

ENGINEERING SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS AND SIGNIFICANT ISSUES REPORT – MONTH ENDING MAY 2012

Author: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

Purpose

To review Engineering Services Department highlights and significant issues for the month of May 2012.

Background and Discussion

Highlights and Significant Issues for the period are as follows: -

ENGINEERING SERVICES MANAGEMENT

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

- Attended onsite meeting at Holts Road
- Attended street meeting with Poinciana Avenue residents, Seaforth
- Held Teleconference with NQBP to discuss Ron Searle Drive and Harbour Carpark

On-going involvement in the following areas:

- Sustainable Futures Advisory Committee, Rural Affairs Advisory Committee, Whitsunday Regional Roads Group Technical Group, LGEG Meeting, Natural Environment Advisory Committee, Resilience Steering Group Meeting.
- SafePlan, Design and Construct Review Meetings and SES matters
- Engineering Services Program Managers meetings

CIVIL PROJECTS

Works have been completed on the following projects:

DAY LABOUR

- Traffic Facility works at various locations Beaconsfield and Eimeo
- Farleigh Habana Road (Northern segment)
- LATM works various locations
- Asphalt concrete works Andergrove and Beaconsfield area
- Alan Street, Marian
- Temples Lane off Cowleys Road



Farleigh Habana Road - Bruce Hwy to Trevaskis Road

CONTRACTS

- Caping Road
- Holts Road Culvert Upgrade
- Park and Porter Streets

Works have been substantially completed on the following projects:

DAY LABOUR

- LATM works various locations
- Bitumen reseals in Calen and Mirani areas
- Holts Road at Pioneer Street



Holts Road at Woodward's Road

CONTRACTS

- Paradise Street Reconstruction

The following projects are in progress:

DAY LABOUR

- Holts Road at Woodward's Road
- Dalrymple Road - Road upgrade west of Eungella
- Shakespeare Street - Footpath between Bruce Highway and Holland Street
- Bold Street, Culvert Upgrade
- Farleigh Habana Road - Bruce Hwy to Trevaskis Road
- Footpath at Bridge Street, Walkerston
- Stormwater Drainage at Graffunder Street
- Gorge Road - Road Upgrade
- Mackay Harbour Mulherin Drive Parking area
- Muller Park - Parking area

CONTRACTS

- Emergent Works extension to 2010 Flood Saturation Package 1001 – Stabilising works in Southern Areas of the Region
- Emergent Works extension to 2010 Flood Saturation Package 1002 – Digout pavement repairs throughout the Region
- Emergent Works extension to Branscombe Road Reconstruction Flood 2010 – Stabilising and Digout Pavement Repair works throughout the Region
- Fursden Creek – commenced works to rectify Slip at Brickworks at Stormwater Outfall
- SES Campwin Beach
- Eton Hack & Pony Club Access Ramp
- 2010 & 2011 Flood Saturation Restoration
- Hill End Road Reconstruction
- Medowlands Botanic Garden Sound Shell Construction
- Rosewood Drive Construction – Federal Funding (HAF Project)
- 2010 Flood Saturation Package 1002
- North Mackay Levee Construction Stage 1B/2
- Grasstree Beach Road – 3.95 to 4.2km including Bikeway

The following projects have been awarded:

CONTRACTS

- Flood Saturation – Mangrove Road & Fernleigh Avenue Reconstruction
- Connors Road Reconstruction
- Flood Saturation – Victoria (Carlyle to End) and Tennyson Street

The following projects have been put to tender:

CONTRACTS

- Crediton Loop Road Reconstruction
- Ridgewood Drive Slope Stability
- Rosewood Drive Commercial Section (Bucasia Road to J4)

CIVIL OPERATIONS

Heavy Grading	Nil.
Formation Grading	Hudson's Road – Sorensen's Road – Deal's Road – McGill's Road – Boyd's Road – Hackett's Road - Graffunder Road – Running Creek Road – Osborne's Road – Leichhardt Road – Oliver's Road – Gorge Road – Greenmount Homestead – Showgrounds access (Inkind assistance).
Temporary Gravel Road Repairs (Grading & Gravelling)	Nil.
Shoulder Grading	Andergrove Road – Munburra Road – Marwood Road – Paulette Street and Kelly's Road.
Pot Hole Repairs	Glenella – North Mackay – Erakala – Farleigh areas – Grasree Beach Road – Benson's Road – Windsor Drive Dawlish road – Hay point Area – West Street – Lawrie's Road – East Funnel Creek Road – Armstrong Beach Area – Sarina Area – Brewers Road – Koumala Area – Sarina Area – Garrett's Road – Westcott Avenue – Eversleigh Road – Smithcross Road – Kinchant Dam Road – Finchatton area – Munburra Road – Doyle's Road – Forth Street – Paradise Street – Boundary Road – Milton Street – Holland Street – Michelmore Street – Burns Street – Lawson Street – Victoria Street – Silingardies Road – Bold Street – Mangrove Road – River Street – Penn Street – Milton Street – Bridge Road – Kippen Street – Goldsmith Street – Symons Street – Shakespeare Street – Brisbane Street – Shetland Court – 12 th Lane – Tennyson Street – Moore Street – Lorne Road – Leisure Court – Podosky Street – Hume Street – Casey's Road – Mac's Truck Stop Access – Milton Street – Walkerston Homebush Road and Queens Park.
2012 Emergent Repairs	Eungella Dam Road – Freegards Road – Plateau Road – Up River Road – Howells Road – Neilsen Creek Road – Trevey's Road – Clanside Road – Green Street – Shoulder Repairs Doyle's Road – Holts Road – Mapalo Road – Balnagown Mandurana Road – Beaconsfield Road – Glenpark Street – Pioneer Street Schapers Road – Shepherd Road – Farleigh Habana Road – Bronson's Scrub Road – Gerry's Lane – Pleystowe Connections Road – Glendarah Road – High Street – East Lake Drive – Stockroute Road – Bentley's road – Chelona Sandiford Road – Masottis Road – Victoria Plain Area – Balberra Area – Morrison Road – Craig Road – Wood Road – Mt. Christian Road – Riley's Road – Upper Alligator Creek Road – Von Fahland Road – Leichhardt Road – Jones Road – Barkley Street – Kowari Gorge – Zahmel Street, Garget area and Mt. Martin Road.
Submission 1.1 – 2011 Cyclone Tasha & Anthony	Borgs Access Road – Old Seaforth Road – Malin Road – McMahon Road – Tandy Road – Upper Alligator Creek Road – Frank Miles Road – Mt. Convenient Road – John Temple Drive and Oliver's Road.

Special Works:

Footpath repairs – Avalon Drive – Sir Griffiths Way – Shakespeare Street – Bridge Road – Victoria Street – Scott Street and Lamb Street.

Guard Rail Repairs – Nil.

Bridge Works – Seaforth Pontoon – Repairs and maintenance.
Gargett – Berri – Werri Cattle Creek – Repairs and hot mix surface.
Munburra – Belk Creek Bridge – Flood repairs debris removal.

Fence and Handrail Maintenance – River Street Car park.

Culvert, Pipe & Catchpit repairs – River Street – Evan Street – Stevenson Street – Warland Street – Aston Place – Casey Avenue and Kippen Street.

Kerb & Channel repairs – Norris Road – Warland Street – Holland Street – Graffunder Street – Evan Street – O’Keefe Street – Hunter Street and Lloyd Street.

Road Side Open Drain Maintenance – Heathwood Court – Hampden Court – West Plain Creek Road – Thomas Road – Eton Area – Balberra Area – Rockywaterholes Wallingford Road – Kelly’s Road – Pugsley Street – Luscombe Street and Cowley’s Road.

Traffic Island Maintenance – Juliet Street.

Water Services - Trench Patching – Greenmount Road – Fadden Street and Schmidtkes Road.

Subsidence Repairs, Dig-outs & Scours – Rutland’s Road – Downie Avenue and Elizabeth Street.

Mowing & Slashing: - Calen – Mt. Charlton – Mt. Ossa – Geeberga – Buthurra – Kuttabel – Farleigh – Greenmount area – Pleystowe area – Miran Area – Victoria Plains Area – Eton Area – Homebush area – Chelona Area – Bakers Creek area and Oakenden Area.

Tree and Vegetation Maintenance – Crediton and Dalrymple Heights areas.

Line Marking – Victoria Plains, Mt. Vince – Powell’s Road and Greenmount areas.

Guide Post – Kuttabel – Calen – Bloomsbury and Midge Point areas.

Street Sweeping (Programmed works) – North Side area – Canberra Street – North of Bruce Highway and City Heart.

Special Works – Re-seal preparation – Calen and Pindi Pindi areas.

Open Drainage Maintenance:

Drains North - Munburra – Stoney Creek and Walkerston.

Drains South – Harney Street – Kippen Street – Kindermar and CQ University.

MAIN ROADS MAINTENANCE – RMPC CONTRACT:

Unsealed Road Maintenance –

Gargett – Mia Mia – unsealed sections – temporary repairs to unsealed sections.

Mt Ossa – Unsealed Section – temporary repairs to unsealed section.

Culverts & Drainage –

Bruce Highway North rural address #2541 – clean outlet at side of access of overgrown vegetation blocking water flow.

Bruce Highway North – overtaking lane RHS – Koliyo - Surface drain cleaning, as required.
Marian – Eton Road - Intersection Muller’s Road to Intersection Allendale Road – cleaning of drains, culvert inlets & outlets, as required.
Mackay – Bucasia Road - Intersection Mackay Bucasia Road to intersection Yakapari – Habana Road - cleaning of surface drains, as required.

Roadside Litter Collection –

Bruce Highway (South) - Isaac boundary to Showgrounds
Bruce Highway (North) - Showgrounds to Whitsunday boundary

Pavements –

- Bruce Highway (South)

Macs Truck Stop to Showgrounds - patching of potholes, various locations, as required.
Isaac Boundary to access Greyhound Hotel Motel, Bakers Creek - pothole patching, various locations, as required.
Isaac Boundary to Showgrounds - repairs to pavement failures.
Between Smarts Road & Turners Paddock Road, Koumala - attend to vehicle accident between Turners Paddock Road & Smarts Road.
Baker Creek Bridge - vehicle accident at Bakers Creek Bridge.
Cane Railway siding Sarina Township - removal of fallen tree from roadway.

