



COMMUNITY CONSULTATION REPORT

Smithfield Town Centre

February 2009

R63822

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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As part of its vision for the future of the region, Cairns Regional Council seeks to establish a Town Centre at Smithfield, north of Cairns. To facilitate the proposed Town Centre, Council must undertake a Schedule 1 Amendment process in accordance with the *Integrated Planning Act, 1997* (IPA) to modify CairnsPlan.

The proposed Town Centre site is situated at Smithfield, approximately 15 kilometres north of Cairns, and extends from MacGregor Road in the north, to the Kennedy Highway / Captain Cook Highway in the south, with land to the west and east of the highway being included.

As part of the Schedule 1 Amendment process, Council is required to undergo a formal period of consultation as per Sections 5-7 of IPA. Council engaged in a preliminary community consultation program, the purpose of which was to:

- Inform and educate key stakeholders and the community about the proposed Town Centre;
- Establish the level of interest in the community and identify areas of potential concern;
- Seek feedback to identify potential issues which may need to be addressed by Council and the consultant team prior to engaging in any formal Schedule 1 Amendment process;
- Build relationships with the community to facilitate an ongoing dialogue in relation to the proposal.

Community members and stakeholders engaged in the consultation program represented a number of categories including government agencies, land owners and residents and business owners within the local community.

The consultation program involved engagement with the community through a variety of mechanisms including:

- Distribution of a Community Information Newsletter and Feedback Form to local residents (distributed to all within the Smithfield Catchment Area)
- Three (3) Community Information Sessions;
- Meeting with representatives of the Cairns Bicycle Users' Group (CBUG);
- Newspaper advertisements in *The Cairns Sun*.

A total of 258 responses were received from the community via the Feedback Forms. From those responses, a number of key concerns and development priorities were identified, of which the provision of "Open space and recreation areas" and "Transport and infrastructure" were identified as paramount.

2.0 PROJECT OVERVIEW

2.1 CONTEXT

As part of its vision for the future of the region, Cairns Regional Council seeks to establish a Town Centre at Smithfield, north of Cairns.

The Smithfield Catchment Area, from Machans Beach north to Ellis Beach is expected to support an additional 18,000 people by 2030. Given this rapid growth, it is important for Cairns Regional Council to look at long term planning to ensure orderly and sequential development for the remaining land and ensure residents and visitors have convenient access to a range of town centre functions.



Figure 1: Regional Context

Key elements considered in the Town Centre planning process include but are not limited to:

- Ongoing employment opportunities
- Integrated transport options
- Connectivity to other centres
- Conservation of native vegetation and recreational land uses
- The proposed population demand on the area
- Delivery of a range of Town Centre functions

Prior to the implementation of the consultation program discussed herein, a Technical Design Workshop was convened. Based on the outcomes of this workshop, Council officers advised a “preferred framework option” for the location of various precincts within the proposed Town Centre. This “preferred framework option” formed the basis of consultation program.

2.2 SCOPE OF SERVICE

Conics was commissioned on behalf of Cairns Regional Council to design, deliver and interpret the results of a voluntary community consultation program for the proposed Town Centre.

Specifically, Conics was engaged to carry out the following tasks:

- Prepare and distribute a Community Information Newsletter and Feedback Form to local residents (distributed to all within the Catchment Area);
- Coordinate and facilitate three (3) Community Information Sessions;
- Meet with representatives of key community interest groups; and
- Keep the community informed of consultation activities via the media.

This consultation report documents the consultation program undertaken and outlines:

- The purpose of the consultation program;
- The relevant stakeholders identified during the program;
- The consultation initiatives undertaken;
- The notification and communication tools employed; and
- A summary of the consultation outcomes.

3.0 METHOD STATEMENT

Conics developed a community consultation and engagement program in response to Council's brief. It should be noted that this program is voluntary and has been conducted in addition to any formal notification required under the provisions of the *Integrated Planning Act, 1997*.

The program aimed to raise awareness of the Town Centre proposal and obtain feedback for Council's consideration prior to the commencement of the Schedule 1 Amendment process.

4.0 STAKEHOLDERS

4.1 STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION

The stakeholder groups identified as having potential interest in the project fall into a variety of categories including:

- Government agencies - who have a jurisdictional interest in the project.
- Geographic catchment - residents and business owners in close proximity to the development site and within the broader Smithfield Catchment Area (from Machans Beach to Ellis Beach).
- Interest groups - community and sporting groups located or operating within the Smithfield Catchment Area.

