



Development Services

Monthly Review Report

March 2019

Executive Summary

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Safety continues to be a focus in development services with the Parks, Environment & Sustainability program achieving 12 months without any Lost Time Injuries. High standards of incident reporting and a safety culture within Development Services will be ongoing and promoted at all levels within the Department.

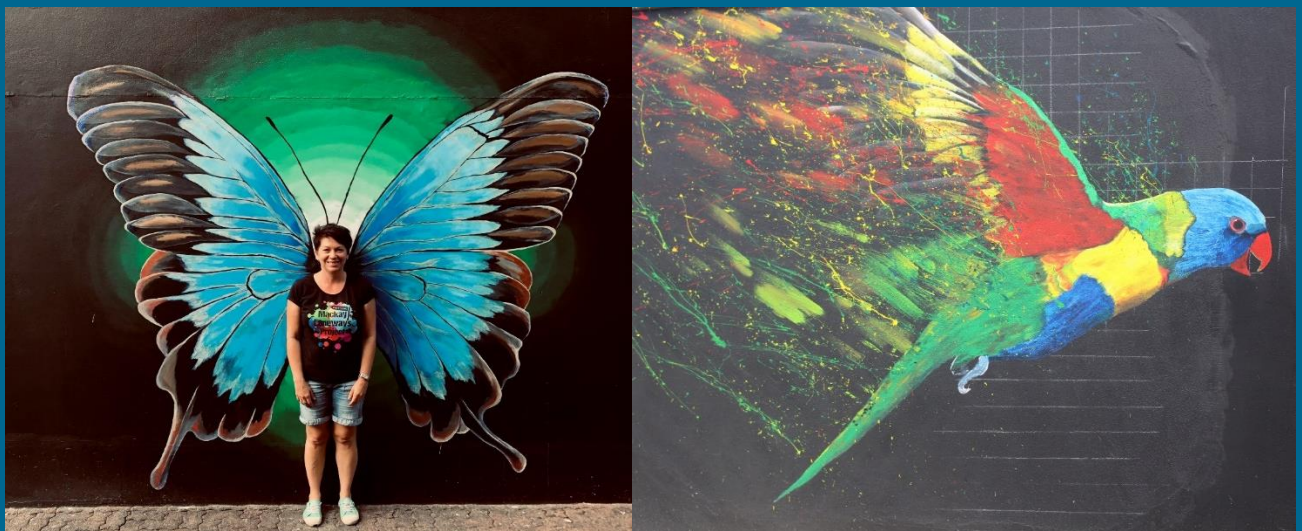
The Development Scheme for the Mackay Waterfront Priority Development Area (PDA) was endorsed by Council in March 2019 and has been submitted to the Minister for Economic Development Queensland for approval. Approval of the Development Scheme by the Minister is expected to occur by the end of May 2019. Preparation of the Mackay Waterfront master plan is nearing completion, and finalisation of the master plan will allow for public realm improvements supporting private investment in the PDA.

Council has considered and endorsed amendments to the Mackay Region Planning Scheme 2017 to facilitate Self Contained Recreational Vehicle Grounds in the Mackay Region. These amendments will now be provided to the State for consideration and approval for Council to undertake public consultation.

The Resource Centre of Excellence project is progressing well, with a request for tenders for the detailed design of the Centre issued in March. The Resource Industry Network has provided detailed input into the scope of the project, providing a 'User Requirements Review' which will inform the detailed design.



Aletta Nugent
Director Development Services



Mackay Laneways Project

Development News 03/2019

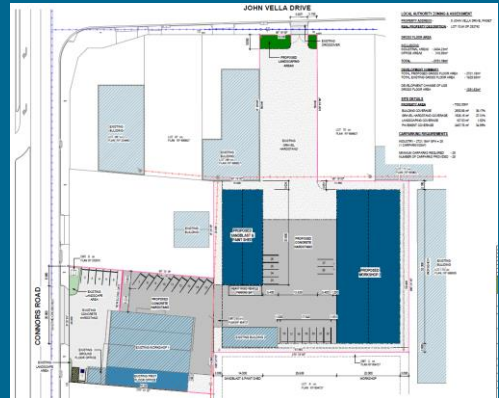
Updates on Significant Developments Currently Being Assessed by Council

APPLICATION LODGED

DA-2019-30

8 John Vella Drive, Paget

The application proposed the construction of additional buildings for a workshop and sandblasting/paint shed for the fabrication, rebuilding and refurbishment of truck bodies.



APPLICATION LODGED

OW-2019-5

41-43 Arana Drive, Rural View

BP Service Centre with proposed works to consist of roadwork, stormwater, water infrastructure, earthworks and sewerage infrastructure.

APPLICATION APPROVED

DA-2018-131

Lot 975 Eimeo Road, Rural View

The application approved the construction of 47 residential lots in two stages as Plantation Palms Stages 5A1 & 5A2.



APPLICATION APPROVED

OW-2019-2

L 602 Diesel Drive, Paget

2 lot subdivision with approved works to consist of water infrastructure and sewerage infrastructure.



Monthly Safety Review

Summary

Eleven incidents were reported in March involving MRC employees and members of the public.

Seven injuries to a MRC employee were reported in March:

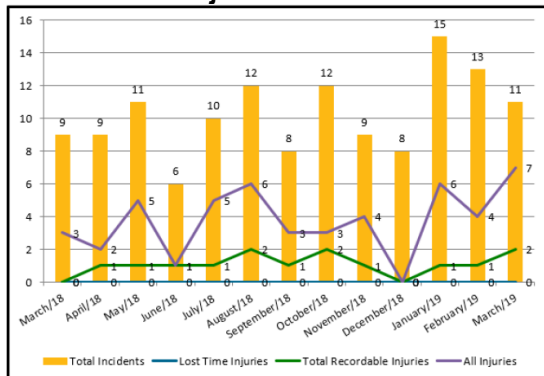
- A worker bumped forearm against pole hedger causing small cut. Hedger was not running at the time.
- A worker suffered discomfort and itching on lower leg after whipper snipping.
- A worker nicked their thumb with blade when removing zip tie.
- A worker injured their knee after pruning pandanus tree, collecting leaves and stepped into hole (covered by leaves).
- A worker felt pain in hand, noticed spider on hand while whipper snipping footpath.
- A worker suffered a minor cut to their leg while hedging small shrub.
- A worker was stung by a wasp.

Four incidents involving asset damage were reported in March:

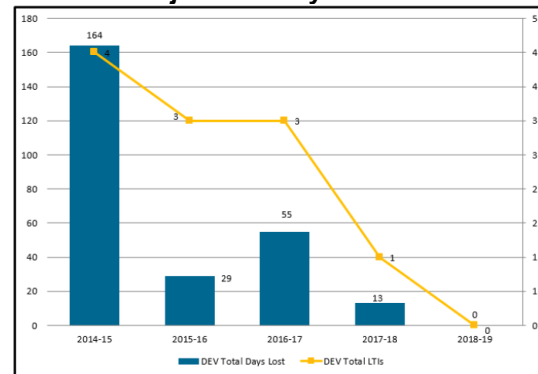
- Mowing beneath low tree branch. Roof of mower hit branch.
- Moved truck with trailer plug still connected, damaging plug.
- Driving Polaris with trailer, which struck a stump.
- Mowing underneath branches, hit and damaged flashing light.