- Bruce Highway (North)

Showgrounds to Whitsunday Boundary - various Locations - pothole Patching
Showgrounds to Whitsunday Boundary - pothole Patching
Showgrounds to intersection Sams Road - roadside Sweeping
Cane Railway Xing near Calen Township - emergency callouts

- Peak Downs Highway

Isaacs’s boundary to City Gates - pothole patching
Isaac Boundary to City Gates - pothole patching
Eton Range - emergency callouts

- Marlborough – Sarina

Isaac boundary to Sarina - pothole patching
Isaac boundary to Sarina - other bituminous works

- Rosella - Homebush

Intersection Bruce Highway to intersection Sarina-Homebush Road - pothole patching

- Mackay – Eungella

Intersection Peak Downs Highway to Eungella - Pothole Patching

- Sarina Coast

Intersection Bruce Highway to intersection Owen Jenkins Road - pothole patching

- Gargett - Mia Mia

Intersection Mackay-Eungella Road to intersection Mia Mia Connection Road

- Mia Mia Connection

Intersection Mirani-Eton Road to intersection Gargett-Mia Mia Road - other bituminous works

- Yakapari - Seaforth

Intersection Bruce Highway to Palm Avenue - other bituminous works

- Koumala - Bolingbroke

Koumala Range - Emergency Callouts - Removal of fallen trees from roadway on Koumala Range.

- Marian - Eton

Sandy Creek Floodway - Emergency Callouts - Inspection of floodway as requested by Mackay Police.

Road Furniture –

Bruce Highway (North) - Palm Tree Creek Rest Area - rest area servicing

Vegetation Maintenance –

- Tractor Slashing - Rural

Bruce Highway South Isaac Boundary to Showgrounds -

Maraju – Yakapari - Intersection Bruce Highway (Nth Mackay) to intersection Bruce Highway (The Leap)

Mackay – Eungella - Intersection Peak Downs Highway to Eungella.

Gargett - Mia Mia - Intersection Mackay-Eungella Road to intersection Mia Mia Connection.

Eungella Dam - Eungella to Eungella Dam wall.

Marian – Eton - Intersection Mackay-Eungella Road to intersection Peak Downs Highway.

North Eton - Intersection Marian-Eton Road to intersection Peak Downs Highway.

Mirani – Eton - Intersection Mackay-Eungella Road to intersection Marian-Eton Road.

Mia Mia Connection - Intersection Mirani-Eton Road to intersection Gargett-Mia Mia Road.

Marian – Hampden - Intersection Mackay-Eungella Road to intersection Bruce Highway.

Mirani Mt Ossa - Intersection Mackay-Eungella Road to intersection Bruce Highway.

Mackay – Habana - Intersection Mackay-Bucasia Road to intersection Yakapari-Habana Road.

Yakapari – Seaforth - Intersection Bruce Highway to Palm Avenue.

Yakapari – Habana - Intersection Yakapari-Seaforth Road to intersection Farleigh-Habana Road.

Mackay – Bucasia - Intersection Bruce Highway to end.

Eimeo - Intersection Mackay-Bucasia Road to end.

- Tractor Slashing - Urban

Bruce Highway (South) - Rosella Store to Showgrounds

Bruce Highway (North) - Showgrounds to intersection Farleigh-Habana Road

Rockleigh - North Mackay - Riverside Drive to Malcomson Street

Mackay – Bucasia - Intersection Bruce Highway to intersection Eimeo Road

Mackay - Slade Point - Showgrounds to Harbour Road round about

- Boom Mowing

Rockleigh – North Mackay – Intersection Bruce Highway to intersection Mackay – Slade Point Road

Mirani – Eton – Intersection Mackay – Eungella Road to intersection Marian – Eton Road

- Clearing

Mackay – Habana – Near Nindaroo

Yakapari – Seaforth – near Seaforth School

- Maintain Landscaping (Minor)

Mackay Bypass – Lagoon Street garden beds and retaining wall.

Rockleigh – North Mackay – Kenzy Street to Malcomson Street.

Eimeo – Intersection Mackay – Bucasia road to end.

Mackay – Slade Point – Forgan Bridge to Palmer Street.

- Management of Declared Plants

Mackay – Eungella – Boldon Hill
Eungella Dam – Bus stop LHS to access Broken River Mountain Retreat

Quarry Operations

Materials were extracted from the following quarry sites:

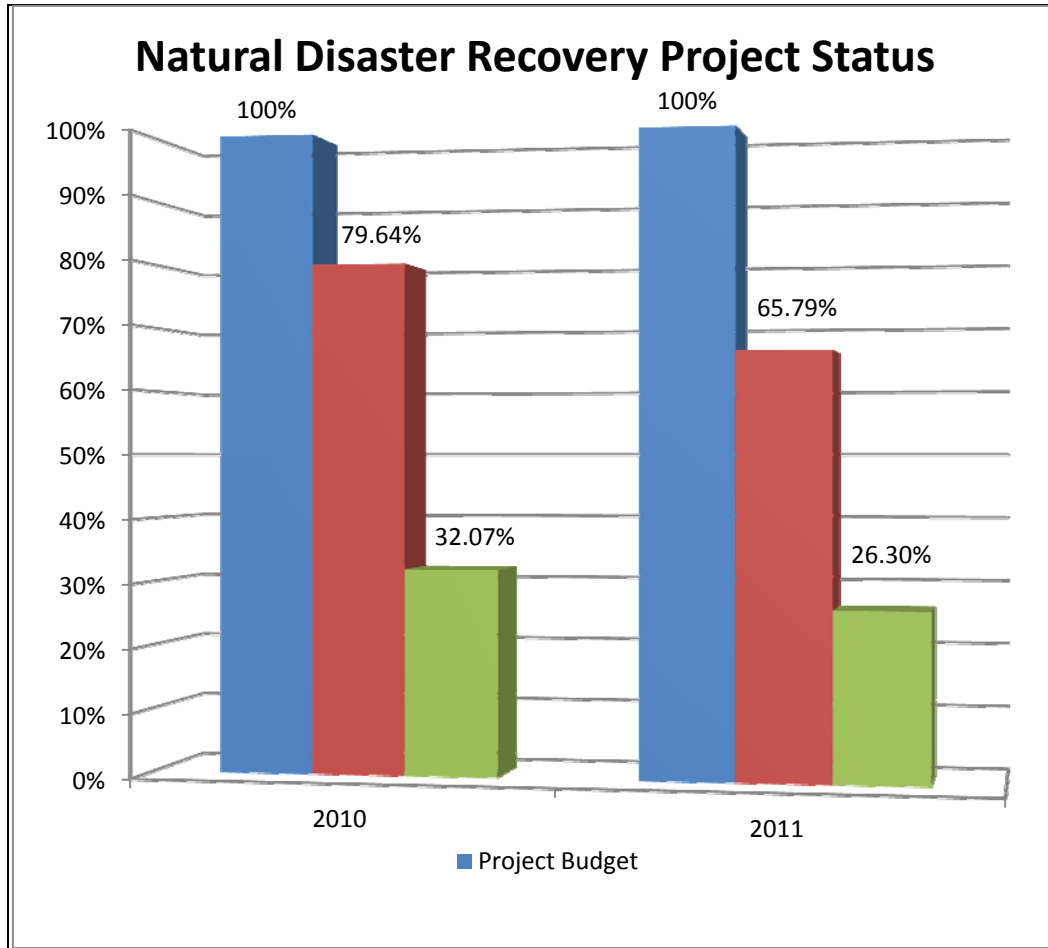
- Cameron’s Pit = 1214 cubic metres
- Eton Pit = 16764 cubic metres
- Breadsells Pit = 180 cubic metres
- Mt. Ossa – Seaforth Pit = 611.4 cubic metres

NDRRA Restoration Works

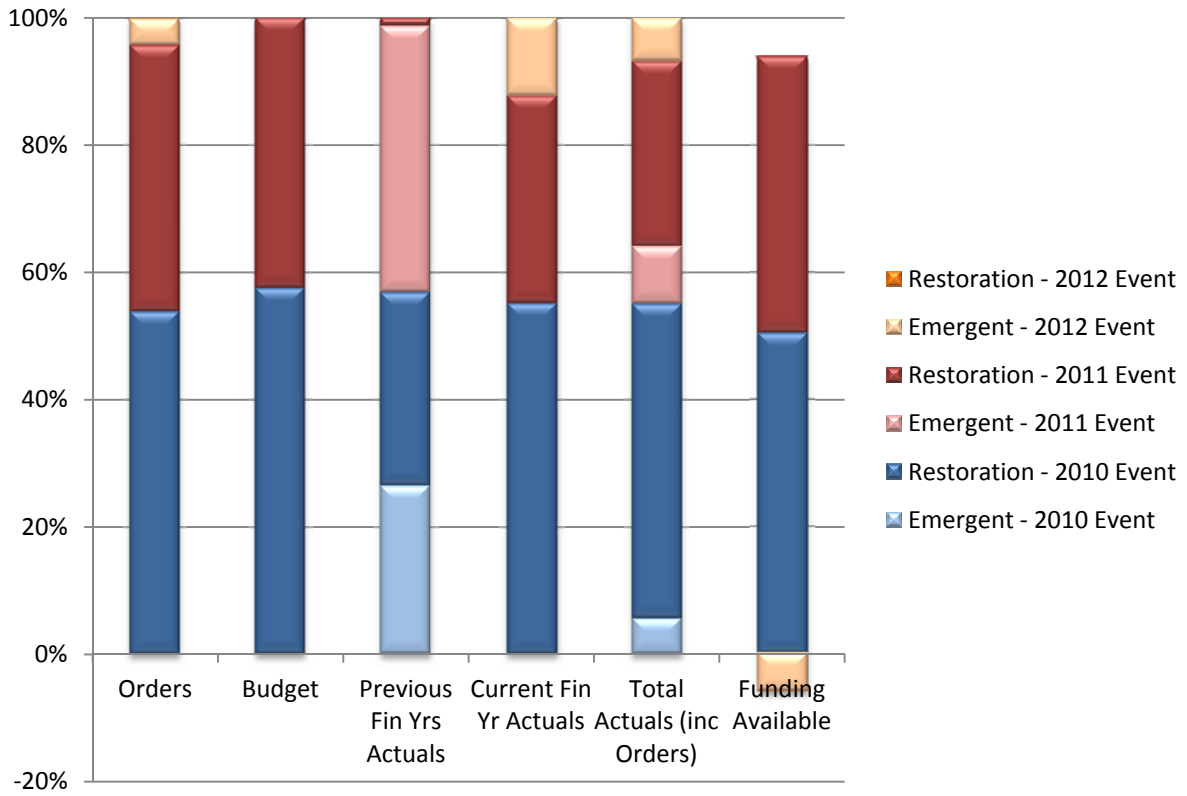
Overview

The primary focus this month has been centred on closing out the emergent works for the 2012 event. This entailed working closely with the contract superintendants and contractors to ensure invoices were received in a timely manner enabling council to finalise the emergent works claim within the current financial year.