The stakeholder groups were identified through the scoping phase of the consultation process. The following table outlines these groups and their potential interests.

STAKEHOLDER GROUP	POTENTIAL INTERESTS
<u>Government agencies</u>	
- Cairns Regional Council - Department of Infrastructure and Planning - Department of Main Roads - Queensland Transport - Department of Natural Resources and Water - Environmental Protection Agency	- Local government considerations - State government assessment considerations
<u>Local interest groups</u>	
- Cairns Bicycle Users' Group - JCU Student Association - Smithfield State High School - Holy Cross Primary School - Trinity Beach State School - Caravonica State School - Yorkeys Knob State School - Smithfield Child Care Centre - Trinity Beach Child Care - Trinity Community Child Care Centre	- Potential new uses on the site - Possible impacts on existing amenity - Potential impact of traffic and access - Potential visual impacts - Potential short-term impacts during development demolition and construction stages - Increased opportunities for local community facilities

STAKEHOLDER GROUP	POTENTIAL INTERESTS
- Johnny Crows Child Care - Holloways Community Kindergarten - Yorkeys Knob Boating Club - Ivanhoes Football Club - Marlin Coast Little Athletics - Marlin Coast Basketball - Cairns Mountain Bike Club - Brad Hope Taikwondo - JCU Mariners RUFC - Marlin Coast Indoor Soccer - Marlin Coast Swimming Club - Centrals Trinity Beach AFL and Sporting Club - Cairns Baseball League - Barron River Cricket Association - Marlin Coast Bowls Club - Marlin Coast Soccer Club - Trinity Beach Tennis Club - Clifton Beach Tennis Club - Cairns City Cobras AFC - Trinity Park Residents and Ratepayers Association Inc. - Yorkeys Knob Residents' Association - Kewarra Beach Ratepayers Association - Combined Beaches Community Association - Holloways Beach Residents' Association - Palm Cove Residents' Association - Disability Queensland - Tjapukai - Skyrail - Cable Ski Cairns	

Geographic Catchment

- Residents and businesses in close proximity to the site
- Potential new uses on the site
- Possible impacts on existing amenity
- Potential impact of traffic and access
- Potential visual impacts
- Potential short-term impacts during development demolition and construction stages
- Increased opportunities for local community facilities

4.2 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The following section outlines the objectives for engaging with various stakeholder groups involved in the consultation process.

4.2.1 Government agencies

The objectives of engaging with state agency representatives were to:

- Provide an overview of the Town Centre concept; and
- Seek advice on key issues that would need to be addressed when preparing the materials to support the Schedule 1 Amendment process.

4.2.2 Local interest groups

The objectives of engaging local interest groups were to:

- Provide consistent and correct information to the community about the Town Centre proposal;
- Seek feedback about the proposed Town Centre concept;
- Identify key community interests and concerns within the Smithfield Catchment Area; and
- Develop relationships with local interest groups to enable implementation of appropriate ongoing communication measures.

4.2.3 Local community

The objectives of engaging residents and business owners within the local community were to:

- Provide consistent and correct information to the community about the Town Centre proposal;
- Seek feedback about the proposed Town Centre concept;
- Identify key community interests and concerns within the Smithfield Catchment Area; and
- Develop relationships with the local community to enable implementation of appropriate ongoing communication measures.

5.0 CONSULTATION PROGRAM

A number of communication tools and engagement methods were implemented as part of the Smithfield Town Centre consultation program. Details of these are discussed below.

5.1 MEDIA

Throughout the consultation program, the local print media, namely *The Cairns Sun*, was utilised to convey messages to the public via the “Council’s Corner” column. Specifically, the following advertisements were placed in the public notices section:

- 10.12.08 Advise dates for Community Information Sessions
- 23.12.08 Advise final date for all forms to be returned to Council.

The Cairns Sun is a free community newspaper, circulated weekly throughout the Cairns region. Copies of the Council’s Corner columns are included in **Appendix A**, while **Figure 2** below illustrates the publication’s primary circulation area.



Figure 2: Cairns Sun distribution area

5.2 COMMUNITY INFORMATION NEWSLETTER / FEEDBACK FORM

A Community Information Newsletter was prepared and distributed to inform the community about the Town Centre concept and invite participation in the Community Information Sessions. Attached to the newsletter was a Feedback Form, which provided respondents the opportunity to indicate their priorities for the future of the Smithfield area and provide comment about the proposal.

