Bucasia Road to intersection Farleigh-Habana Road Intersection Bruce Highway to</p>

	Owen Jenkins Drive Intersection Bruce Highway to Access BHP Services Intersection Bruce Highway to end of bitumen/start of gravel Intersection Bruce Highway to Palm Avenue Intersection Yakapari-Seaforth Road to intersection Farleigh-Habana Road Intersection Bruce Highway to end Intersection Mackay-Bucasia Road to End Showgrounds to end (Lamberts Beach Lookout) Rosella Store to Showgrounds Showgrounds to intersection Farleigh-Habana Road Intersection Bruce Highway to intersection Eimeo Road Showgrounds to Harbour Road round about Gap Road intersection to Walsh/Saunders Road - Sarina Range Showgrounds to Marian-Hampden Road intersections LHS Bruce Highway intersection to Yakapari-Habana Road intersection Marian to Eton (Peak Downs Hwy) Mirani to Burgess Lane intersection Marian (Mackay-Eungella Rd) to intersection Bruce Highway – North Mirani west to intersection Bruce Highway – North Lagoon Street garden bed & retaining wall Cane Railway Crossing to Cluney Creek Isaac Boundary to Showgrounds Showgrounds to Whitsunday Boundary Isaac Boundary to City Gates Isaac Boundary to Sarina Intersection Bruce Highway to intersection Marlborough-Sarina Road Intersection Bruce Highway to intersection Sarina-Homebush Road Intersection Bruce Highway to intersection Eton-Homebush Road Intersection Peak Downs Highway to intersection Sarina-Homebush Road Intersection Bruce Highway (Nth Mackay) to intersection Bruce Highway (The Leap) Intersection Peak Downs Highway to Eungella Top of Eungella Range to Eungella Dam Wall Intersection Mackay-Eungella Road to intersection Bruce Highway Intersection Mackay-Eungella Road to intersection Bruce Highway Intersection Bruce Highway to Owen Jenkins Drive Intersection Bruce Highway to access BHP Services Intersection Bruce Highway to intersection Yakapari-Habana Road Intersection Bruce Highway to Palm Avenue Intersection Mackay-Bucasia Road to End.
Rest Area Servicing	Palm Tree Creek Rest Area
Road Sweeping/Roadside Litter Collection	
Emergency Call Outs	
Signs / Guide Post Works	Palm Tree Creek Rest Area Rosella Store to Temples Lane Median at David Muir Street intersection BP Service Station to Keeleys Road intersection

Quarry Operations:

Gravel from the following quarries was extracted during February:

Bezzina, Buggybend, Camerons, Comellis, Eton, Jensens, Mt Ossa-Seaforth, Omands.

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 of draft 20 yr Capital Works Programme making provision for all current projects and proposed development projects.
- Discussion with property owners and utility providers regarding future road construction at Connors Road (Farrelly to Archibald). Land Acquisitions and realignment notices underway.
- Lead role in discussions with Consultants and developers regarding design works, division of costs and infrastructure agreements for Farrelly's Road (Connors to Milton) reconstruction and upgrading
- Lead role in discussions with Consultants, DTMR, residents and Colonial Mutual regarding upgrading of Malcomson/Greenfields & Malcomson/Charles Hodge Intersections. Detail design Greenfields intersection commenced while Malcomson/Charles Hodge mostly completed.
- Consultation complete and detail design commenced for Paradise Street (George to Henman Streets) upgrading
- Consultation and detail design regarding Archibald Street (Connors to Milton) upgrading.
- Consultation and detail design of the HAFF Grant project including Rosewood Drive from Mackay Bucasia road to Chenoweth Drive
- Discussions with Consultant with regard to finalisation of planning study for Paget intersections and future heavy vehicle paths. Concept planning of intersection upgrades complete and detail design commenced
- Detail design of culvert crossing Casey Avenue, concept development and detail design for stadium access, car park and Bluewater Trail extension.
- Lead role in discussions with QT regarding the preparation of detail design for on land facilities for constant Creek boat ramp design
- Preparation of RRG, Blackspot, SafeST and RLCIP grant subsidy applications.
- Lead role in the preparation of "Safety in Design", Erosion and Sediment Control and Fish passage and Waterway Barrier applications in relation to designs to meet industry standards.
- Attendance at Paget Depot Management Group & Steering Committee meetings and Corporate Projects Meetings, Residential Densities Committee, 2010 Flood Damage design discussions, Transport Working Group, Management Leadership Forum, Northern Beaches Workshop, Contracts Working Group and discussions regarding EOI Minor Concrete works.
- On site residents meetings at Dunnrock regarding boat ramp car park design
- Provision of reports to Council on Archibald/Paradise/Connors Roundabout Realignment.
- Participate in Departmental Briefing to Council.