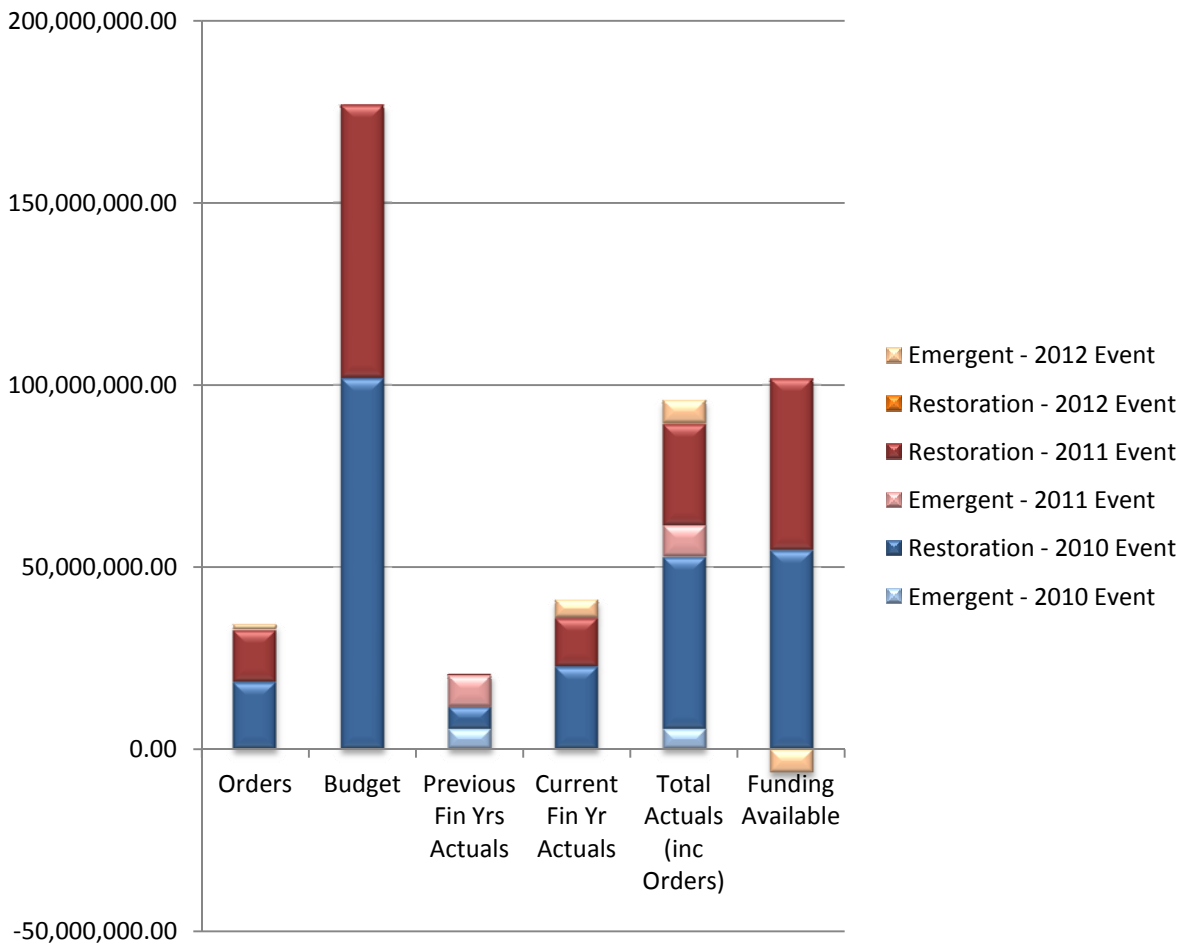
The Authority has had a strong presence this month with finalisation of the federal task force audit conducted by the Queensland Audit Office, visit to the Mackay region by the Authority Regional Liaison Officer for North Queensland Mr Matthew Elphick and a quantifying survey audit conducted by Projectis on request from the Authority.



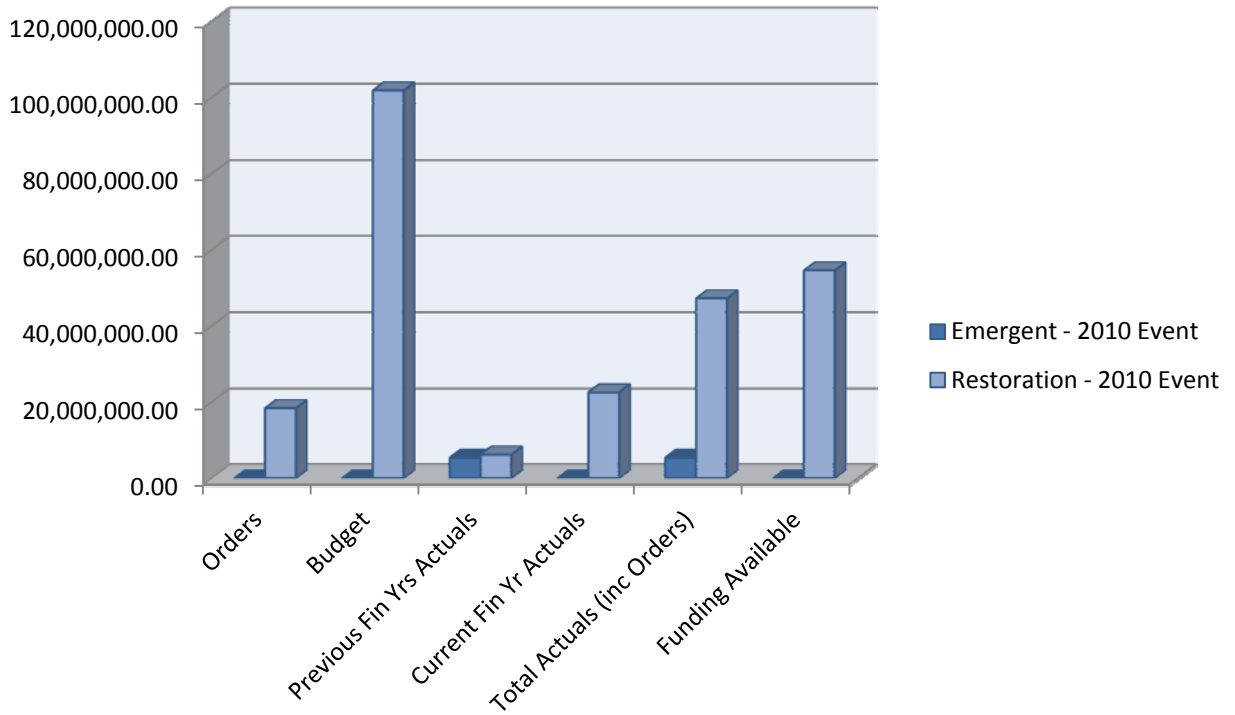
Total NDRRA Costs for 2010, 2011 & 2012 events