Each incident was investigated, and appropriate corrective measures implemented to reduce future risks.

Incidents and Injuries



Lost Time Injuries & Days Lost



Department	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
	LTI	Days Lost	LTI	Days Lost	LTI	Days Lost	LTI	Days Lost	LTI	Days Lost
Development Engineering										
Development Assessment										
Parks, Environment & Sustainability	4	164	3	29	3	55	1	13	0	0
Strategic Planning										
Economic Development & Tourism										
Development Services	4	164	3	29	3	55	1	13	0	0

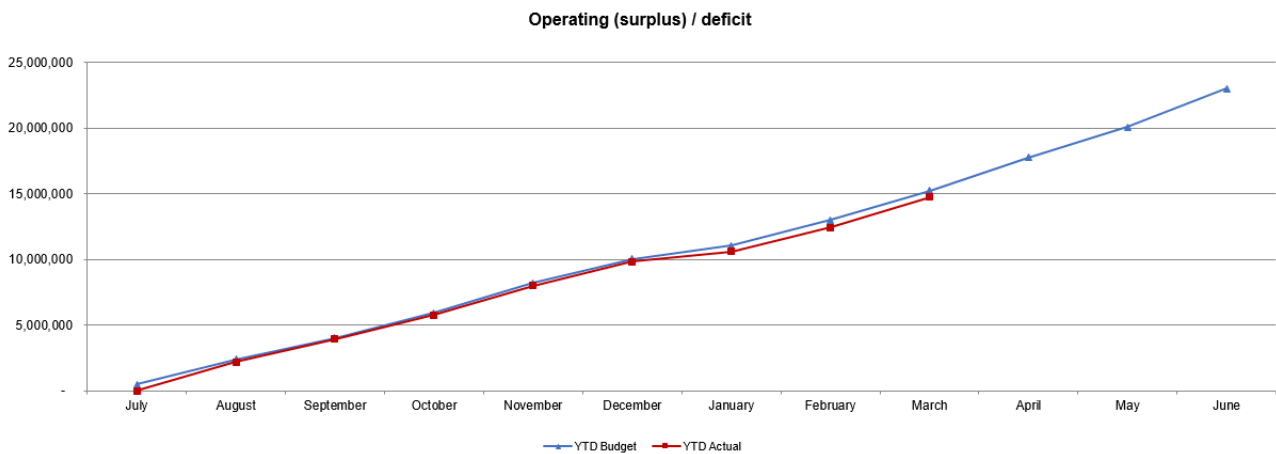
Financial Report

Vacancies within Development Services Management, Strategic Planning, Development Engineering and Parks, Environment & Sustainability in the 2018/19 financial year continue to give rise to savings for these programs, contributing to the surpluses shown below. Timing of expenditure for some Economic Development & Tourism and Strategic Planning projects is also giving rise to surpluses in these areas.

Development application numbers continue to track below projections resulting in a negative budget variance for the Development Assessment program. Despite this result, a number of approved subdivision applications continue to be progressed resulting in additional income from developer contributions in the Development Engineering and Parks, Environment & Sustainability program budgets.

Operating Results	YTD budget	YTD actual	Variance	Status
Development Services Management	295,805	228,810	(66,996)	🟢
Strategic Planning	1,109,114	884,042	(225,073)	🟢
Development Assessment	(150,601)	(63,790)	86,810	🔴
Development Engineering	138,161	24,926	(113,235)	🟢
Economic Development & Tourism	1,399,638	1,340,107	(59,530)	🟢
Parks, Environment & Sustainability	12,451,825	12,349,700	(102,125)	🟢
TOTAL OPERATIONAL	15,243,943	14,763,795	(480,148)	🟢
Legend	🟢 YTD Variance favourable of budget 🟡 YTD Variance unfavourable, between 0% and 5% of YTD Budget 🔴 YTD Variance unfavourable, more than 5% of YTD Budget			