A copy of the newsletter and feedback form is contained in **Appendix B**.

The Community Information Newsletter and Feedback Form were distributed approximately 13,800 businesses and residences within the Smithfield Catchment Area (i.e. Machans Beach, north to Ellis Beach). Details were sourced through Cairns Regional Council's rates database and addressed envelopes were distributed by Australia Post on 8 and 9 December 2008.

The principal objectives of this contact were to reintroduce the Town Centre concept to the community, invite the community to participate in the consultation and confirm Council's commitment to a transparent and community-oriented planning process.

5.3 COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSIONS

Three (3) Community Information Sessions were held at the Marlin Coast Recreation Centre at Leisure Park Drive, at the following times:

Thursday 11 December 2008	3.00pm - 6.00pm
Friday 12 December 2008	3.00pm - 6.00pm
Saturday 13 December 2008	9.00am - 12.00 noon

Attendance at the information sessions was recorded formally, via attendance registers, and informally, via a tally system, kept by Council representatives present at each session. Attendance figures for each session were as follows:

Thursday 11 December 2008	20
Friday 12 December 2008	71
Saturday 13 December 2008	30

5.3.1 Visual indicators

Information at the community sessions was presented visually on a series of A1 sized, full colour story boards. Two of these boards, dedicated to the “Core and Frame” and “Height and Scale” of the proposed Town Centre, were designed to allow consultation participants to provide anonymous feedback by indicating their preferences by placing a coloured sticker in the relevant column.

Copies of these story boards are included for reference as *Appendix C*.

5.3.2 Feedback forms

In addition to those posted out, Feedback Forms were also made available for participants to complete at the Community Information Sessions.

5.3.3 Verbal feedback

The Community Information Sessions provided the opportunity for participants to raise questions and discuss matters of interest with the consultants and Council representatives present. Participants were encouraged to back up their verbal feedback by utilising the sticker boards or Feedback Forms.

5.4 TARGETED CONSULTATION

Despite attempts to contact (by telephone) and engage with a broad range of community groups, including schools, student associations and sporting clubs, Cairns Bicycle Users’ Group (CBUG) was the only group to participate in a targeted consultation session.

5.4.1 Cairns Bicycle Users’ Group

A targeted consultation session was held with representatives from CBUG at Cairns Regional Council offices on 11 December 2008.

This session provided valuable insight to the concerns and interests of local cyclists and the differing needs of bicycle users to pedestrians and other non-motorists.

6.0 OUTCOMES AND ANALYSIS

6.1 COMMUNITY INFORMATION NEWSLETTER / FEEDBACK FORM

A total of 258 Feedback Forms were returned via post and the Community Information Sessions. In addition, two feedback letters were also received, attached to forms.

The majority of respondents were aged 35 and over, as shown by the graph at **Figure 3**, below.

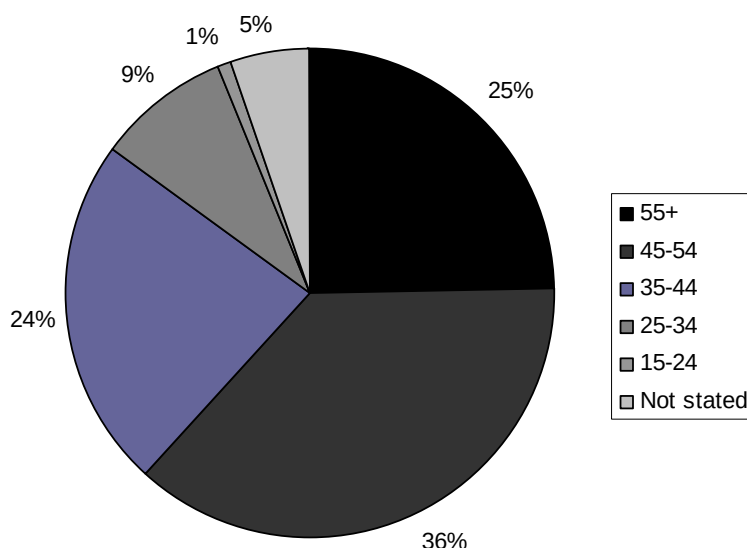


Figure 3: Age of respondents

Seventy-seven per cent (77%) of all respondents were supportive of a Town Centre at Smithfield now, or in the future, 10 per cent (10%) were opposed to the concept and 13 per cent (13%) were undecided, or did not provide comment (see **Figure 4**, below).