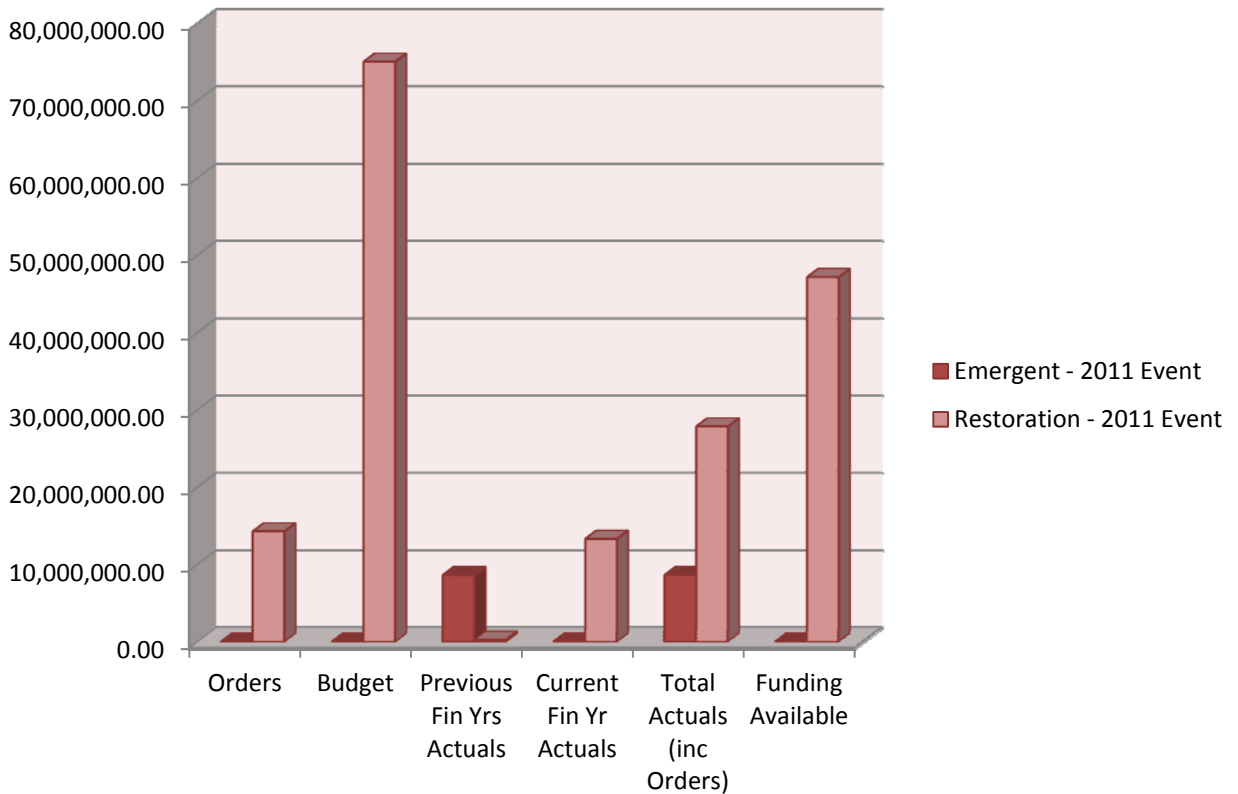
Total 2010,2011 & 2012 by costs



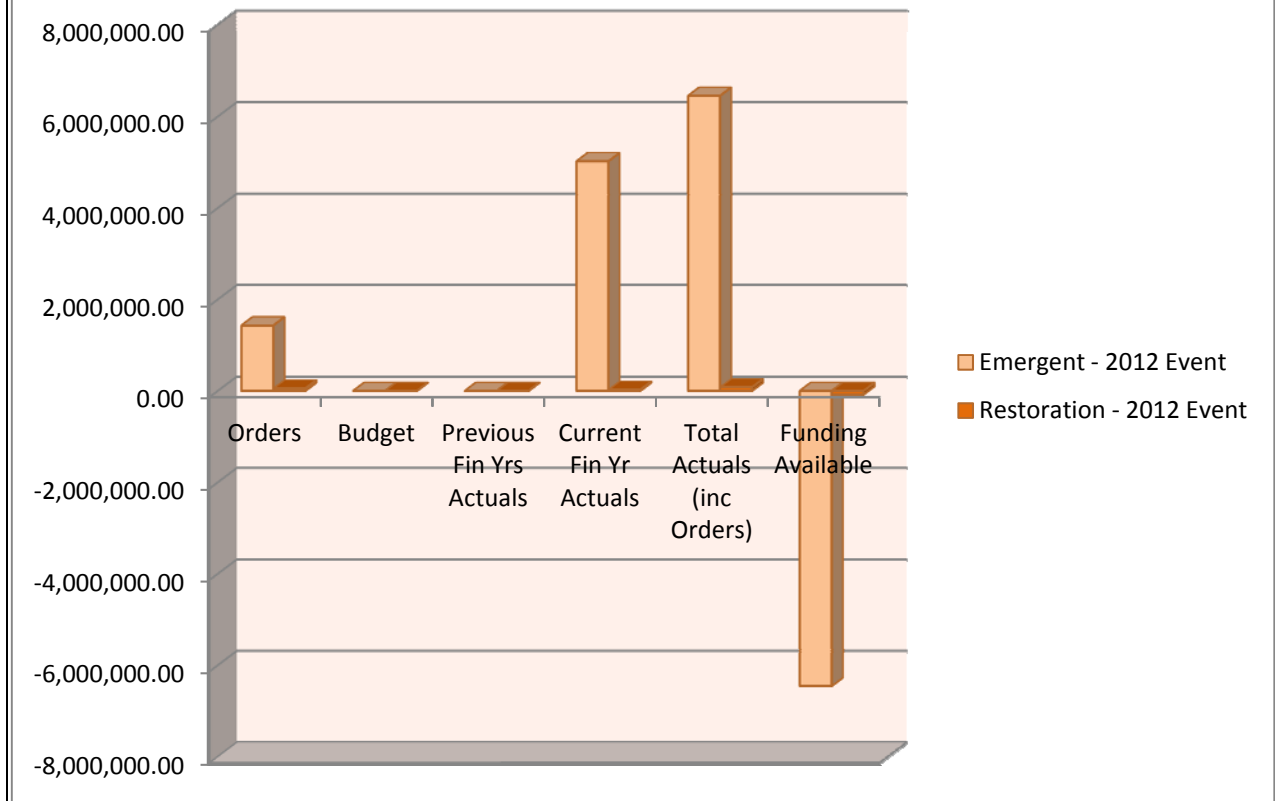
2010 Event Costs



2011 Event Costs



2012 Event Costs



NDRRA General Business:

- Working closely with Shepherd Services to deliver the emergent works claim and restoration submissions for the 2012 event 'Heavy Rainfall Flooding Northern and Far Northern Queensland 16 March 2012' for lodgement to the Authority. The Authority has recommended a series of small submission to best manage the cash flow issues raised at the recent meeting with the Authorities RLO Mathew Elphick.
- RPO and Civil Operations Staff have ceased emergent works and have resumed delivery of the restoration works.
- Ongoing support to operational staff and consulting superintendents.

Issues and Actions:

- Outstanding from the Authority –
 - Approval for submission two (2) 2011
 - Response from the Authority on MRC's Cost Benefit Analysis Report submitted to justify day labour eligibility
 - Response from the Authority on MRC's extension of time (EoT) 2010/11
- Stringent implementation of the Authorities interpretation of the NDRRA guidelines, accepted practice and contract control is vastly different to the previous administrators (DLGP) interpretation of the same guideline. The DLGP primary control was cost whilst the Authority primary control is scope. A line in the sand approach was proposed to manage this transition to the new interpretation by the Authorities RLO Matthew Elphick during his recent visit to the Mackay region.

- Requirement from the Authority to produce detailed MS Project based, project management plans for all restoration works is a mammoth task that will require considerable networking and cooperation from the superintendants and change management with respect to current process.
- Need to identify flood sensitive zones in the urban areas that require modified process for restoration works to ensure road reserve capacity is not reduced and crown levels are not increased causing flooding of residences in these identified zones.

2012 Emergent Works

Emergent Repairs (Job no. 1721) Heavy Rainfall & Flooding, Northern & Far Northern Queensland 15 March 2012	Approximately \$3.8m.
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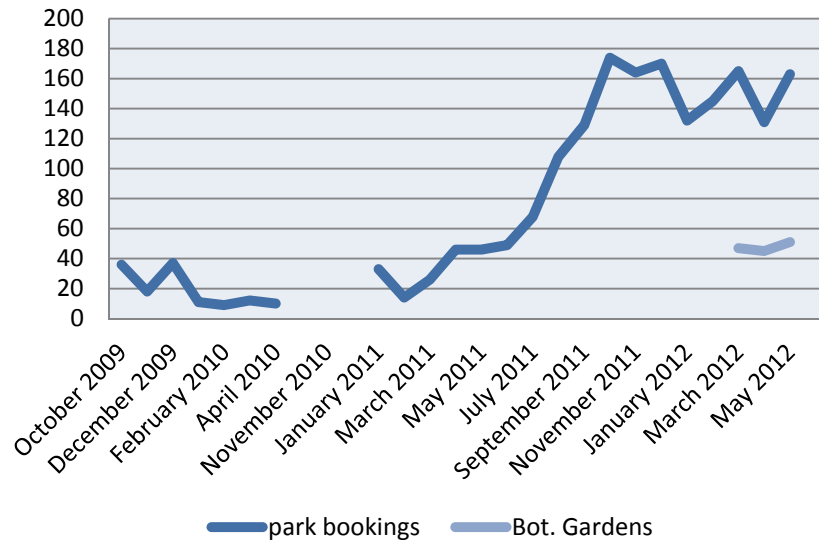
TECHNICAL SERVICES

- Development and design of projects for saturation damage projects throughout the Council area for 2010 and 2011 events.
- Initial preparation of projects under the 2012 NDRA saturation claim
- 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 and its revision to match LTFP and PIP requirements. Indicative 2012/13 & 2013/14 CWP adopted by Council allowing advance planning.
- 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 including design development for works associated with Northern Beaches Central and the Northern Beaches High School.
- Discussions with service providers to streamline design and construction processes.
- Detail Design associated with CBD footpath upgrades via Bluewater Trail extension from Bluewater Quay to River Street Boat Ramp and from the boat ramp to Iluka Park via East Gordon Street.
- Consultant commissioned for CBD Access Audits for Sarina, Walkerston, Marian and Mirani. Eric Martin and Associates undertaken audits 9-13 December 2011. Final report due mid April 2012 with final report to Council to follow.
- Attendance at Reclassification Committee, Strategic Planning Internal Stakeholders meeting, Poinciana Avenue Street meeting, Richmond and Oralea LAP discussions.
- Various drainage investigations for assessment of maintenance and capital upgrading requirements to address system performance issues.
- Additional GPS base stations installed at Grasree Beach, Hogans Pocket and Calen have achieved Reg 13 Certification. Civic Centre GPS base relocated to Slade Point.
- MRC Surveyor programmed to joint test network coverage by the end of July 2012 for mobile phone reception and accuracy relationship to DERM permanent mark Mackay area Control
- Bakers Creek to Alligator Creek DCDB rectification by Terex Spatial complete and forwarded to DERM for inclusion into DCDB. Still waiting for DERM approval.
- Bloomsbury Township area DCDB upgrade commenced using in house resources
- Field Co-ordination of AHD Permanent Marks Completed and office processing 95% complete
- Lead role in the development of the “Active Towns” strategy.
- Development of standard utility alignments and corridors for various authorities within road reserve matching road hierarchy categories
- Investigation into the effects of Coastal Plan and the coastal erosion zone on infrastructure planning criteria including road crown levels and stormwater tailwater levels.
- Liaison with DTMR over demaining of Malcomson Street, compilation of plans and estimates and undertaking public consultation.