Operating Results

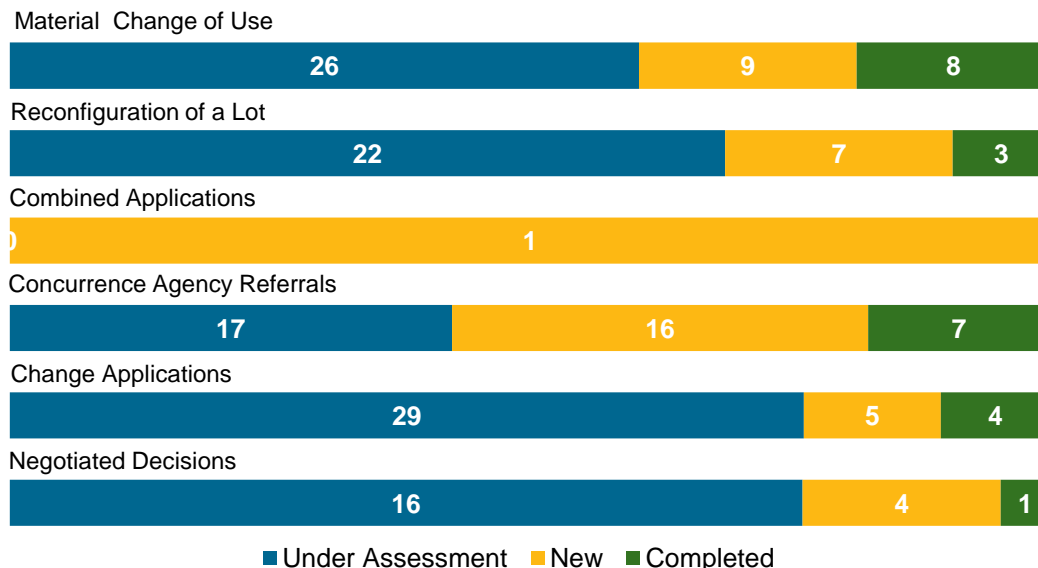


Review of Operations

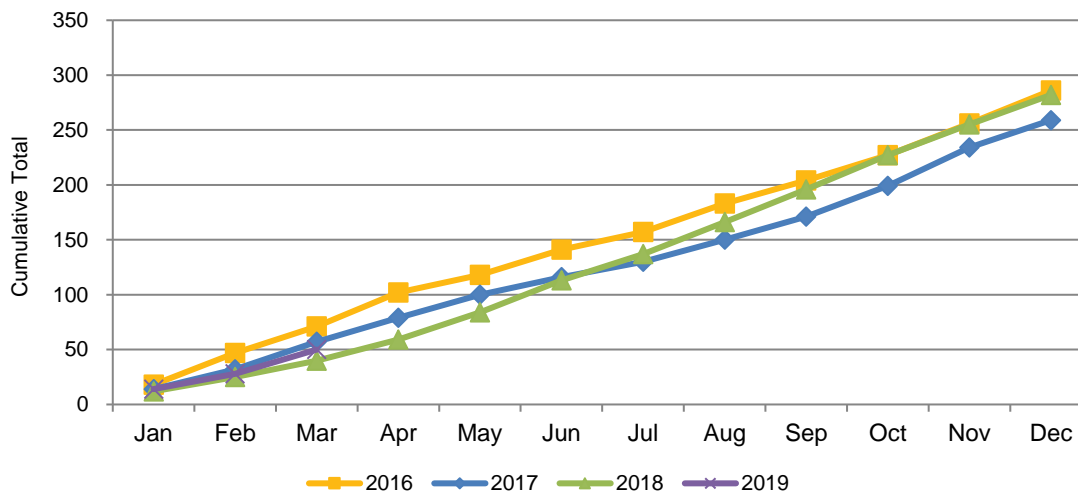
- On Track
- Potential Issue
- Definite Issue

DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT

Volume of Operations



Cumulative Number of Approved Development Assessment Applications

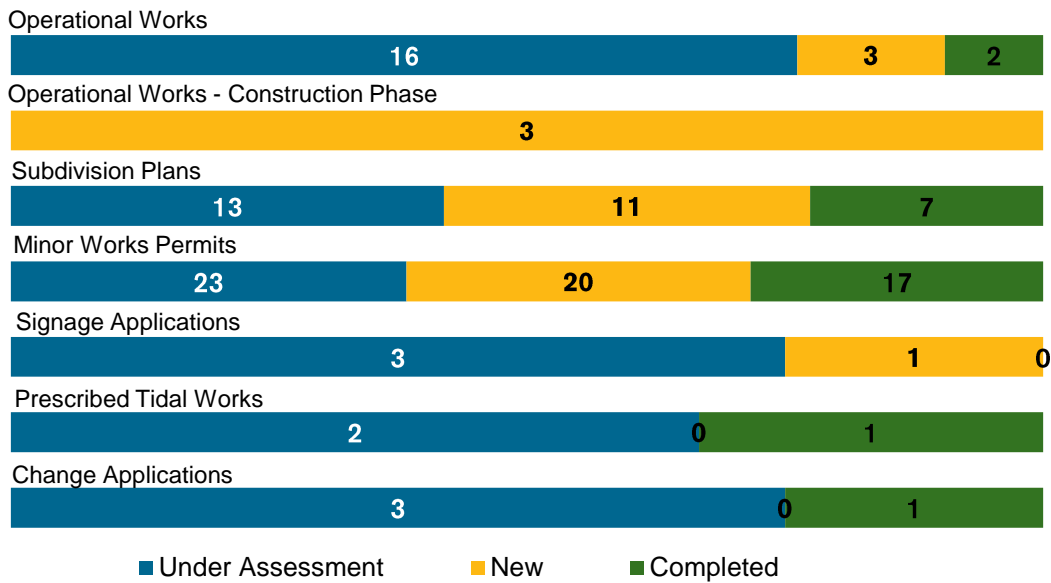


Development Assessment Performance Against Legislative Timeframes

Application	Status	% Decided
MCU Code (85% in 40 Days)	●	86% decided in 40 days.
MCU Impact (50% in 40 Days)	●	100% decided in 40 days.
ROL (85% in 40 Days)	●	100% decided in 40 days.
Concurrence Agency (85% in 10 Days)	●	57% decided in 10 days. Four of seven applications were approved in 10 days or less. Two applications were approved in 11 days.

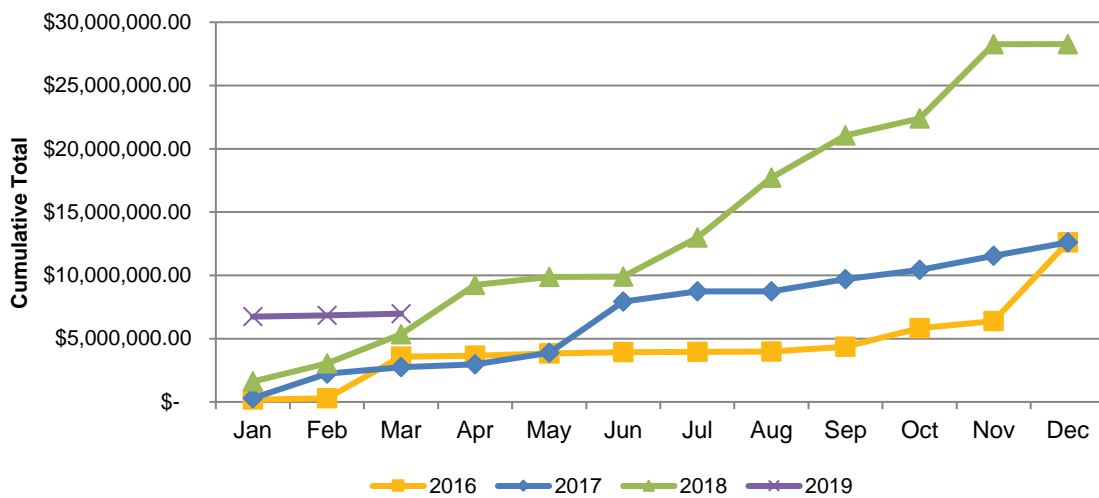
DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERING

Volume of Operations



Cumulative Value of Approved Operational Works

Two Operational Works applications were approved in March with a total value of works of \$144,045.00.



Development Engineering Performance Against Legislative Timeframes

Application	Status	% Decided
Minor Works (85% in <20 Days)	🟢	94% decided in 20 days.
Signage Applications (85% in <20 Days)	-	No Signage Applications decided.
Operational Works (85% in 40 Days)	🟢	100% decided in 40 days.
Plan Sealing (85% decided in 20 days without action notice)	🟢	100% decided in 20 days without Action Notice.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