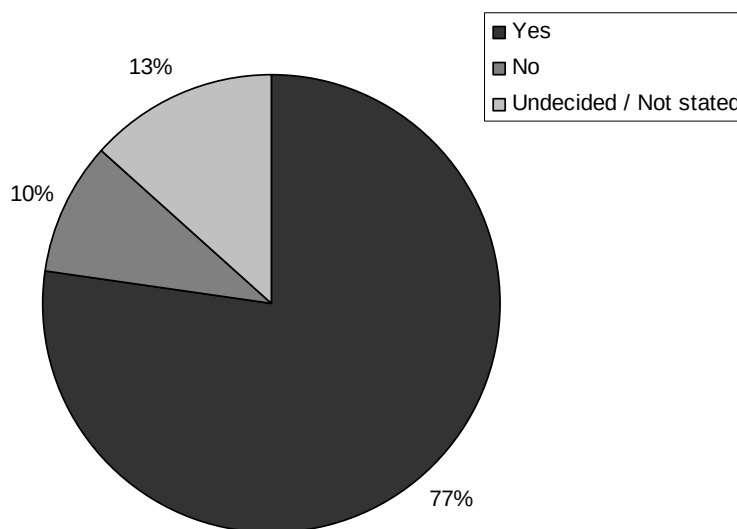


Figure 4: Support for a Smithfield Town Centre

6.1.1 Priorities for a Smithfield Town Centre

Respondents were asked to rank their priorities for a Town Centre based on a list provided. The highest priorities were “Open space and recreation areas” and “Transport and access”, whilst “Housing choice” and “The need to travel to the CBD” were low priorities. The table at **Figure 5** below provides an illustrative representation of respondents’ feedback.

Rank	Area of interest	Average priority
1	Open space and recreation areas	4.228682
2	Transport and access	4.344961
3	Social and leisure facilities	4.910853
4	Pedestrian and cyclist links	5.515504
5	Retail choices	5.705426
6	Government and business services	5.732558
7	Community meeting places	6.306202
8	The need to travel to Cairns CBD	7.077519
9	Housing choice	7.197674

Note: priorities were ranked 1-10 with 1 being the highest.

Figure 5: Priorities for a Smithfield Town Centre

6.1.2 Comments

The feedback forms also provided the opportunity for respondents to provide detailed comments about the proposal. Comments received have been grouped into the following categories of interest:

- Environment
- Transport and infrastructure
- Proposed land uses
- Planning and design
- Timing
- Character and ambience
- Smithfield Shopping Centre
- Cinema
- Miscellaneous
- Seeking more information

A document including all comments received, and grouped under these headings, is included in **Appendix D**, while a summary of the key concerns and interests are outlined below.

Environment

The protection of the Cattana Wetlands, flood-conscious development, the maintenance of green space and native corridors/habitat for wildlife and environmentally sensitive design were among the highest priorities from respondents.

Transport and infrastructure

Improved public transport, cycle paths and walkways were priorities for many respondents. Infrastructure was also considered important.

Proposed land uses

Respondents suggested a wide variety of suggested land uses within the proposed Town Centre.

Widespread support was indicated for community- and family-oriented development, such as parks, playgrounds, walkways, cycle paths, community halls, recreation and leisure facilities. Car parking was also considered a priority.

A broader range of government and support services were encouraged to reduce the need to travel to the Cairns CBD. In respect of retail opportunities, respondents were divided over whether more and varied options are required, or whether sufficient options currently exist in the northern beaches.

Planning and design

Holistic forward planning, incorporating an appropriate mix of uses was generally supported in contrast to overdevelopment and a “proliferation of ugly concrete slab buildings”.

Concern was raised that access to existing businesses should be maintained.

In terms of design, wide streets and shade (eg. trees) were key elements raised.

Timing

Most respondents who commented on the project timing were eager for Town Centre planning to commence as soon as possible, however a few indicated their support for the proposal proceeding some time in the future. It is noted that some respondents questioned the need for Town Centre to be developed at all.

Character and ambience

Respondents were supportive of an open, “village” feel and suggested the Town Centre should be “a beating heart”.

Others wanted to ensure the traditional “rural” feel of the Smithfield area is retained.

Smithfield Shopping Centre

Concerns were raised about a potential oversupply of retail in the northern beaches, and the impact of this on existing business owners (particularly within the existing Smithfield Shopping Centre). Other respondents suggested development options which included Smithfield Shopping Centre may be appropriate to ensure the needs of the Smithfield community continue to be met in the future.