PARKS AND ENVIRONMENT

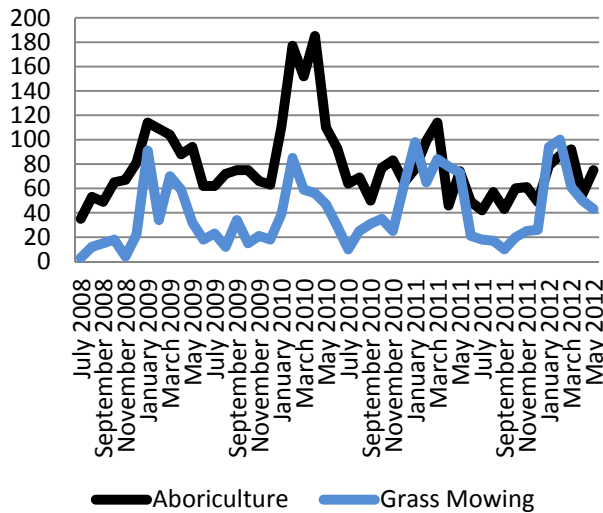
- Administration**

Park Bookings

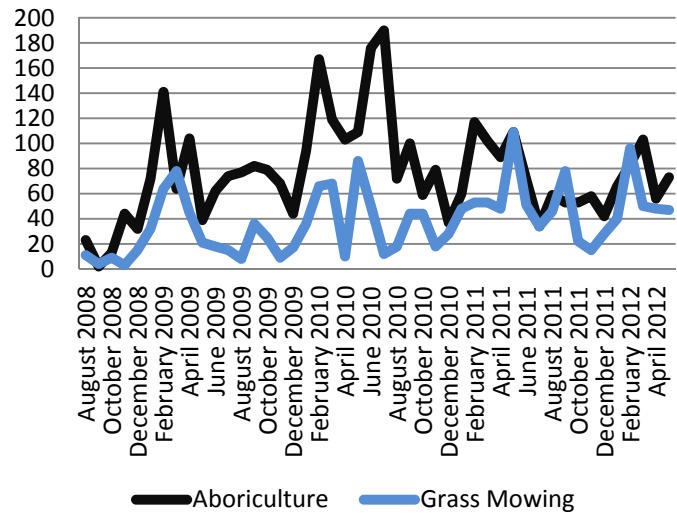


- Parks Customer Requests**

Recieved Requests



Actioned Requests



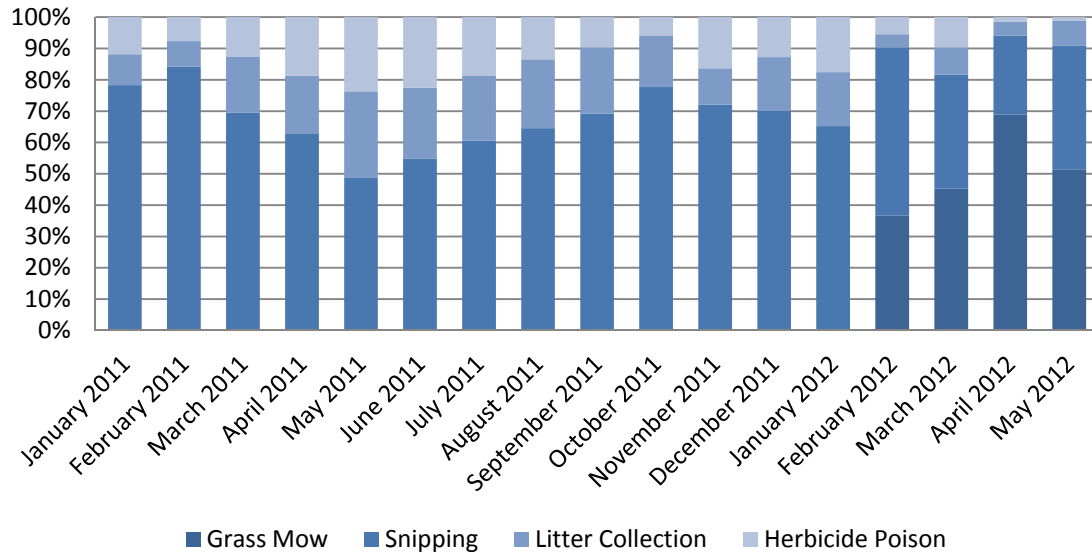
- Tree-Crew –**

	Total Trees Pruned	Council Trees Removed	Coconut Trees Denuttled	Trees Planted in Streetscapes
May 2012	316	67	40	0

- **Grass Maintenance Activities**

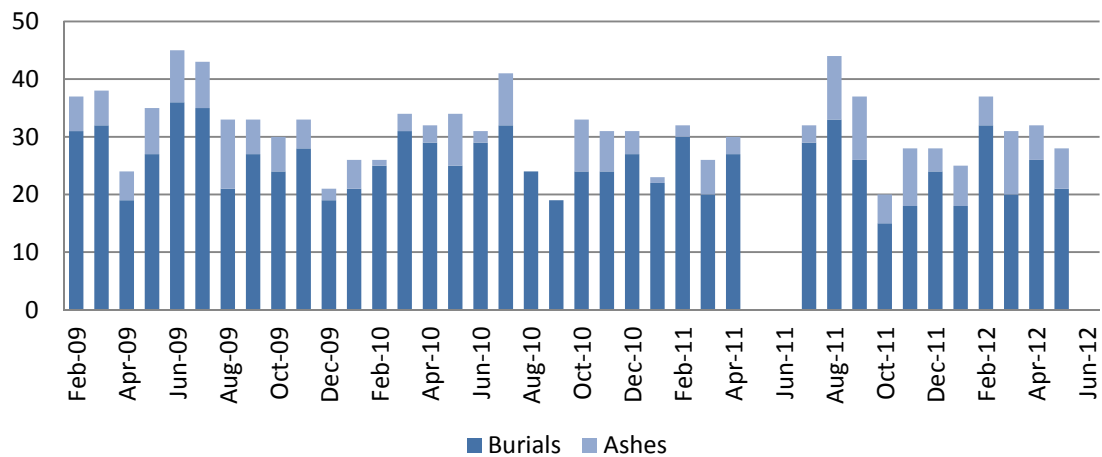
(Mackay/Western/Southern) – 300 mowing hours recorded, 230 hours whipper-snipping edges and difficult to mow areas, 46 hours litter collecting and 6 hours poisoning.

Parks Maintenance Activities



- **Cemeteries**

Burials/ Ashes in Mackay Region



- **Natural Environment and Marine Beach Activities**

Volunteer activities:

Conservation Volunteers Australia

- Worked for one day at Bucasia Beach undertaking weed control at a new revegetation site. Targets included lantana and pink periwinkle.
- 4 days were spent working at Sandfly Creek Environmental Reserve, planting 100 native seedlings and undertaking weed control activities.
- 4 days were spent undertaking weed control and fire prevention work at Bucasia and Blacks Beach.

Community activities

- A Coasts and Communities activity was held at Bucasia Beach on Saturday 19th May. Volunteers undertook weed control and maintenance at the community planting site.



Volunteers at Bucasia Beach helped maintain the planting site (and found a range of interesting critters).

- A very successful afternoon activity was held at Eimeo on Saturday 19th May as part of the Coasts and Communities project. Our first working bee at Eimeo saw approximately 15 volunteers remove masses of mother-in-law's tongue, Yucca and other weeds, as well as bags of rubbish adjacent to Eimeo Creek.



Graham Crescent residents worked hard removing weeds and rubbish along Eimeo creek

- The Winter Calendar of Coasts and Communities Activities was developed and is due to be released in June.
 - Regular weekly activities were held at the Mackay Natural Environment Centre Nursery. The group propagates local native plants and helps maintain the centre. Two volunteers attended the centre during May.
 - Pioneer Catchment and Landcare group continued their plant propagation sessions at the MNEC site.
 - Sarina Catchment and Landcare group continued their regular weekly community nursery and volunteer program at the Sarina Nursery.
 - Friends of Morag McNicol Reserve held a working bee on Saturday 5th May.

School Activities

- One school activity was held during May with Beaconsfield State Primary School, focusing on wetland weeds.
- Two work experience students from Mackay Christian College worked with the Habitat Restoration Team.

Natural Environment Plan implementation:

Coastal priority projects

- Weed control is currently being undertaken at Keeleys Rd Wetlands, Slade Point Reserve, Ball Bay and Blacks Beach.

Committee meetings:

Local Marine Advisory Committee

- The group met on 14th May and received a presentation from Australian Maritime Safety on shipping management in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park World Heritage area.

Mackay Regional Pest Management Group

- The committee met on the 17th May.

Healthy Waterways Alliance Ecosystems think tank

- Major projects including planning for the upcoming Healthy Waterways Alliance Symposium and workshop including shortlisting the award finalists, and the review of the Water Quality Improvement Plan process.

Habitat restoration team activities:

- Various activities were undertaken at the Mackay Natural Environment Centre including erection of a shade house, small shed, concrete slab and seating. General site clean up and maintenance tasks.
- Watering revegetation at Slade Point Reserve and Blacks Beach.
- Weed control activities at Blacks Beach, Mackay Natural Environment Centre and Blue River Trail.

Marine Beach teams (Sarina and Mackay) activities:

- Weed control activities at Grass Tree Beach, Campwin Beach, Louisa Creek, Armstrongs Beach, Sarina Beach, Salonika Beach, Shoal Point and Bucasia.
- Seedling planting at Grass Tree Beach, Half Tide, Campwin Beach and Shoal Point.
- Watering revegetation at Half Tide, Sarina Beach, Grass Tree Beach and Shoal Point.
- Fencing at Armstrongs Beach, Ball Bay, Seaforth and Bucasia Beach, fencing repair at Finlaysons Point.
- Walkway maintenance at Grass Tree Beach, Armstrongs Beach, Blacks Beach and Shoal Point.
- Mulch spreading prior to planting at Shoal Point.

- Cutting and preparation of sea piles for Haliday Bay swimming enclosure.
- Inspections and minor repairs to swimming enclosures at McEwens Beach, Bucasia and Seaforth.
- Removed old sandladder/walkway at access track to beach from Nautilus Park Shoal Point and started construction of new timber ramp.