PARKS AND ENVIRONMENT

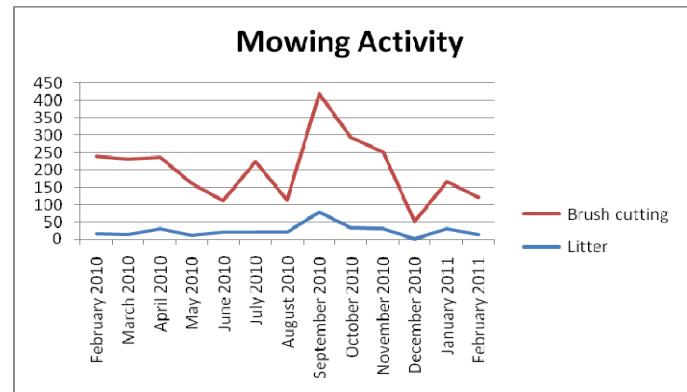
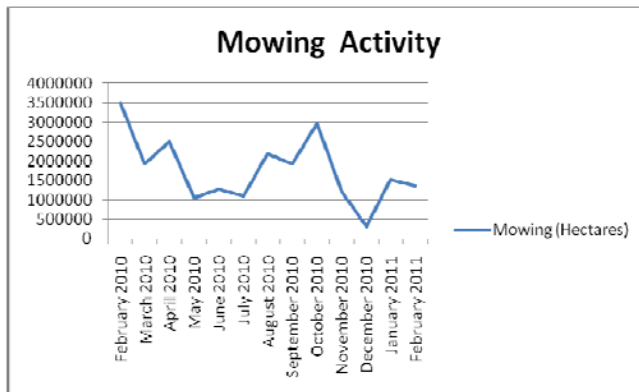
The Parks & Environment report for the month of February contains information on activities undertaken throughout the month by the staff within the program.

Officers on call attended: 7 after hours phone calls and 8 after hours call outs.

- **Administration** – 14 park bookings
- **Customer Requests** –

Date	Actioned	Received	Unactioned
February 2011	303	314	212

- **Horticulture Activities** – 287062 m² garden beds serviced; 4 hours spent repairing irrigation; 12 hours spraying herbicide
- **Grass Maintenance Mackay Activities** – 844891m² parks mowing; 38150m² Drains mowed; 501496m² easements mowed; 108 man hours spent whipper-snipping; 13 man-hours spend litter collecting; 15 man-hours spent pruning trees/plants; 2724 toilets cleaned; 1288 BBQs cleaned.



- **Valley Activities** – 184121m² Parks mowed, 64101m² Drains mowed, 237986m² median/roads mowed. 150 hours spent whipper snipping.
- **Sothern Region Activities** – 250000m² mowed, 180 hours spent whipper snipping. 25 hours litter collection,
- **Natural Environment and Marine Beach Activities**
 - Conservation Volunteers Australia worked for one week at the Sarina Community Native Gardens site for 5 days, funded by BMA. They also worked for one day, including one community event day on Saturday 19th February at Sandfly Creek Environmental Reserve as part of a year-long project funded by Hail Creek mine. 250 plants were planted over the 4 days as part of this project.
 - As part of the Mackay Coasts and Communities Project, community volunteers attended working bees at Bucasia and Blacks Beach on 26th February. Weed control and planting activities were held at both sites, with approximately 200 coastal plants planted.
 - Discussions were held with Department of Environment and Resource Management staff regarding a stair access way at Grasstree Beach and drainage works at Campwin Beach.
 - Provided advice in the preparation of the Community Plan.
 - Liaised with QPWS about possible projects at Crediton Community Hall.
 - Attended meeting with residents of Midge Point regarding coastal management issues.

