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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY / HIGHLIGHTS

The 2017/2018 year continued to build on previous achievements and programs. ECI continued to build partnerships and collaborate across the region to support shared learnings the benefit neighbouring councils.

Safety continues to be a high priority for the Department with a number of Safety Reward Tiers being achieved for various Programs within the Department.

The delivery of the Capital Programs against the amended budget remained an ongoing focus with the following strong end of year results achieved:

- Civil Projects – 96%
- Infrastructure Delivery – 90%
- Waste services – 82%

Preparation for the new Capital Directorate commencing from 1 July 2018 has been a focus and especially how the planning and asset management responsibilities get structured.

The response and management of the NDRRA program as a result of Cyclone Debbie continues to be a focus and is being well managed to restore our key road, drainage and foreshore assets back to their pre-existing state.

The multiple changes to the Waste landscape has been an ongoing focus with the China Sword impact to recycling from the Material Recovery Facility, the future implementation of the Container Refund Scheme from 1 November 2018 and the new waste levy being implemented from 4th March 2019.

The following annual review details high-level performance and highlights for the year.

Director Engineering & Commercial Infrastructure
2017/18 ANNUAL REVIEW – COLLABORATION AND MEETINGS

The *qldwater*, North Queensland Regional Conference was held in Mackay on July 19, 2017 followed by the Australian Water Association North Queensland Regional Conference on July 20 and 21, 2017. Several officers delivered presentations at both events and the presentation on Smart Sewers won a “highly commended”.

The Water and Waste Advisory Board Meetings were held on August 28 and November 20, 2017 as well as March 15, 2018. The Board continues to have valuable input into business cases, the progress of capital projects, safety results/statistics and department initiatives.

Officers and network field staff from Mackay and Whitsunday Regional Council visited Queensland Urban Utilities and Unitywater in October. The visit provided an opportunity to share knowledge, collaborate on industry best practice, develop external stakeholder relationships and review asset management and maintenance systems and how they have been implemented in the field.

Whitsunday Isaac Mackay (WIM) Water Alliance quarterly meetings were held in Mackay on August 3, 2017 and March 16, and May 2018. The Annual Regional Forum was held in Moranbah on November 9 and 10, 2017.

The Cairns Townsville Mackay (CTM) Lab Alliance meeting was held in Mackay on October 19, 2017, with representatives from Townsville and Cairns in attendance.

Training was provided on Odour and Septicity in the Sewer Network on February 19 and was attended by WIM representatives from MRC Water Services, Issacs and Whitsunday Regional Councils.

Cairns, Townsville, Mackay (CTM) Water Alliance meeting was held in Cairns on 28 February, discussing key issues for Water Utilities and reviewing the ongoing focus of the CTM agenda.

Throughout the year there has been a continuation of presentations on the benefits of MiWater to various Water Utilities across the country. Officers from Southern Downs Regional Council visited Council on November 2017, South Australian Water staff on February 2018 for network management and customer engagement. The MiWater product continues to be used by Water Authorities across Australia with training and presentations occurring as required.

Two successful presentations on MiWater and MiSewer were provided by Water Services staff at the Australian Water Association OzWater 2018 Conference in Brisbane during May 2018.
2.1. Water Highlights

The Mackay Water Strategy and Mackay Regional Water Supply Security Assessment (RWSSA) were endorsed by council on August 9, 2017.

At the end of 2017, a decision was made to relocate the laboratory from Nebo Road WTP to a freehold building at Paget. The building purchase was complete at the end of January. Identification and design of required building works for fit-out upgrades to power and air-conditioning systems, IT, etc are currently underway.
The challenging refurbishment of Mount Pleasant Reservoir No 1 has been successfully completed and the reservoir was brought back on line in April 2018.

The tender for the design & construction of the new Eton Water Treatment Plant was awarded in 13 June 2018 with physical works beginning in August.

Myh20 registrations continue to grow and as at the end of June 2018 are now in excess of 12,920.

Assetic implementation into Water is well underway and we are now completing jobs through work orders. The mobile devices have been rolled out with training and we are about to go live with Pathway Assetic integration. This is as a result of Programs working together. This system will benefit our customers by improving response times. The mobile system will also improve the reliability of the data on our water and sewerage networks to be better plan work thereby reducing time for customer outages.
2.2. Wastewater Highlights

The “Smart Sewers” Project (MiSewer) was selected as a finalist in the Infrastructure Innovation Award in the Australian Water Association Queensland Water Awards in September 2017. The Program continues to be developed and tested with infield monitoring devices installed in different sewer systems across the region.