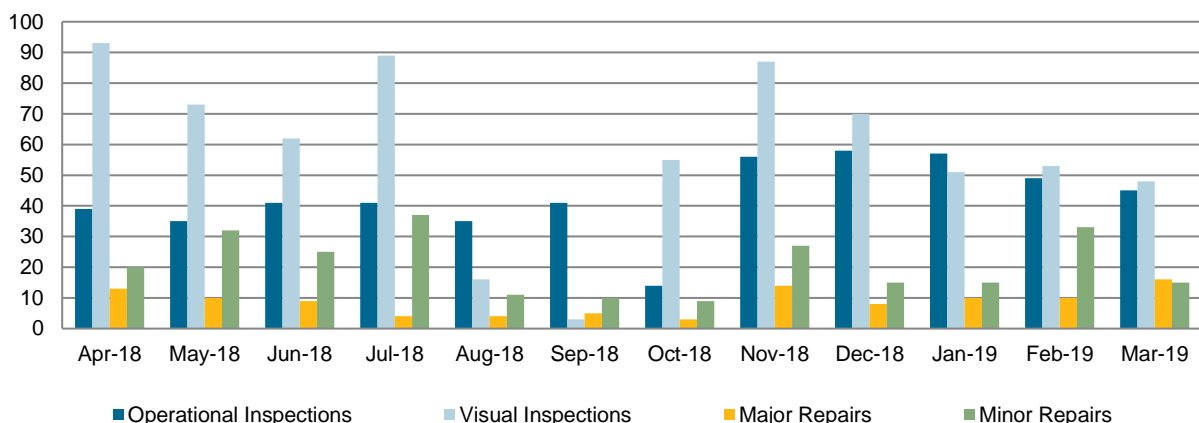
Regional and Local Area Planning		
Projects	Status	Description / Update of Project
Sarina Town Centre Revitalisation Study	●	Technical report to support the development of a business case is progressing.
Mackay Region Industrial Land Provision Study	●	Long term study to consider development and infrastructure options for industry investigation precincts in the Mackay Region Planning Scheme. Study will be ongoing in 2020.
Mackay Waterfront Priority Development Area	●	<p>The Development Scheme and PDA submissions report was endorsed by Council in March 2019 and has now been submitted to the State (DSDMIP) for approval.</p> <p>The draft of the Mackay Waterfront master plan is nearing completion and cost estimates for delivery of the public realm are being considered.</p> <p>Infrastructure and network investigation projects funded under the Queensland Government Maturing the Infrastructure Pipeline program are ongoing and the project milestones are on track.</p>
Mackay Region Planning Scheme Amendment	●	<p>The proposed amendments to the road hierarchy overlay maps (Qualified State Interest Amendment 1 of 2018) have been adopted by Council and final approval from the State will be sought prior to adoption.</p> <p>A report to commence amendments to the planning scheme related to self-contained recreational vehicle grounds (Major Amendment 1 of 2019) was endorsed by Council in February. The full amendments package was considered by Council on 27 March, for submission to the State to consider prior to undertaking public consultation.</p>
Mirani Master Plan	●	The Mirani Master Plan is now being managed by Strategic Planning, in consultation with the Property Services program. The scope is currently being finalised before issuing a request for quotation from consultants.

Transport & Infrastructure Planning		
Projects	Status	Description / Update of Project
Growth Allocation Model	●	The Growth Allocation Model allocates and maps future urban growth over a 20-year projection period based on growth scenarios. The model has been updated in 2018 based on the Queensland Government Population Projections.
Mackay Region Transport Strategy	●	Project planning has commenced with project anticipated to start in early 2019.
Transport Modelling	●	Further transport modelling will be considered as part of preparing the Mackay Region Transport Strategy.
Engineering Design Guidelines Review	●	Internal discussions are occurring in relation to the update of the Engineering Design Guidelines for Stormwater and Landscape.

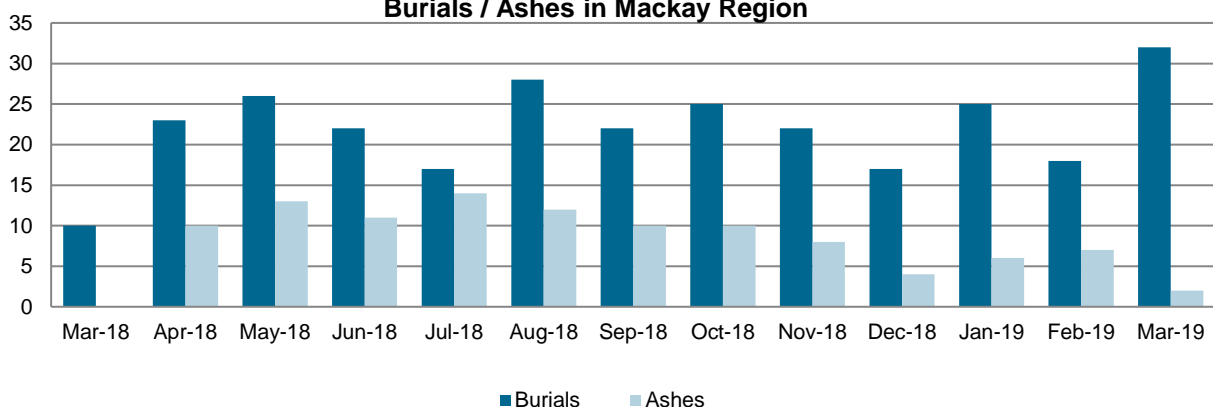
Waterways		
Projects	Status	Description / Update of Project
Mackay Region Coastal and Inland Flood Hazard Adaptation Strategy (CIFHAS)	●	The current stage is nearing completion. Funding for the next phases (5-8) under the QCoast2100 was unsuccessful and the actions will be revised to be considered as part of Council's budget process.
Mackay Floodplain Management Plan	●	The Flood Study has been completed and the Plan is in draft format with Mitigation options identified and tested. A briefing to Council was held on 27 March. The draft documents are being considered internally.
Bakers Creek South Mackay Stormwater Trunk Infrastructure Study	●	Complete – Council adopted the study on 13 March and the planning scheme amendment processes commenced.
Flood Studies for Tropical Cyclone Debbie affected communities	●	Engineering consultants have commenced work on the project which is expected to be complete mid-2019. Community engagement was launched at the end of March and engagement workshops will commence in May.
Engineering Design Guidelines – Stormwater	●	The focus has been on stormwater quantity (lawful point of discharge legal advice) and quality (latest requirements from the State on off-site management and objectives). The Landscape Guideline is also being revised.