Cinema

Several respondents indicated their support for a cinema complex in the Smithfield Town Centre.

Miscellaneous

Some respondents raised concerns that insufficient notice was given for people to attend the Community Information Sessions. Others confirmed their support for development which improves the quality of life for local residents.

Seeking more information

Concerns were raised that a map of the proposed Town Centre investigation area was not provided in the Community Information Letter, and that it did not contain sufficient information for recipients to make a decision about the proposal. Please refer to *Appendix C* for details of the materials available at the Community Information Sessions.

6.2 COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSION

6.2.1 Visual indicators

Feedback provided via the “sticky dot” boards gave an indication as to the public’s preferences relating to building height, scale and density within the Town Centre. The results of this method are illustrated on the graphs below.

Ninety per cent (90%) of respondents were in favour of the images shown for the Town Centre “Core”.

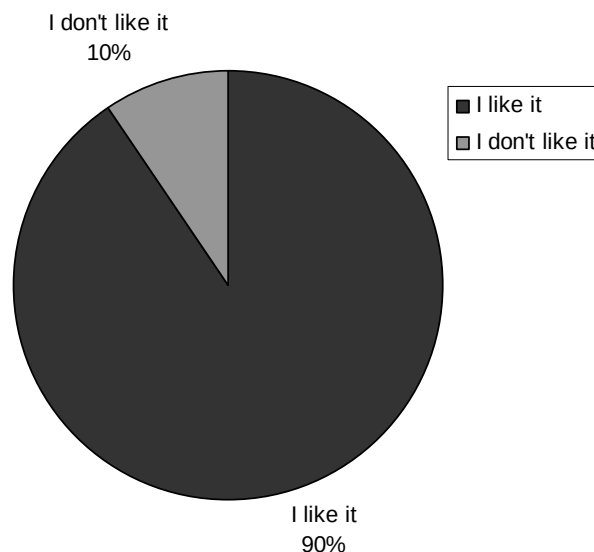


Figure 6: Response to Town Centre “Core” images

Ninety-one per cent (91%) of respondents were in favour of the images shown for the Town Centre “Frame”.

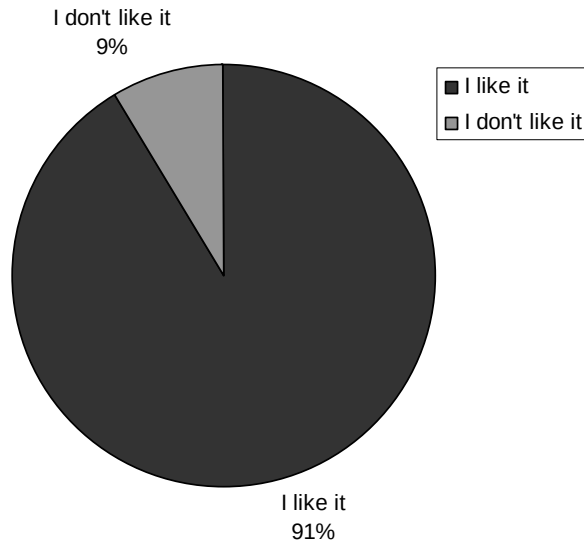


Figure 7: Response to Town Centre “Frame” images

Regarding building height, up to four storeys was generally supported, however having the majority of buildings above that height was not.