Approval of $1.29 M funding for the Mirani Effluent Dam and Transfer System under the 2017-19 Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program. The tender has been awarded the construction of the dam and transfer system with physical works commencing in July 2018.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 28 March 2018, Council resolved to bring the delivery of Wastewater Treatment Operations at Mackay North Water Recycling Facility (MNWRF) and Mackay South Water Recycling Facility (MSWRF) in-house. A Transition team has commenced to manage the transition from Downer Utilities to MRC in-house operations.
3.1 Waste Highlights

Suez Recycling and Recovery Pty Ltd commenced operations from 1 July 2017 for Waste Haulage and Landfill Operations contract.

A successful Great Northern Clean-Up was held on 2 & 3 September 2017.


Prior to the conference the annual general meeting of Local Authority Waste Management Advisory Committee (LAWMAC), was hosted on October 11, 2017. Representatives from a variety of north Queensland local governments were in attendance.

The Greenwaste Management contract was awarded in November 2017.

National Recycling Week was celebrated 13-19 November 2017, along with an immensely successful social media competition.

Various Capital Projects were completed throughout the year at Hogan’s Pocket Landfill; the new leachate dam, weeds wash bay project as well as repairs to cell 1 capping and the farm dam, due to damage from Cyclone Debbie.
China Sword: The ban on the importation of recyclables into China is having a national impact on recycling in Australia. While the ban is not having a direct impact on Mackay at this stage, flow on effects are anticipated due to the lack of local market and the potential consequence of the introduction of the Container Refund Scheme. The situation is continuing to be monitored.

Review of the State Government’s new Direction paper on “Transforming Queensland’s Recycling and Waste Industry” and completion of MRC’s submission has been a major focus.
4.1 Roads and Drainage Highlights

There continues to be a strong focus on safety across the Department.

Briefing provided to council to support a process for development of a Statement of Intent (SOI) for each rural road to establish its required level of service against the road hierarchy. The initial cohort of thirteen roads has been completed with a further briefing with council to be undertaken.

The Transport and Drainage 3-year Forward Capital Program was presented to council and indicatively approved.

The three-year endorsed Program of Works for School Projects has commenced with positive feedback received.

Civil Operations crew assisted Isaac Regional Council with damage sustained in severe storm event.

Road Maintenance Performance Contract has been successfully delivered to TMR standards and requirements.

Work on the rural road network, including unsealed road formation and sealed roads shoulders, was prioritised with up to eight grader crews working across the region, undertaking routine maintenance grading and gravelling, gravel re-sheeting and STC Debbie Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) restoration works.

Significant focus on open drains maintenance including mowing and vegetation control of all drains across the region.

Early commencement of the Open Drains Special Maintenance Program, involving realignment, re-profiling and de-silting of targeted drains.

The W4Q Round 1 Program was fully completed with all Engineering and Commercial Infrastructures Services’ projects delivered by the 30 November 2017 due date. Design and Delivery of the W4Q2 Program continues on schedule.

Arrangements were finalised for crews to work through the Christmas/New Year Close-Down period to undertake essential maintenance activities including sweeping and cleaning of the business districts and vegetation control in the open drainage system, and to respond to customer requests.
Bridge Rehabilitation Works on Clive Rogers Bridge on Owens Creek Loop Road, Head Vassallo Road Bridge and major Rehabilitation of Bell Creek Bridge on Munbura Road completed.

Significant Capital Works Projects designed and constructed as follows:

- Shellgrit Creek Drainage Upgrades (Cod Hole) Project – Design complete and Development application in place for construction 2108/9
- Glenella Road Rehabilitation
- Wallmans Road Construction - Infrastructure Agreement
- Willets Road Shared Path
- Milton/Boundary Road East Intersection Upgrade
- Nebo/Gordon Street Intersection Median Island Landscaping
- Rocky Creek Bridge Replacement
- Ferris Gully Open Drainage Construction (CQU)
Natural Disaster Relief Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) works were a significant series of design and construction works which have been undertaken or commenced during the year. These included:

- 10 NDRRA Category B approved Restoration submissions (including the landslips submission) totalling $9.2M commenced.
- Restoration of Sichter Street, Sarina ($750K) was completed in May.
- Reconstruction of Sievers Road Floodway ($300K) was completed in June.
- Preliminary Beach Restoration Works totalling $401K were completed at Midge Point, Cape Hillsborough, Lamberts Beach, Haliday Bay & McEwens Beach.
- Design and required permits for the major Restoration Beach Works, to pre STC Debbie condition, at Midge Point and at Lamberts Beach, are progressing.
- Sand Nourishment at Grasstree Beach, McEwens Beach, Ball Bay and Seaforth North and South have been completed.

Council’s application for a total of $4.6M further works at the following beaches was approved, separate to NDRRA:

- Midge Point and Lamberts Beach - to restore the beaches to their condition 10 years ago; and
- St Helens Beach - to strengthen the existing groynes.

State Government has approved a further $8.86 million towards the Revitalisation of the Bluewater Trail and Queens Park. This funding will be administered by the Queensland Reconstruction Authority.