PARKS, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

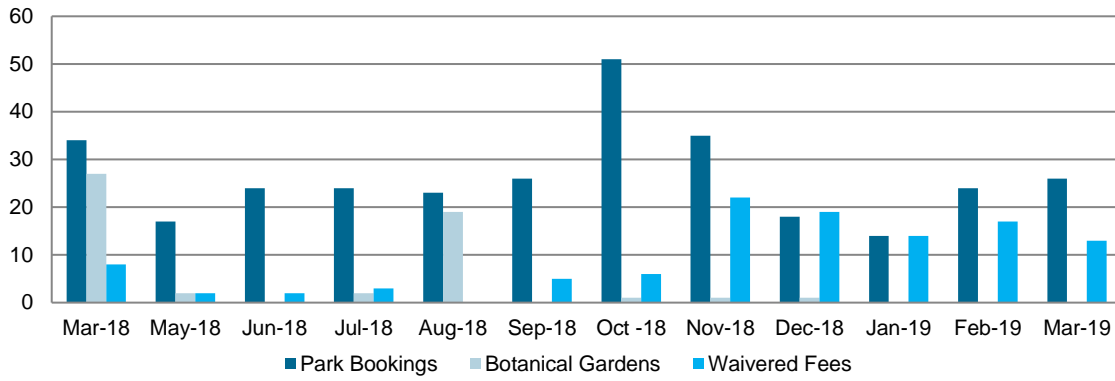
Play Equipment Inspection and Maintenance



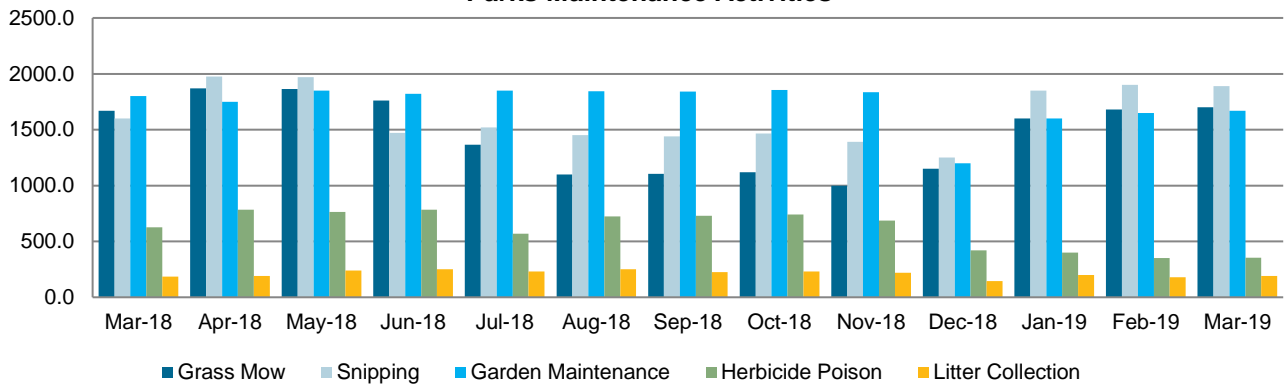
Burials / Ashes in Mackay Region



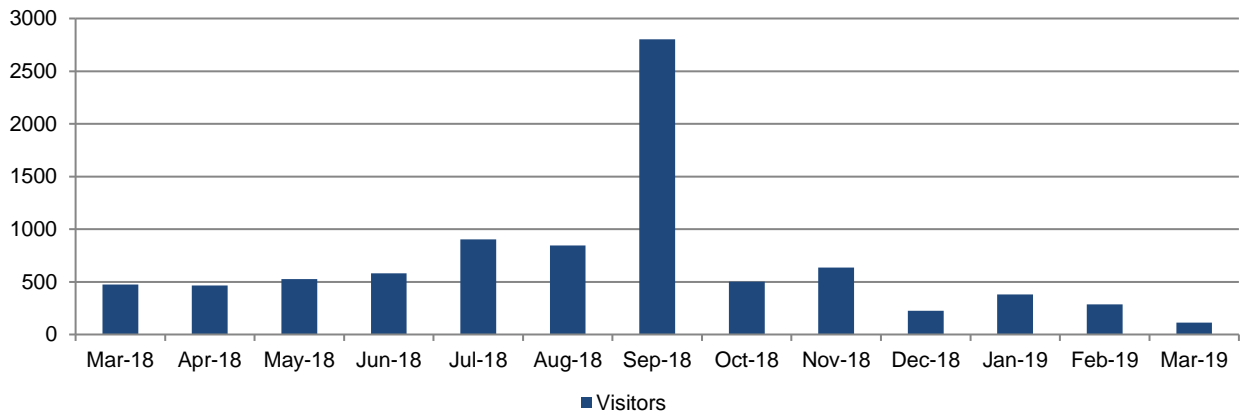
Park Bookings



Parks Maintenance Activities



Orchid House Visitors



Natural Environment Projects		
Project	Status	Description / Update of Project
Campwin Beach access	★	Beach access CAM07 has been replaced with a new set of stairs, providing much improved access at this location.
Excursions	★	Students from Goodstart Kindergarten attended an excursion at the Mackay Natural Environment Centre.
Wetland information	★	Information was supplied on the significant wetlands in our region to the Queensland Wetlands Program. Staff accompanied a photographer from Queensland Museum who was in the region taking photos for a hardcover coffee table book, an online resource and a pdf which are currently being developed.
Eungella Hall planting	★	150 trees from Mackay Natural Environment Centre Nursery were planted by school students and the community at Eungella Hall.
Tilapia fishing competition	★	Work is underway to support the Tilapia fishing competition on Saturday, 13 April at the Gooseponds. This event will raise awareness about pest fish in the region and will be a fun morning for families.

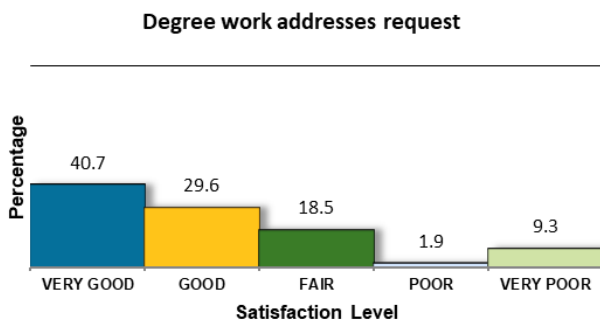
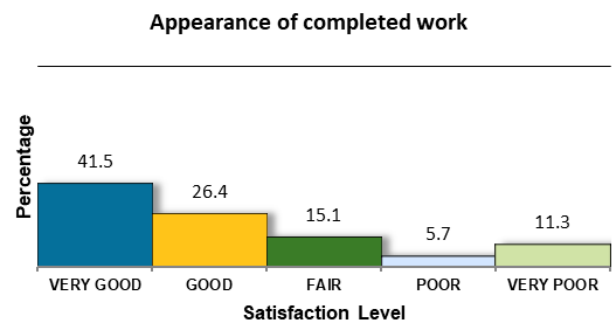
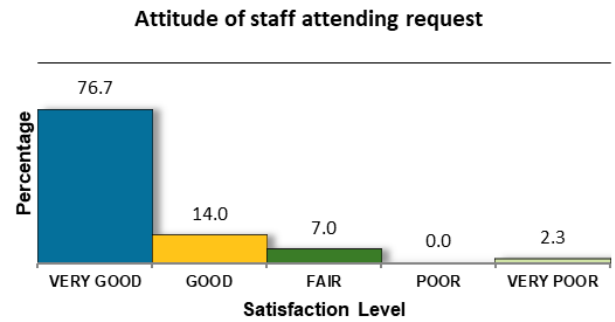
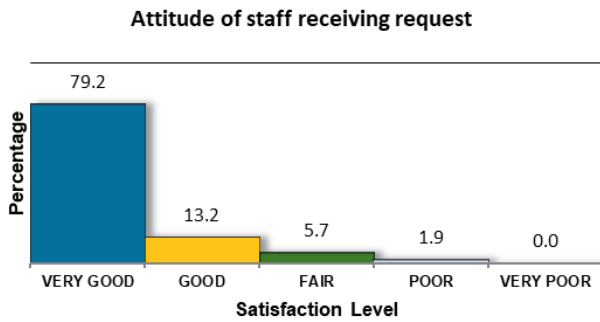
Capital Works Projects		
Project	Status	Description / Update of Project
W4Q Barber Drive Park Upgrade	★	The park upgrade involves paths and steps through the park connecting Barber Drive with Chapman Court. A play equipment area, picnic shelter, retaining walls, fencing, garden beds and tree planting will also be constructed to complete the upgrade. Stage one works, involving concrete path, play area and picnic shelter to the lower section of the park, are well advanced. Stage two works, involving steps, garden beds and retaining walls, will commence on the fifteenth of April.
Barbour Park Fence Replacement	★	Aged and deteriorated link mesh fencing along the boundary of the old soccer grounds at Barbour Park has been removed and replaced. Project is now complete.
George Moore Park play equipment replacement.	★	Replacement of the aged play with a new tree house type combo has been completed. Additional works involving installation of a drinking fountain, seating and planting of additional shade trees has also been completed. The site was tidied up and the playground reopened to the public on Friday. 8 March.