- Evaluated submissions and made a recommendation regarding the appointment of a consultant to write a Shoreline Erosion Management Plan (SEMP) for Midge Point.
- Met with Mackay and District Turtlewatch representatives to discuss proposed work at Ball and Holiday Bays, including weed control, fencing and tree planting works.
- Met with Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority staff to discuss the Reef Guardian Council program and Action Plan for 2011.
- Sandfly Creek Environmental Reserve committee meeting was held.
- Undertook fencing work at Grasstree Beach and planted 270 seedlings (Sarina Beach Crew).
- Undertook brush cutting along the Blue Water Trail and at Slade Point Reserve. Worked at Illawong reserve and Sandfly Creek Environmental Reserve (Mackay Bush Crew).
- Maintained planting sites at Shoal Point and Bucasia Beach. Repaired the Bucasia and Seaforth Swimming enclosures (Mackay Beach Crew).
- Held working bee at Morag McNichol Reserve and spoke to school students about environmental issues (NEO).



Bucasia residents planted and watered approximately 100 trees and shrubs, and controlled weeds on Saturday 26th February.



Conservation Volunteers Australia worked for four days at Sandfly Creek Environmental Reserve planting casuarinas and other plants and controlling weeds.



Conservation Volunteers Australia worked at the Sarina Community Native Gardens site, and the Sarina Landcare Catchment Management Association also held a weekend community working bee.

Arboriculture Activities

Sum of Total Trees Pruned	Sum of Council Trees Removed	Sum of Scheduled Palm Trees defroned/ deseeded	Sum of Requests-branch pick up	Sum of Coconut Trees denutted	Sum of Trees Attended in Juvenile stage	Sum of Trees attended for other Council wks	Sum of Requests-minor prune	Sum of Requests-major prune	Sum of Trees Planted in Streetscapes
359	101	11	37	0	93	2	82	20	63

Cemetery Operations

Burials Mt Bassett	14
Burials Mt Bassett Ashes	1
Burials - Mackay	2
Burials - Mackay Ashes	0
Burials - Walkerston	7
Burials - Walkerston (Ashes)	1
Burials - Mirani	2
Burials - Marian	1
Burials- Sarina	4
Hand Dig of grave	3

Parks Building Services Activities

Electrical Operations: Traffic Signals, there were 5 emergency response calls attended in February. Other works included the replacement of 19 lamps, repairs to 6 sites and the lowering of poles to allow wide load access on 4 occasions.

Other Electrical Work: Three repairs to electrical tools/equipment, seven test and tag of sections equipment, five park light repairs, one park power supply repair, four electric BBQ repairs, three building light repairs, two internal building power supply repairs, three electrical repairs to pensioner cottages, one external lighting repair for community halls, the twelve month RCD test of all park amenity buildings was completed and two coin operated hot water showers were commissioned at St Helens Camp Ground.

Playgrounds: The removal of the districts playground shade sails for cyclone Yasi was completed at the beginning of February, repairs to minor damage to sails were conducted in preparation for reinstallation. There were 35 Visual Inspections and 15 Operational Inspections conducted during the month. Three major repairs and fifteen minor repairs were completed during this time. The installation of the Armstrongs beach Hall Playground has commenced with ground works and concreting of fence and edging in progress.

Built Asset Maintenance: Four park bench seats, at various locations were replaced due to wear and tear/ vandalism. Three picnic settings were repaired/ refurbished. Two park signs were replaced and repairs to concrete paths undertaken at three locations. The basket ball backboard and supporting posts at Celeber Drive hall was torn down by vandals and has been replaced. Nine indicator bolts to park public amenities were replaced.

Two picnic settings and the public amenities at Bucasia Esplanade along with the amenities at Victor Creek and three picnic settings at Seaforth were all painted during the month.

Capital Projects – The following projects are completed



Replacement Picnic Shelter at Coral Point



New Picnic Shelter at Melba Park Armstrongs Beach

Projects in Construction:



Play Equipment Armstrongs Beach Community Hall

Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens -

Horticultural and Site Works:

Mowing

Snipping

Cleaning, including toilets and bin collection

Garden bed maintenance

Pruning (trees, shrubs including hedging)

Herbicide Spraying

Staffing levels: 1 staff member on extended leave due to family illness.