Environmental Ranger activities

- Investigation of vegetation removal at Bucasia, Eimeo and Blacks Beach.
- Investigation of trail bikes and vehicles at various locations including Slade Point Reserve, Town Beach, Far Beach, Seaforth and Finlayson's Point. Conducting regular patrols at known trouble spots. Working with trail bike retailers and trail bike clubs to provide information on where people can and can't ride trail bikes.
- Investigation of waste/greenwaste dumping at various sites including Tramontana St Park, the Gooseponds, Bucasia, Marryat St Park, Blacks Beach, Annie Wood Park, Schaeffer's Park and South's Soccer field.
- Trialling surveillance cameras at various locations where illegal activities are regularly conducted.
- Conducting regular patrols of various sites including St Helen's Camping Ground (illegal fires), Town and Far Beach (illegal motor bike riding).

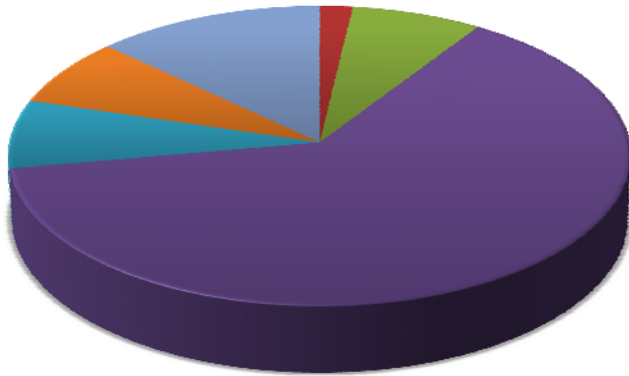
Other projects

- Pioneer Catchment and Landcare staff took the Pest Education trailer to the Farleigh Palm Fete and the BSES Field Days to provide advice and information about pest management.
- The introduced Myrtle Rust plant disease was found at the Mackay Natural Environment Centre nursery. Myrtle rust affects plants in the Myrtaceae family including Eucalypts, Melaleucas and a range of other trees and shrubs. Plants in the nursery have been quarantined for 3 months and stringent hygiene protocols have been implemented to reduce the risk of the disease spreading to natural areas.
- Several new properties joined the Land for Wildlife program, and received certificates, signs and property management plans.

- **Parks Building Services Activities**

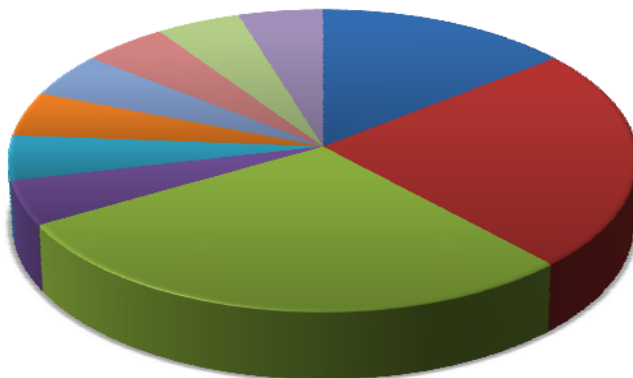
Parks Electrical Work:

Electrical Work - Traffic Signals



- May 2012 Electrical Monthly Report
- Traffic Signal Push Button Maintenance
- Traffic Signal Re-alignment
- Traffic Signal Lamp Replacement
- Traffic Signal LED unit Replacements
- Traffic Signal pole lowering
- Traffic Signal Emergency attendances

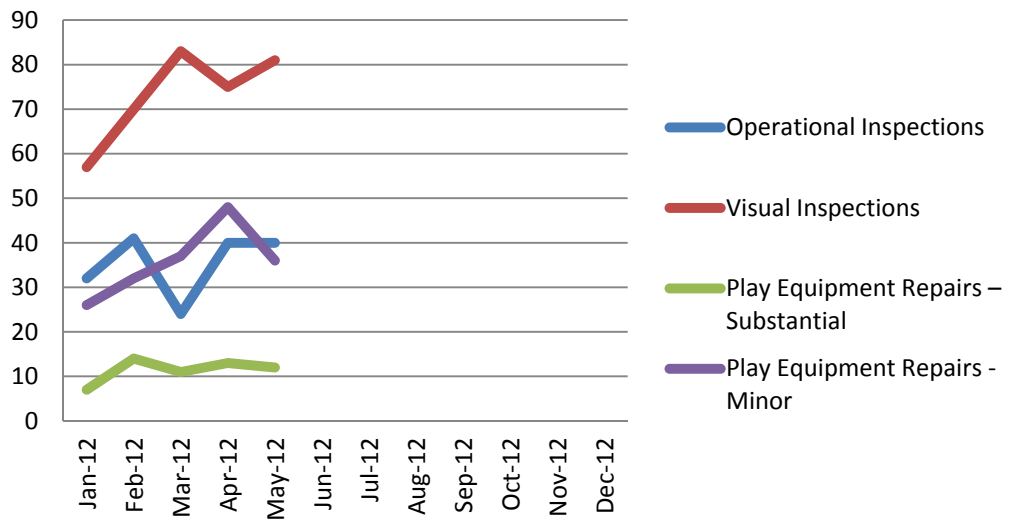
Electrical Work - Other



- Site Hut / container Disconnection
- Test and Tag Inspections
- Park Light Repairs
- Building Lighting Repairs
- Toolbox talks (Take5's)
- Building internal electrical repairs
- Building external electrical repairs
- Building external electrical installation
- Park power repairs
- Park power install

Playgrounds:

Playground Maintenance and Inspection



Some of the new components fitted to Play Equipment during May:



Built Asset Maintenance:

Public Amenities:

- Walls were repainted to cover graffiti in five amenities: Annie Wood Park, John Breen Park (three occasions) Norris Road, Illuka Park and Blacks Beach.
- A new weatherproof door was fitted to the service area of the Eimeo Esplanade amenities
- Ladder bracket fitted to St Helens amenities to ensure compliance when roof cleaning
- Doors were repaired, painted and refitted at Grasstree Beach amenities.

Park Furniture:

- Mural Panels were fitted to the picnic shelter at St Helens Esplanade following a request from the Progress Association, they will complete the murals.
- Four bench seats were repaired, repainted and replaced at Eimeo Esplanade. One picnic setting was also replaced at this location.
- Picnic Shelter at Robb Park was fully repainted.
- Work has started on painting of timber bridges and picnic facilities at Cuttersfield Park. Two bridges have been completed to date.
- Fifteen repairs to log fencing at various parks and foreshore location were completed.

Other work completed:

City Heart, Blue Water Quay and Blue River Trail:

- 11,000m² of concrete and path blown clean.
- 4,000m² of concrete and path cleaned with high pressure water blaster.
- 11 furniture repairs
- 305 Bins emptied
- 8 bins repaired
- 40 bins cleaned
- 28 umbrellas cleaned in the City Heart

Completed Capital Projects:



Caneland Park Artworks



Illawong Beach Log Fencing



Eimeo Road/ Bucasia Road Roundabout



Holts Road Roundabout

Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens -

Meadowlands:

May saw visible progress in the construction of the Meadowlands Amphitheatre at the Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens (MRBG). The dramatic steel roof trusses were installed and block work for the 'green room' were built. Drainage works were completed around the site and repairs to the weather damaged entry road was completed.



Herbarium:

Two members of the Society for Growing Australian Plants Mackay Branch (SGAP Mackay) Herbarium volunteer team attended on 31 May. They were joined by Ziggy Andersons, a Botanist and Mackay Regional Manager of an ecological and bushfire consultancy company. He was interested in the operations of the herbarium and special plants or potential projects applicable to this region that might be suitable for an Honours Degree.

Another batch of specimens were extracted from the backlog of those waiting to be sent to Brisbane. The mounted duplicates were removed and the BRI identification sheets, typed up at home, were included with each specimen, then they were packed ready for posting.

Myrtle Rust:

Myrtle Rust, a serious plant disease, was detected in Mackay – first at a private residential address and two days later at the MRBG.

Myrtle Rust is an exotic disease that infects plants in the Myrtaceae family. This family includes commonly grown Australian natives such as Paperbark, Lilly-pilly, Bottlebrush and Lemon Myrtle.

The first signs of Myrtle Rust are tiny raised purple to brown spots or pustules, usually on young actively growing leaves and shoots. After a few days, these lesions erupt producing masses of bright yellow spores. It's these brightly coloured spores that are the main identifier of the disease. Myrtle Rust produces thousands of spores - it doesn't infect people or plants outside of the Myrtaceae family but can be readily transported on the wind, by animals and by people on their skin, clothes and shoes.



Myrtle Rust spores on Beach Cherry, Cedar Bay Cherry *Eugenia reinwardtiana*.

Although the continued spread of Myrtle Rust cannot be stopped, we can limit its spread, manage its impact and carry out research to discover long-term solutions. Council's Parks & Environment Program formed an action group and has developed a procedure for Council staff that work in parks and the natural environment if they encounter the disease. The MRBG will be working with Biosecurity Queensland and Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand (BGANZ) to monitor the impact of the disease on different plant species. The disease may ultimately kill certain plants and can prevent some plants from setting flowers and seeds – limiting their ability to survive in the wild.

The MRBG has commenced a fungicide treatment regime on infected plants and some specimens have been removed to minimise the spread of the disease to rare and threatened species.

Visitor Services Program:

Exhibitions:

'Seeds Scatter Exhibition' - a collection of seed inspired artworks and photography by Maya Harrison was on display in the Lagoons Gallery from May 2 – June 3. Art, sculpture



"Sow a Seed" from the "Seeds Scatter" exhibition

and photography captured some of seed's special characteristics, their quirky natures of time travel and the beauty of their design. The display also depicted a good selection of weed seeds which appear to have some of the most effective dispersal. The display was a highly effective educational tool to spread the message of horticulture and the botanic gardens to a wider audience that patronise the Café.