Botanic Gardens Projects		
Project	Status	Description / Update of Project
Carpark Upgrades	★	Cremorne upgrades have commenced. Surface treatment completed. New pavers have been laid in the old tree beds extending the number of car parking spaces available.
Shade Sail Replacement	★	Shade sails delivered and installed. Project completed.
Signage Upgrades	★	Design manual nearing completion. Aurecon prepared the Geotech results with a new footing design for the wharf logs to enable building certification post construction. Construction pending.

Requests for Maintenance Work

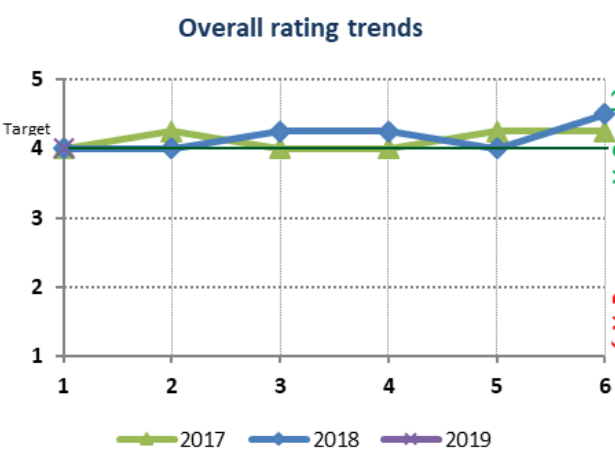
Results are reported bi-monthly

Results of Customer Survey (January / February 2019)








Representative Comments Trends

- Before the men started pruning and cutting, they made a courtesy call to say that they are doing the work.
- I call one day and the following day the tree and branches are cut.
- Over 2 weeks from request date.
- Professionally executed and completed.
- Left the gutter full of grass clipping which when it rained then blocked the drains which I then had to clean out.
- The ground is filled up perfect.
- Fair. However, part of the street has been mowed again, but our main section has not been done.
- Attended the issue that day and secured the hazard directly.
- Job only partially completed.
- Great work really appreciated.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

Events and Tourism Raise awareness of the Mackay region as a tourism destination, increasing the destination appeal, extended and return visitation		
Business Priority	Status	Update of Project
Attract events which bring economic benefit to the Mackay region		<p>Regional Events Strategy A tender to engage an external consultant was issued on 21 March, with the tender due to close on 9 April. A consultant is expected to be engaged by April, with the strategy completion due by September.</p> <p>Invest Mackay Events and Conference Attraction Program Events / conferences held in March Two events / conferences were held in March:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NRL Trial Match - Cowboys VS Storm • AFL GC Suns Men's JLT Series Game <p>Events / conferences approved in March: Ten new events / conferences were approved through the program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confidential Conference • Queensland Public Library Association Conference • 2020 Rotary Emerging Convention • Red Hat Society Meet & Greet • Beach Motorcycle Races • Transmoto 8-Hour • Souths Suburban's Partnership - Multi-Disability Nationals • Souths Suburban's Partnership - Multi-Disability State • Variety Bash • Confidential Event
Identify new tourism experiences and business opportunities in conjunction with Mackay Tourism Ltd and existing tourism providers.		<p>Tourist Drive Signage Two Tourist Drives, Hibiscus Coast and Pioneer Valley, have been identified for installation of tourist guiding road signage. The project will add value to Mackay's growing tourism reputation and importantly, support regional dispersal which is key to growing overnight visitor expenditure. A detailed audit by the appointed contractor for manufacturing and installation of the signage is currently being assessed.</p>
Promotion of the Mackay Region tourism brand		<p>Recreational Vehicle Attraction Council's Strategic Planning Program are progressing amendments to the Mackay Region Planning Scheme to reflect the findings of the Camping Choices Regulatory Review. Economic Development is providing assistance and will be involved in the public consultation processes related to these amendments.</p>



Industry Development and Support To facilitate collaboration and growth opportunities within and across industry sectors including resources, agriculture, health and tourism.		
Business Priority	Status	Update of Project
Maintain strong partnerships through communication networks with key industry and regional development stakeholders		<p>Business Beacon The launch date for the Mackay Business Beacon is 27 May 2019, which coincides with Queensland Small Business Week (27-31 May). The Business Beacon will allow local organisations to share business events and, in doing so, contribute to cross sector and regional collaboration.</p> <p>International Trade Network The bi-monthly meeting of the International Trade Network was held in March. A presentation was provided by Trade and Investment Queensland, a local business and Resource Industry Network (RIN). RIN is currently calling for submissions from regional businesses to participate in a series of international industry showcases in 2019 including AIMEX, Austmine, IMARC and WA Mining Exhibition and Conference.</p>
Identify and support delivery of industry sector priorities		<p>Resource Centre of Excellence The tender for detailed design has been awarded with project inception scheduled for early April. At the request of Council, Resource Industry Network has also submitted a 'User Requirements Review' which will inform the detailed design process. A Steering Committee meeting was held with representatives from the State Government, Resource Industry Network and Council in March.</p> <p>Economic Development Strategy 2020-2025 The Economic Development Strategy 2020-2025 is currently out for tender and will close on 12 April 2019. Strategy inception is schedule for early May.</p> <p>Greater Whitsunday Food Network With the support of Economic Development, the Greater Whitsunday Food Network applied to the Local Buying Foundation for the Food and Agritourism Development Project. The project will assist the Network to facilitate business skills training, agritourism initiatives, and brand development activities. Network members are currently developing four agritourism tours within the region and the media launch will be held in April.</p> <p>Finch Hatton Art Trail Economic Development is currently assisting Finch Hatton Progress Association in evaluation and activation of the 'Finch Hatton Art Trail' concept, developed to refresh the streetscape of the township of Finch Hatton, showcase local art and highlight the natural beauty of the Pioneer Valley. The progress association is currently sourcing quotes and funding application for several activations including an art installation as entry statement to the township. As part of this project, painting of the Finch Hatton Flood Wall has been completed by Mackay Regional Council, artworks shall be installed once funding has been secured by the progress association.</p>