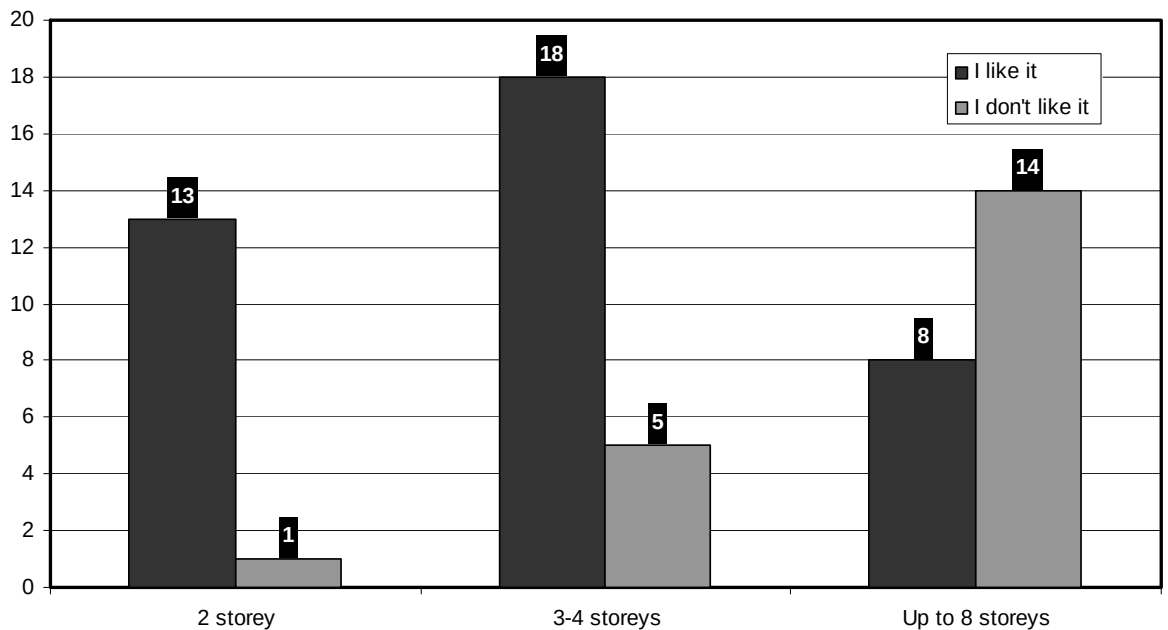


Figure 8: Building height preferences

Regarding the scale of development, medium density was by far the preferred option. Respondents indicated considerable opposition to high density development as depicted on the “sticky dot board” included at **Appendix C**.

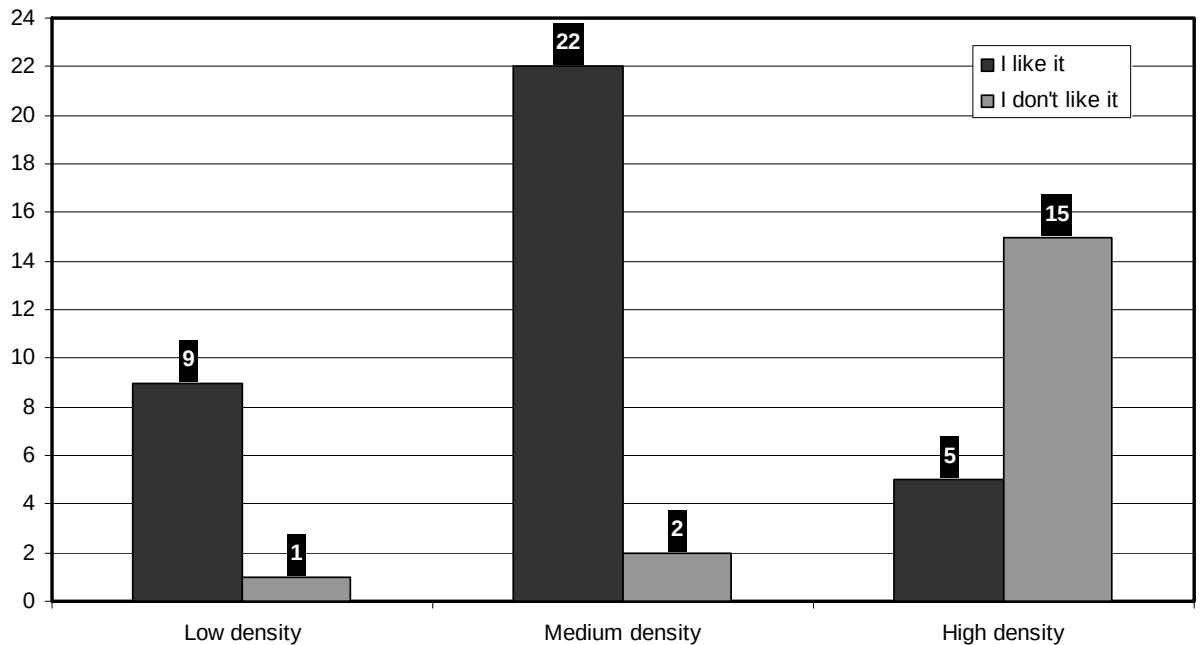


Figure 9: Development scale preferences

6.2.2 Verbal feedback

Verbal feedback provided to the project team members present on the day indicated that the key concerns and comments related to:

- access and traffic issues, in particular in light of the proposed future Smithfield Bypass Road and the downgrading of the Captain Cook Highway; and
- impact on existing businesses/land uses in the area.