Community involvement with the Gardens:

- **Mackay Tourism familiarisation tour:** Staff and volunteers will be able to promote the Gardens to visitors and travellers to Mackay and district now they have had a guided walk with both the Curator and Visitor Services Officer followed by a morning tea in the Lagoons Cafe and Gallery. A quote from Tourist Information Centre Manager; "Everyone here uses the Gardens, but truly were amazed with the detail that was exposed while on a guided walk. Congratulations for the passion that you both exude."
- **Kenaf Paddock to Paper:** Kenaf Paper makers Lysbeth and Keith Gould held papermaking workshops, demonstrations and an educational session with the Mackay Home school group over the Mother's Day weekend and following Monday May 14. Setting up adjacent to the Cafe and Gallery guaranteed lots of curious onlookers and many questions about how the papers were made from different plants and the process involved.

Plant-ed education program:

MacKillop Prep and year 1 students visited the MRBG. Despite the Shade Garden being closed because of Myrtle Rust, there were still plenty of creatures to see for the children from MacKillop School. The children learned about Life Cycles and found Praying Mantis, Crusader Bugs, Harlequin Bugs, Butterflies and Moths, Sawfly larvae and Caterpillars.



Maya Harrison with children and teachers from MacKillop School.

Garden Friends activities:

The Friends of the Gardens and the MRBG held displays at the **Palm and Cycad Fair** on May 20 at Farleigh School and a week later at the **Greenmount Heritage Fair** on May 27.



Friends display at Greenmount

At both events souvenirs were sold, ‘Creatures found in your backyard’ were on display and information was available regarding special plants in the Gardens and the latest threat to our special flora - Myrtle Rust. At the Heritage Fair we increased knowledge with the MRBG Heritage Gardens and The History of the Lagoons displays, as well as some old fashioned games to play and get children outside, including Badminton, Quoits, Croquet, elastics, hopscotch and hula hoops.



New Gardens Friends Patrick Lynch, Sheri Coke and Wayne Lynch, learning correct planting technique with Curator Dale Arvidsson.

Garden Friends received new memberships with new people even walking in after seeing the planting bee advertised. Friends joined in with planting new specimens of medicinal plants in the Ethnobotany – Medicinal Plants Garden and adjacent gardens on May 12. Over 200 plants were added to the Living Collection.

Other Events and Functions:

On the May 24 we celebrated that the MRBG is now 9 years old and Mackay Regional Council Mayor Cr Deidre Comerford joined staff and Gardens Friends in cutting the birthday cake. Cr Comerford praised the small and dedicated staff team, the Friends of the Gardens and especially the members of the SGAP group for their tenacity in pushing to have the MRBG.



Team Leader Ross Demuth, Curator Dale Arvidsson, Mayor of Mackay Regional Council Cr Deidre Comerford and President of the Gardens Friends Bill McWhinney cut the cake.

- 14 meeting room bookings occurred – consisting of 4 Council bookings, 8 Community group bookings and 2 private meetings.
- 5 weddings and 1 reception occurred within the MRBG and at the Cafe & Restaurant at the Lagoons.
- 2 fitness groups utilise the MRBG twice per day, 6 days per week
- Every Tuesday there is meditation with Falun Dafa.
- Festival of Arts launch, Mothers Day Classic Walk & the Keep Fit Association Walk

Restaurant & Cafe at the Lagoons: 3113 customers patronised the facility in May.

Website:

Website stats for May at www.mackayregionalbotanicgardens.com.au: Visits: 1,237, Unique Visitors: 1,047, Pageviews: 3,512, Pages / Visit: 2.84 Pages / Visit: 2.84 / Avg. Visit Duration: 00:01:54

Enewsletter subscribers: 588 (Last month: 571)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

BOM Weather / Riveralert Warnings Received

Only one (1) BOM Warning Advices was received:

- One (1) No Threat Tsunami Advices
- Nil (0) Severe Weather Alerts
- Nil (0) Severe Thunderstorm Advices

Community Education

The Emergency Management Section continues to support and promote community disaster awareness education, community preparedness and resilience for disaster events.

Disaster Coordination Centre

The Disaster Coordination Centre remains in a state of readiness.

As part of a the District Desktop Training Exercise “Toxic Plume” both the primary (Sir Albert Abbott Administration Building) and current alternate disaster coordination centres (The Space and Water Treatment Works) were within a exclusion zone for the exercise.

In a pre-emptive move the Gordon White Library was inspected by Emergency Management staff for possible use as an Alternate Disaster Coordination Centre should the current facilities be comprised and not able to be used.

The library site was found to be very conducive to the operations of a centre and some minor works are being undertaken to enable the Guardian Disaster Management System to be fully utilized.

A centre layout for the site is being developed as a part of the Disaster Coordination Centre Operational Plan.

Emergency Management Website

The Emergency Management website is currently undergoing a major facelift to allow content to be more accessible and user friendly. It is envisaged to have the new web pages completed by the end of August 2012.

Review of Queensland Flood Commission of Inquiry Recommendations

The Final Report for the Queensland Flood Commission of Inquiry (QFCI) was released on the 16th March 2012.

The final recommendations have been reviewed by staff and a presentation has been prepared for the next Mackay Local Disaster Management Group Meeting on the 16th July 2012.

Mackay Local Disaster Management Group

The Mackay Local Disaster Management Group last met on the 5th March 2012.

The next scheduled meeting is now the 16th July 2012.

Meetings and Conferences

- Attendance at the community consultation meeting for Community Emergency Liaison Officers at Seaforth on 1st May 2012.
- Attendance at the meeting with the Department of Communities to discuss the Disaster Recovery and Outreach Process and what are expectations of Council and the Department on the 3rd May 2012.
- Attendance at the Mackay District Disaster Management Group Meeting on 17th May 2012.
- Participated in the Mackay District Disaster Management Group's Desktop Exercise "Toxic Plume" on 17th May 2012.

Operations

Emergency Management staff maintained a watching brief on weather conditions.

Planning

Mackay Local Disaster Management Plan and Operational Plans

The Mackay Local Disaster Management Plan (MLDMP) was formally approved by the Council on 14th December 2011 and a copy of the MLDMP can be found on council's website.

Work and revision of a number of Operational Plans continues. Some Operational Plans will require major changes due to new guidelines being released.

A revised LDMG Contacts List has been circulated to LDMG members, the District Disaster Coordinator (DDC) and the Executive Officer (XO) of the Mackay District Disaster Management Group (MDDMG) following the confirmation of Elected Councillor Representatives on the Group.

Projects / Mitigation Strategies

A number of Projects and Mitigation Strategies are currently being either assessed or undertaken.

Storm Surge Study

Tropical Cyclone Storm Surge and Wave Impact Project has been funded under the Natural Disaster Resilience Program being undertaken by the Planning and Development Program to meet the requirements of the Coastal Planning Guidelines.

The project was set for completion by May 2012, however there have been some delays with the draft report (without mapping) only being received in early June 2012. Mapping is expected by the end of June 2012.

Pioneer River and Gooseponds Flood Studies

The flood studies are being undertaken by Planning and Development Program.

The Draft Pioneer River Flood Study has been received by Council and a review is currently being undertaken. A report is expected to be presented to Council in July 2012 before public release for community feedback.

The Draft Gooseponds Flood Study was received on 27th February 2012 and is currently under review. A report is expected to be presented to Council in conjunction with the Pioneer River Flood Study in July 2012 before public release for community feedback.

Rainfall/ River Height Stations

Funding approval has been received for an additional four (4) River and Rainfall Alert Stations within the various catchment areas.

Preliminary investigations into possible stations sites at Marian (Pioneer River), Sarina (Plane Creek), Rural View (McCready Creek) and Walkerston (Bakers Creek) have been undertaken.

Community Emergency (Wardens) Liaison Officers Project

A total of seven (7) expressions of interest have been received being three (3) in Eungella, two (2) in Midge Point and two (2) in Seaforth.

Letters have been forwarded to community members that have indicated they are interested in the positions.

It is expected that a meeting of all the interested community members will be undertaken in early July 2012, with training scheduled for the end of July or early August 2012.

It is expected that the three pilot areas will be operational with additional communication equipment and backup generators available before the 2012/13 storm season commences.

Training

Discussions have been held with EMQ Mackay to schedule Local Disaster Management Group Required Training for LDMG members in accordance with the new *Queensland Disaster Management Training Framework*.

Training Exercise – “Toxic Plume”

The Mackay District Disaster Management Group recently held a desktop exercise which involved a scenario of a chemical truck accident/rollover on Nebo Rd requiring up to a 3 kilometre exclusion zone via a managed (mandatory) evacuation for a minimum period of 48 hours.

Local Disaster staff attended on behalf of the Mackay Local Disaster Management Group.

The initial scenario of up to 3 kilometres exclusion was researched prior to the exercise and it was quickly established that this incident would have a major impact on Mackay residents and a “Declaration of Disaster” was declared by the District Disaster Coordinator.

The scenario was a daytime incident (approximately 1 pm) which complicated the event by adding additional considerations that required addressing.

It was estimated that approximately 31,915 residents, 5 primary schools – approx 2,472 students, 3 high schools – approx 2,137 students, 7 childcare centres, 2 hospitals, 3 aged care centres with approx 422 residents including approx 201 high care residents, 3 retirement villages and a considerable number of CBD workers requiring evacuation.

Evacuation routes, staging areas, catering and evacuation centres were identified as a part of the exercise and a number of potential issues were identified which would require “requests for assistance” to District and State.

As the exercise commenced the exclusion zone was reduced to 2 kilometres which still would have affected some 20,000 residents.

The exercise provided an excellent opportunity to discuss the scenario with other emergency services and government agencies and a number of learnings were taken from the exercise.

The Mackay District Human Social Recovery Group intends to further expand on the exercise in their June meeting and it is intended to discuss and exercise the scenario at the meeting of the Mackay Local Disaster Management Group on the 20th August 2012.

SES Update

Local Controller

Local Controller returned from leave on the 14th of May.

Emergency Management Queensland (EMQ) Data Base change over

The State Government change over from AMS (State Volunteer Database) to VIMS (Volunteer Information Management System) has resulted in significant difficulties and information loss on a state wide basis of SES Volunteer information both personal and training.

A Significant re allocation of administrative resources is in progress by the Mackay Regional SES Unit (MRU) and will continue until June –July to meet deadlines requested by EMQ that require the individual audit of all SESMRU volunteer records. Current audit rate is approximately 2.5 volunteers per hour.