<p>Support industry sectors to access international markets in accordance with industry sector profile priorities.</p>	<p>✱</p>	<p>MIW METS Export Hub Grant funding of \$353,420 has been approved for the Mackay Isaac Whitsunday (MIW) Mining Equipment Technical Services (METS) Export Hub project by the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science under the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Export Hubs grants program. The funding represents 50% of project costs, resulting in a total investment of \$706,840, over the next three years.</p> <p>The application for funding was lodged by GW3, on behalf of the MIW International Trade Network which is made up of Greater Whitsunday Alliance, Resource Industry Network, MIW Regional Development Australia (RDA), Trade and Investment Queensland and Mackay Regional Council.</p> <p>Study Greater Whitsunday Study Greater Whitsunday received funding from Study Queensland to undertake a Regional Brand Activation project. The project commenced in March 2019 and included a Destination Management strategy session with Shannon Willoughby (Executive Director, Study Queensland), and a brand development workshop with Edified Education. The project will identify and refine key selling propositions and messaging for Study Greater Whitsunday.</p> <p>Trade and Investment Queensland Workshops Trade and Investment Queensland is running a series of business workshops for small to medium-sized businesses in regional Queensland looking to explore and grow their export markets. The first workshop provided an overview on how businesses can attract funding for export growth.</p>
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Investment Attraction and Growth
To attract new businesses, facilitate investment and support existing businesses to realise growth opportunities

Business Priority	Status	Update of Project
<p>Support and facilitate investment in emerging industries and opportunities for diversification</p>	<p>✱</p>	<p>TEDx Economic Development is sponsoring the upcoming TEDx session at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre on 5 April 2019. The theme of the event is “Evolve Beyond” and will include Dave Conway, Dr Elissa Hatherly, Nikki Giles and Derek O’Connell as guest speakers.</p> <p>Split Spaces Mackay Economic Development have been in contact with the newly appointed Community Manager of Split Spaces with a meeting scheduled for April.</p> <p>Startup Mackay Economic Development will continue to engage with Startup Mackay to discuss future partnership opportunities as requested.</p> <p>MIW Biofutures Steering Committee Mackay Regional Council is a member of the newly formed MIW Biofutures Steering Committee. The Queensland Biofutures 10-year Roadmap and Action Plan identifies Queensland agricultural regions as playing a key role in the growth of biofutures and the opportunity to grow bio feedstocks. The Mackay Isaac Whitsunday (MIW) region has a range of heritage crops and emerging industrial biotechnologies and bioproducts.</p> <p>The Committee will agree on and deliver MIW biofutures priority actions to position the region for biofutures opportunities.</p>

<p>Support business growth and investment opportunities through the implementation of strategies such as the Mountain Bike Strategy, Recreational Fishing Strategy and Recreational Vehicle attraction.</p>	<p>★</p>	<p>Recreational Fishing Strategy Economic Development is delivering an action plan linked to the \$100,000 State funding for implementation of the Mackay Region Recreational Fishing Strategy.</p> <p>A large focus of the action plan is delivering marketing initiatives which support the promotion and awareness of the Mackay Region as a fishing destination. Past and current initiatives have been predominately focused on growing local awareness and pride before initiatives will be more heavily targeted at the broader state market.</p> <p>A 6-month marketing campaign commenced in the Queensland Fish and Boat magazine. The campaign will feature Mackay region's fishing opportunities and will run till October.</p> <p>Further actions currently being delivered include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a fishing guide promoting the freshwater fishing opportunities in the region's impoundments and creeks and the Kinchant Dam Habitat Enhancement Project. • Promotion of the Voluntary Code of Practice for the Net Free Zone. • Delivery of the 'Hooked on Mackay' Facebook Page. • Development of welcome and interactive signage at boat ramps in the net free zone. <p>Mountain Bike Strategy The draft Mountain Bike Strategy was adopted by Council on 13 February. The delivery of a Feasibility/Business Case to further investigate the Eungella-Finch Hatton Mountain Bike Park is currently underway. Consultants will be conducting on-site investigations around Eungella and Finch Hatton in April.</p>
<p>Proactive targeting and attracting business to the Mackay region.</p>	<p>★</p>	<p>Facilitating Development in Mackay Region Policy An information brochure is being developed to detail the incentives and benefits of the individual schedules of the Facilitating Development Policy. The brochure will be used as marketing collateral at the Planning Institute of Australia Planning Congress on the Gold Coast in May.</p> <p>An overview of current applications under the Policy is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twelve Expression of Interest applications are currently under assessment. • Five applications have progressed through the Expression of Interest assessment stage; however, Stage 2 application have not yet been submitted. • Two Stage 2 application are currently under review.
<p>Explore opportunities for growth and development and facilitate investment opportunities</p>	<p>★</p>	<p>Economic Development's First Point of Contact service assisted with five development enquiries.</p>

Liveability To support and promote a vibrant, sustainable and affordable community which encourages people to live, work and play in the Mackay region.		
Business Priority	Status	Update of Project
Activate regional localities to achieve social, economic and environmental potential		<p>Activate My Place (AMP) Program The Activate My Place (AMP) program offers grants to individuals and/or organisations to deliver projects that enhance the amenity, activity and appearance of a place or locality. The four successful funding recipients from Round 1 of the program received approval in May 2018.</p> <p>Economic Development continues to work with these successful applicants to progress their projects and assist where required. The first successful project under the program, River Beats, commenced in September at the Twilight Markets. Another successful application, the installation of murals and artwork in Fifth Lane, Mackay commenced in February, however delays have been experienced due to wet weather.</p> <p>On 3 May the Mackay Hospital Foundation will conduct their AMP event, Cinema under the stars.</p> <p>The implementation of future initiatives under the Activate My Place program is currently being investigated.</p> <p>Mackay Pride Façade Improvement Scheme Expressions of interest opened on 1 July 2019 and are currently being assessed as received. Two applications have been funded in 18/19.</p> <p>During the month of March advertisements were placed in the Daily Mercury and on Council's Facebook page. Since the additional promotion four businesses have contacted Council and have indicated their intentions of applying.</p>
Activate Mackay City Centre		<p>Business Engagement Work has continued on the potential options and costings on the for the Renew Newcastle model for filling vacant spaces and how it could be implemented in Mackay City Centre. Potential opportunities for the project will be discussed at the Regional Economy Working Group meeting on 26 April.</p> <p>Dining Guide Design work is progressing for a new look 2019 Dinning Guide to replace the 2018 Flavours of the World publication.</p> <p>Mackay Laneway Project – Fifth Lane The Fifth Lane project is progressing with the completion of a Rainbow Lorikeet and Ulysses Butterfly. Planning is underway for a temporary studio space in Wood Street to enable workshops with the community to take place.</p> <p>Easter School Holidays Program Details are being confirmed for the Active Kids Easter School Holidays Program and planning is underway for a Mackay Laneways Street Art Project.</p> <p>The maintenance and waste management issues in Fifth Lane are continuing to be addressed with business owners and Council departments.</p>