Weather Station Data

Rainfall for month (mm): 270.8

Days of rain: 23

Av. Temperature for Month (deg C): 26.5

High Wind Speed (knots): 28.7

Avg. Wind Speed (knots): 3.3

Dom. Wind direction: E

Botanic Gardens Functions and Events:

During February 2011 – the following functions occurred: 1 Wedding, 1 Engagement Party, 8 Community bookings for meeting room and 5 corporate hire of meeting room.

Due to bad weather, 1 naming ceremony was cancelled.

Bridal Fair: Botanic Gardens staff attended the annual Bridal Fair at the MECC and had a great response, providing 60 wedding information packs and numerous brochures. We have received 7 confirmed bookings from the fair to date.

World Wetland Day events: over two separate weeks due to Cyclone Yasi

CEPTED: onsite training for Queensland Health/Mackay Police

Visitor Services Program:

Providing learning and information for the community in regards to sustaining and enhancing our natural assets, habitats and ecosystems was not hindered by the recent cyclone weather.

World Wetlands Day celebrations scheduled for 2nd, 3rd and 4th February went ahead and was appreciated by a small collection of visitors including small children and their parents, tourists trapped in Mackay or evacuated / relocated from northern towns including Townsville and local community visitors.

The repeated event on 15th and 16th February was accessed again by many visitors as well as local state school (Beaconsfield) with over 50 students participating in the activities.

Guided Walks; Water plants and the Gardens 'War on Water-Weeds' displays; as well as interactive and live Macro-Invertebrates viewing, gave all the opportunity to wonder at Wetlands specific features.

Partnerships with Pioneer Landcare and Catchments and Great Barrier Reef Marine Parks Authority groups were strengthened with both groups supporting the event with their presence.



World Wetlands day events

Council's ongoing commitment to providing galleries as learning and community hubs where people can interact socially through the arts was very evident at the Botanic Gardens Lagoons Gallery. Rosanne Lawton-Kirby, a local businesswoman and artist showcased her study on the influences and effects migraines cause. Her abstract and unique artworks not only created an atmosphere attempting to create a "map of the mind", but raised the community's awareness of individuals who sometimes need to be **"Behind the Bed Sheets"** as a way of coping with these debilitating experiences.



Artwork by Rosanne Lawton-Kirby

Why such an exhibition at the Botanic Gardens? The Gardens are regular used by residents who enjoy the benefits of the contact with nature for mental health and well-being. This meeting many of the objectives outlined in MRCs Corporate plan objective 1 – Community and Lifestyle "safe and strong communities..."



Friends weeding the Terraces

Enhancing not only the life of seniors within the region but also much of the younger generations too, volunteers continue to be involved and educated at the Gardens. Their efforts were greatly appreciated in the recent **"Weed and Feed"** event. What commenced as an educational session on weeds and plants while walking through the gardens, stopping to pull out the odd big weed, developed into a full scale 'Weeding Bee', with over 25 large bags of weeds pulled from Australian Regional Flora Terraces – due to the group's enthusiasm.

The Garden Friends certainly increased their weed identification skills with different weeds being isolated (pulled out) and talked about by Dale Arvidsson.

A BBQ afterwards helped to strengthen the social networking of this hardworking volunteer group that adds so much to the Gardens.

Website: February saw 558 'unique' visitors view the website with 665 visits and 2162 page views. The website was updated extensively in December and January and the new pages and information is allowing access flora and event information for residents and potential visitors better than ever.



Dale Arvidsson explains weed ID and how adaptations have made these 'successful' plants in our gardens

Consultation

There has been consultation with Engineering Services Program Managers.

Resource Implications

Nil.

Conclusion

Again as per the previous number of months, continuous rainfall has had a detrimental impact upon program maintenance and Council's Capital Works Program. Available resources have been concentrating on making the road network as trafficable as possible. The onset of Cyclone Yasi and subsequent activities were managed at a local and District level but did require the deployment of significant resources to ensure that the Mackay Region was well placed to deal with any consequences from the event.

Officer's Recommendation

THAT this report be received.