Review into MRU Capacity and Compliance

For the month of May the review focused on Workplace Health and Safety (WH&S) with several recommendations from the WH&S committee being adopted by the executive including the need for improved lighting at the Ness St Head Quarters (HQ) and a permanent safety barrier to be erected around the septic tank at the Koumala HQ.

Reporting

The MRU executive resolved to produce more accurate statistics on volunteer training and operational hours. With the recent implementation of iPads across the groups (still being rolled out) Group Leaders now have an appropriate reporting tool.

Initial trial figures from the Mackay Group show for the month of May a total of:

- 419 Hours in accredited training
- 84 hours in Community Education and Public Safety
- 26.5 Hours in Logistics
- 76 hours in non accredited training and Team building activities

TOTAL 605.5 Hours (Mackay Group Only)

This does not include course preparation or course file processing.

Training

Competency Maintenance was completed for Vertical Rescue and Flood Boat Operators in Mackay and Mirani. Safe Working at Heights was completed in Armstrong Beach.

High Risk Courses completed

Traffic Control.

Low Risk Courses completed

First Aid, General Rescue, Introduction to Incident Management.

Equipment

No new equipment was received for the month of May.

Public Safety/ Education

6th May: Traffic Control at Bullarama, Marian.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

Number of Completed Maintenance Requests Surveyed for Customer Satisfaction

Civil Operations - 115

Parks and Environment - 105

Water Services – 203

Number of Construction Projects Surveyed for Customer Satisfaction: 1

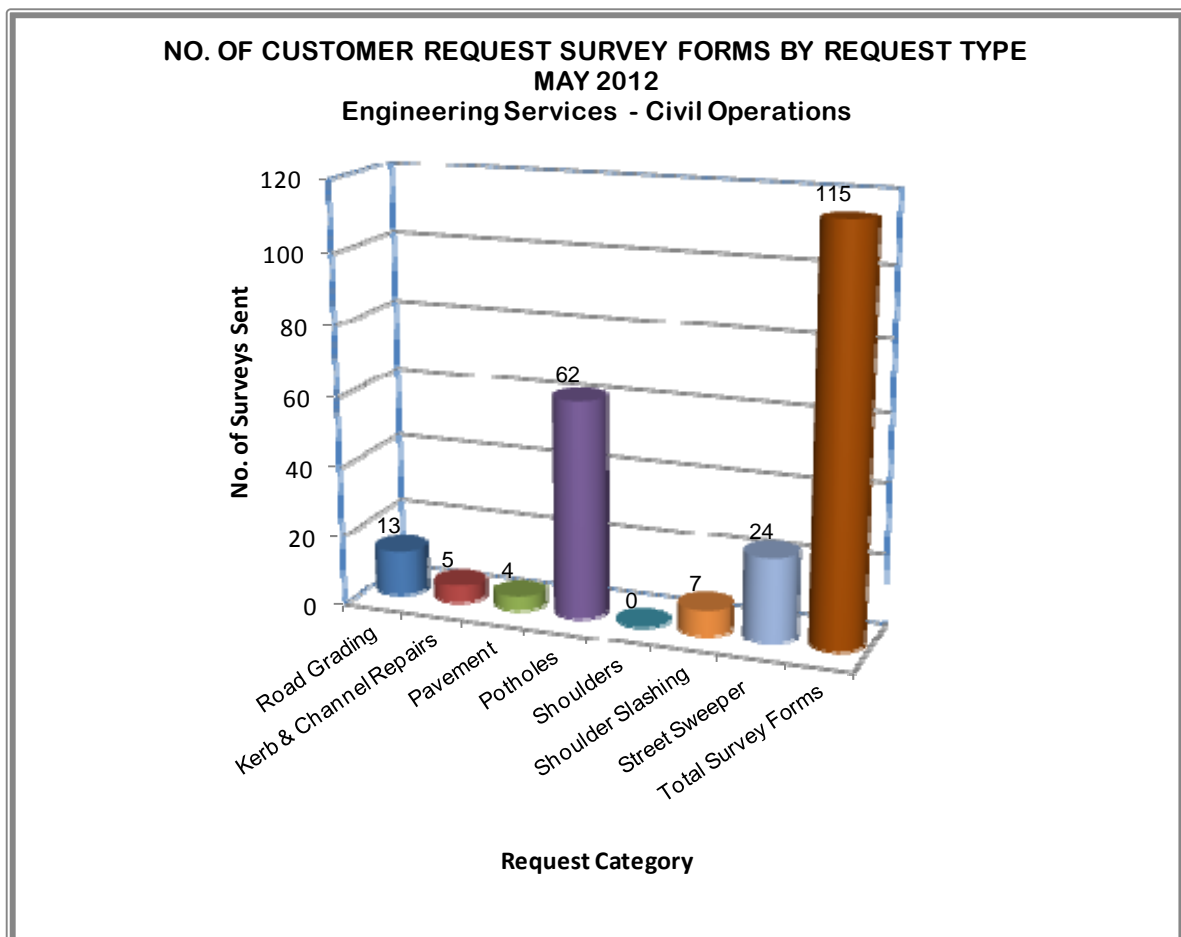
Number of Customer Satisfaction Survey Results Finalised: 0

Number of IMS Documents Reviewed and Updated: 18

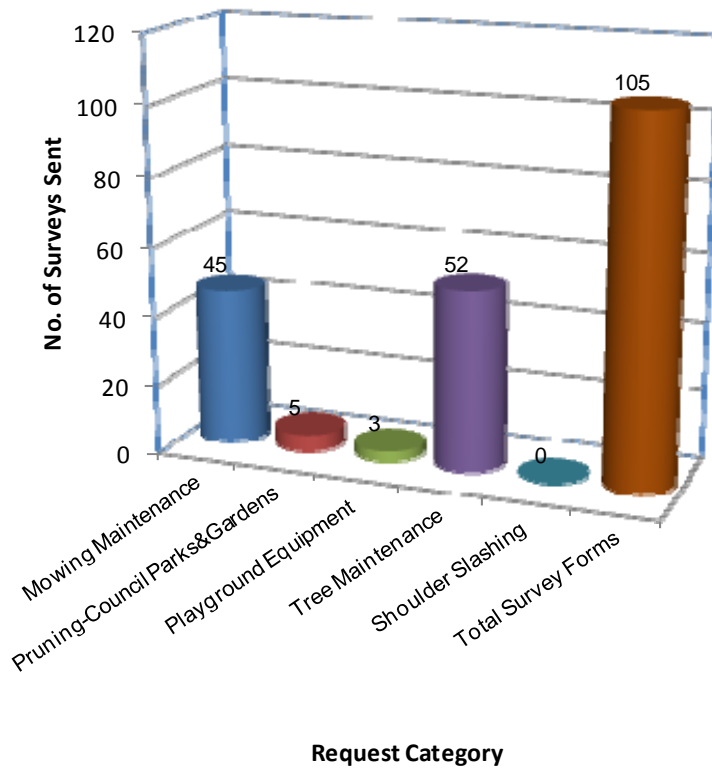
Number of New IMS Documents Commenced: 6

Number of Work Sites Visited: 8

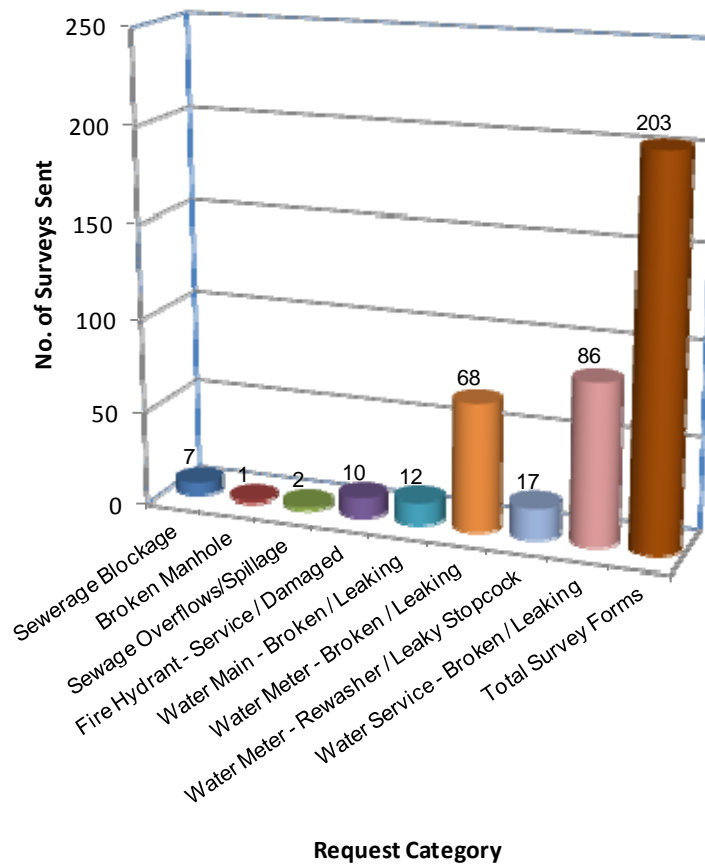
Number of Internal Quality Audits Conducted: 2



**NO. OF CUSTOMER REQUEST SURVEY FORMS BY REQUEST TYPE
MAY 2012
Engineering Services - Parks and Environment**



**NO. OF CUSTOMER REQUEST SURVEY FORMS BY REQUEST TYPE
MAY 2012
Conducted for Water and Waste Services**



Consultation

There has been consultation with Engineering Services Program Managers.

Resource Implications

Nil

Conclusion

It is evident that with the reduced rain events across the region that there has been significant activity in terms of all capital projects including NDRRA restoration road works. In addition, there has been a focus on the presentation of the region and it is a credit to the Parks and Environment and Civil Operations teams for the improved appearance of Council's areas of responsibility.

The work also being undertaken to ensure that the design component of projects is finalised well in advance has been a major focus over the past 12 months. This has enabled a more effective programming of the Council's capital works program.

Officer's Recommendation

THAT this report be received.