

# NBLT MACHANS TO HOLLOWAYS



The Northern Beaches Leisure Trail is being designed and constructed in a staged approach to deliver on Council's vision to connect Palm Cove to Cairns City.

Once complete, the shared path will provide a continuous walking and cycling link for locals and visitors alike. It will offer enhanced recreation and fitness amenities for the entire community including young families using prams, people in wheelchairs, seniors with mobility devices and people on bikes.

The trail will provide a unique recreation and tourism experience that showcases the region's beautiful beaches and island views, as well as providing an important active transport alternative to the car.

The Holloways Beach to Machans Beach section of the trail will be a combination of on and off-road pathways including a connection to Syd and Jayne Granville Park. The proposed pathway and bridge connection alignment is intended to showcase the region's beautiful beaches and views.

## What is Council doing to minimise the environmental impacts of the trail and bridge?

The planning and design of any infrastructure works that Council undertakes considers ecological and environmental impacts and we always strive to minimise, mitigate and manage any disturbance our projects may have.

We will continue to work with the appropriate regulatory authorities including the Queensland Government's Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Department of Environment and Science, Department of Transport and Main Roads and Maritime Safety Queensland to inform the final alignment, the design of the trail and bridge, and obtain the appropriate permits.

Part of this process includes undertaking an ecological and botanical survey to identify what animal and plant species exist in the area. The outcome of the survey will inform the final alignment and detailed design.

Construction of the trail and bridge will be progressively undertaken in sections as the appropriate approvals are obtained.

## What has been done to address the threat of flood and erosion in the area?

Appropriate flood modelling will occur during the detailed design phase and is expected to further inform details such as bridge deck heights and foundations.

## What will happen to the dog off-leash areas?

We understand that dog off-leash areas are important to our community and are a great way to encourage responsible dog ownership.

There are no plans to remove any dog off-leash areas; the alignment has been chosen to minimise conflict between the dog off-leash areas and the trail.

For more information about responsible dog ownership, please visit the [Dog off-leash areas section](#) of our website.

## What land acquisitions are required for this section of the trail?

No land acquisitions are required for this section of the trail.



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## **Why has this route been chosen over the other two options that were proposed in the Council's Cycling and Walking Strategy?**

Council has received funding from the State and Federal Government for this stage of the project and the alignment must (generally) remain in accordance with the overall Northern Beaches Leisure Trail objectives as well as the State Government's Principal Cycling Network Plan.

The alignment that has been presented to the community for consultation is the preferred alignment because it:

- best meets the funding criteria of providing a more direct connectivity along the coastline
- provides fishing opportunities
- showcases our beautiful beaches and views
- offers the most visibility and prominence from a community-based surveillance perspective.

In consideration of the recent community consultation along with ecological and environmental impacts that are still to be assessed, minor variations to the preferred alignment are likely.

## **I am concerned about an increase in crime, is Council considering installing additional lighting and/or CCTV?**

Lighting installation on the bridge and at the approaches will be taken into consideration when the project moves in to the detailed design phase.

The alignment was also chosen as it maximises visibility from a community-based surveillance perspective.

## **When will we see the design for the bridge?**

The concept design is expected to be ready to present to the community in early 2019.

## **I am concerned about litter in the waterways as a result of the bridge connection. What is Council doing to minimise this?**

This is a Council managed waterway and with the introduction of the trail, the maintenance schedule will be revised appropriately. In addition, Council has a process in place for reporting littering and public dumping, visit our [website](#) for more information.

## **What about the loss of our localised neighbourhood amenity?**

Our intention is to provide improved access and enhanced recreational opportunities to enhance the liveability of our region, to encourage an active lifestyle and to connect the community.

## **I have safety concerns about the trail in the suburbs, why can't it be built closer to the highway?**

The ultimate vision of the Northern Beaches Leisure Trail is to provide a unique coastal attraction to showcase the region's beautiful beaches and island views, as well as providing an important active transport alternative to the car. The meandering alignment has been specifically designed for a slower paced bike ride and walk.

To cater for faster paced cycling, The Department of Transport and Main Roads is building a high-speed off-road cycleway along the highway as part of the Smithfield Bypass project.

## **When will construction start and finish?**

Construction is programmed to commence mid-2019 and is expected to be complete by March 2020.