6.3 TARGETED CONSULTATION

The key feedback obtained from the consultation session with Cairns Bicycle Users' Group included:

- Separate facilities preferred for cyclists, pedestrians and other non-motorists;
- Secure bike parking supported (secure, fully protected from weather).
- End of trip facilities to be provided (i.e. showers, change rooms, drinking water fountains).
- Roads should include bike lanes (different to wide shoulders).
- Roads should meet Austroads desirable width of 1.5m as a minimum.
- Transition from pathways to roads important (for cyclists, wheelchairs, prams etc).
- Transit oriented community model is supported.
- Signalised, at grade road crossings preferred. Where unsignalised, centre island is important for safety.

7.0 CONCLUSION

This report has provided an overview and analysis of the community consultation program that has been undertaken by Cairns Regional Council for the Smithfield Town Centre.

The principal aims of the consultation program were to provide information to the community about the Town Centre concept and to obtain feedback on any issues that the community and key stakeholders saw as being relevant considerations prior to any further planning work proceeding.

The consultation program was designed to ensure that information about the proposal was provided to the local community immediately impacted by the proposed development. The program included:

- Media communications;
- Distribution of a Community Information Newsletter and Feedback Form throughout the Smithfield Catchment Area (from Machans Beach, north to Ellis Beach;
- Three (3) Community Information Sessions; and
- A targeted consultation session with Cairns Bicycle Users' Group.

The feedback provided by the community in relation to the proposed Smithfield Town Centre is very encouraging. The majority of responses received identified a strong community interest to see a Town Centre at Smithfield.

The community is generally supportive of a broad range of land uses being provided in the area, however has expressed concerns about the preservation of environmental values, open space areas and wildlife habitat areas. Maintaining the character and ambience of the northern beaches is also an important consideration.

The most common issues raised by the community related to environmental conservation and improving transport and infrastructure, particularly public transport options.

Appendix A

Copies of notices in *The Cairns Sun*



Cleaner Seas



Aerial photo of the Northern Treatment Plant – top of Greenbank Road, Aeroglen

The Northern Wastewater Treatment Plant is the largest of the four Cairns treatment plants being upgraded under the Council's Cleaner Seas program.

The \$70 million construction work at this treatment plant, adjacent to the Cairns airport, will reduce the load of nutrients discharged to the ocean by up to 80% and increase plant capacity to cater for population growth to 2010. The plant upgrade will be completed by November 2009.

Smithfield Town Centre

The shape of Smithfield's Town Centre future is underway with planners, engineers, developers and economists working with stakeholders to determine what the town centre will encompass.

The Town Centre will be a self-sustaining place where residents of the Northern Beaches can work, live and play, encompassing a variety of land uses including residential, commercial, offices, retail and community facilities.

Cairns Regional Council will hold Community Information Sessions at the Marlin Coast Recreation Centre to provide information to the community about the proposed Smithfield Town Centre and answer any questions residents may have.

When: 3:00 -6:00pm Thurs 11 December
3:00-6:00pm Fri 12 December
9:00-12:00pm Sat 13 December

Where: Marlin Coast Recreation Centre,
Leisure Park Road, Smithfield

Christmas in the city heart

The Cairns Esplanade and CBD will come alive this festive season with the Cairns Regional Council's regular free entertainment program running at the Esplanade and in the CBD for the entire month of December.

CBD

Cairns City Carollers roving the city's heart, spreading festive cheer
11:30am-2:30pm Saturday 20 and
Monday 22 – Wednesday 24 December.

City Place Stage A wide variety of musical talent featuring local artists
12:00pm-3:00pm and 7:30-9:30 Fridays

New Year's Eve Musical entertainment
5:00pm-10:00pm

For more information and times www.cairnsesplanade.com.au

Esplanade

Foreshore Friday 7:00– 9:00pm near the Lagoon Pool every Friday featuring free family entertainment

Lagoon's Special Christmas Kids Show
11:00am-1:00pm every Saturday leading up to Christmas. Entertainment with singing, dancing and face painting. Santa will visit at noon Saturday 20 December.

Lagoon music 3:00-6:00pm Saturday 20 & 27 December and 3:00-6:00pm Sunday 21 & 28 December.

New Year's Eve 6:30pm start with entertainment starting at 6.30pm and two massive fireworks displays. From 9pm keep a radio tuned to Sea FM's Tropical Firestorm for musical accompaniment to the Esplanade fireworks.