		<p>Mackay Airport Twilight City Run Held in the City, everyone was welcomed with more than 560 runners, skaters, walkers and pram pushers turning out to complete the scenic 5km course in great running conditions on Friday evening, 1 March. \$5470 was raised for the Leukaemia Foundation.</p> <p>Mackay City Centre Façade Improvement Scheme Expressions of interest opened on 1 July 2018 and are currently being assessed as received. Four applications have been funded in 2018/19 with a further 2 applications currently approved.</p> <p>The Scheme is currently being reviewed for implementation in 2019/20.</p>
Promote the Mackay Region	★	The Economic Development Program continues to work with Mackay Tourism Ltd on opportunities to promote the Mackay Region. In April, Sarina Sugar Shed will be exhibiting at the Australian Tourism Exchange in partnership with Mackay Tourism Ltd. The program will include a mix of business appointments and networking opportunities for Australian tourism operators and international travel buyers representing over 30 countries.
Support for tertiary education	★	Economic Development continues to work with Central Queensland University and James Cook University as required. Current engagement with the tertiary education sector is focused on opportunities for the Resource Centre of Excellence and Study Greater Whitsunday projects.

Sarina Sugar Shed To manage and operate a sustainable tourism facility, which provides a range of tourism products and experiences to promote the region's heritage					
Strategy / Project	Status	Description / Update of Project			
Operate a successful tourism facility which meets its performance targets	★	Cr Karen May and Cr Fran Mann travelled to Launceston to attend the Australian Tourism Awards with Sarina Sugar Shed Coordinator, Glenys Mansfield. Sarina Sugar Shed won Silver in the Excellence in Food Tourism category.			
Business Operations (excluding accruals)		Item	Mar	YTD	Annual Target
	★	Tour Visitation (Paid)	317	8391	10,000
		Visitation (Total)	612	- *	-
		Volunteer Hours	354	- *	-
		Item	Mar	YTD	Annual Budget
	★	Ticket Sales	\$5,715	\$133,638	\$160,000
	★	Retail Sales	\$11,786	\$252,129	\$289,000
	★	Total Income (incl. Ticket income)	\$17,501	\$385,767	\$449,000
★	Total Expenses	\$58,900	\$577,654	\$755,170	

*YTD data will be available commencing 2019/20 reporting year.

Economic Indicators (Quarterly)

Indicator	Dec 18	Sep 18 [#]	Jun 18	Mar 18	Dec 17
Employment					
Unemployment rate	3.9%	3.7%	3.8%	4.3%	5%
Employed persons	65,291	66,678	65,790	65,359	64,288
Real Estate					
Median house sale	\$343,000	\$340,000	\$342,000	\$340,000	\$330,000
Res vacancy rate	1.7%	0.9%	1.9%	3.6%	3%
Residential Lot Supply					
Lots Approved	297	433	128	27	51
Lots Endorsed	52	125	74	46	27

**Data relates to the Mackay Local Government Area and is updated on a quarterly basis as it is received by Council. There is often a 3-6 month lag from the receipt of data for a previous quarter.*

#Change in calculation method adopted.

e-Statistics

Subscribers	March	February	January
City Centre Business Network	1027	1040	1040
City Centre Facebook Likes	6,244	6,195	6,142
City Centre Instagram Followers	1,269	1,265	1,252
City Centre Wifi Sessions	1,103 Users	1,161 Users	1,161 Users
	10,018 Sessions	9,414 Sessions	9,414 Sessions
Regional Focus Business Network	143	142	145
Sarina Businesses Network	167	170	170
Evans Avenue Network	61	63	62
City Centre Community	4,241	4,024	4,024
Mackay Region Joblink Analytic Report	614 Users	607 Users	599 Users
	3,375 Views	2,469 Views	3,065 Views
Sarina Field of Dreams Usage WiFi	103 Users	72 Users	93 Users
	1,056 Sessions	737 Sessions	572 Sessions
Hooked on Mackay Facebook Likes	921	842	701
Net Free Zone Voluntary Code	315	311	60

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event	Location
TBC	Cyclone Debbie Community Flood Mapping Project	Koumala, Eton, Walkerston
Every Friday, April – October	Free guided walks	Botanic Gardens
3 May 2019	Cinema Under the Stars	Mackay Base Hospital Lawn
18 May 2019	Zach Mach	Pinnacle
24 – 26 May 2019	Transmoto 8 Hour	Gum Valley Motocross Park, Koumala
18 May 2019	Italian Street Party	Mackay City Centre
1 June 2019	Botanic Gardens Day	Botanic Gardens
2 June 2019	Mackay Marina Run	Mackay Marina
8 June 2019	Whitsunday STEM Challenge	Palmyra Dragway
23 June 2019	Queensland Woman's Winter Series - Gold Coast SUNS Vs Brisbane Lions	Great Barrier Reef Arena, Harrup Park
28 June 2019	2019 Mountain Bike Australia XCO (Cross Country) National Cup Round and UCI Class 2 (C2) Event	Rowallan Park
29 June 2019	Riversessions Festival	Old Mulherin Park, Mackay Harbour
13 – 14 August 2019	2019 AFL Queensland Schools Cup - North QLD Finals	Great Barrier Reef Arena, Harrup Park
23 – 25 August 2019	Girlfriends Gaggle - Red Hat Society Function/Conference	Mackay Region
28 – 29 August 2019	Variety Bash – Start Region	Mackay
31 August 2019	Bluewater Fling	Bluewater Quay
31 August – 7 September 2019	2019 Oceania Athletics Masters Athletics	Mackay ARC
8 September 2019	Beach Motorcycle Races at Grasstree Beach	Grasstree Beach
23 – 29 September 2019	Etnies Rumble on the Reef	Sugar Bowl, Norris Road
23 – 29 September 2019	2019 BMX QLD State Championships	Sarina BMX Club, Hoey Street Sarina
11 October 2019	Movies in the Meadow	Botanic Gardens
13 December 2019	Christmas in the Gardens	Botanic Gardens