Markets 8:00am-5:00pm every Saturday
Free Fitness Program Yoga, Pilates, Boxcercise

Lagoon pool Open regular hours during public holidays with life guards on duty until 10pm during the summer months.

For daily scheduled program information and times www.cairns.qld.gov.au

Council operating hours for the Festive Season

COUNCIL OFFICES

Counter service and specialist enquiries will not be available from 2pm Wednesday 24 December until Monday 5 January 2009. Emergency calls will be taken at all times by Council's after-hours call centre.

Customer Service call centre will operate standard hours on business days.

Phone Cairns - 4044 3044 Mossman
- 4099 9444 or 1800 070 444

CAIRNS ESPLANADE

The Inner City Facilities administration office will be closed from 2pm Wednesday 24 December until Mon 5 January 2009.

New Years Eve - Free Family Entertainment near lagoon 6.30pm to 12pm. Fireworks at 9pm and 12pm.

CIVIC THEATRE

The theatre will be closed from 2pm on Wednesday 24 December until Monday 5 January 2009.

Ticketlink is closed on Public Holidays.

LIBRARIES

Libraries will operate until 2pm on Wednesday 24 December and normal hours on Wednesday 31 January. All branches will be closed on Thursday and Friday 25 and 26 December and Thursday 1 January 2009.

TANKS ARTS CENTRE

Closed from Wednesday 24 December, reopening Monday 5 January 2009.

FLECKER BOTANIC GARDENS

Gardens are open on Thursday and Friday 25 and 26 December and Thursday 1 January 2009. Open 7:30am to 5:30pm on all regular business days and weekends from 8:30am to 5:30pm.

HAMBLEDON HOUSE

Closed from 2pm on Wednesday 24 December and reopening on Monday 5 January 2009.

SWIMMING POOLS CLOSED

Woree: 25, 26 Dec and 1 Jan 2009.
Gordonvale: 25, 26 Dec and 1 Jan 2009.
Edmonton: 25, 26 Dec and 1 Jan 2009.
Babinda: 25, 26, 27, 28 Dec and 1 Jan 2009
Mossman: 25, 26 Dec and 1 Jan 2009

GARBAGE & RECYCLING WASTE COLLECTION

There will be no disruption to normal collection days for garbage and recycling waste disposal. Waste transfer stations will be operating every day except Christmas Day with restricted hours on other Public Holidays.

For emergencies, phone Council's Call Centre on 4044 3044 (Cairns area) or 4099 9444 (Mossman area), or 1800 070 444.

Cairns Office: 4044 3044 or 1800 070 444 (free call)

Email: council@cairns.qld.gov.au

Website: www.cairns.qld.gov.au



Erosion control



*Environmental Protection Officer
Luke Nicholson.*

Cairns Regional Council held two public meetings in December to introduce the work of a new team established in response to an increasing number of complaints from the community related to erosion and sediment runoff from development sites.

Contractors and earth moving companies participated in a meeting that outlined their responsibility to comply with the new regulation in subdivisions and on development sites.

A second meeting covered the role and responsibility of the new team and how the community can provide input by reporting incidents.

The team is a sub-unit of Cairns Regional Council's Environmental Protection Unit and will assess individual and major building sites as well as new subdivisions, issuing on-the-spot fines where a breach of the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* and the *Integrated Planning Act 1997* is identified.

Library program

Across Australia this summer, 50,000 children will be swapping TV for the written word.

Along with libraries from Hobart to Broome, Cairns Libraries will participate in the second national Summer Reading Club.

The Club aims to promote reading and reading-related activities in children and teenagers, featuring a website that offers live chats with authors, virtual book readings, competitions and a broad range of age-recommended reading lists.

Summer Reading Club will run from 1 December 2008 to 15 February 2009.

For more information visit www.summerreadingclub.slq.qld.gov.au or call Tanya Curtis at Cairns Libraries on 4044 3785 or at email t.curtis@cairns.qld.gov.au

Smithfield Town Centre community feedback

Cairns Regional Council is seeking feedback from the community about the Smithfield Town Centre proposal.

Feedback forms are available from Council's Spence Street Customer Service Centre, the Marlin Coast Recreation Centre and the Smithfield Library.

Submission for completed feedback forms will close Monday 5 January 2009 and all responses will be compiled for reporting.

Dengue reminder

Dengue fever has affected more than 30 Cairns residents in the latest outbreak of the mosquito borne disease.

The Dengue mosquito breeds only in still fresh water.

Intervention in the breeding cycle of the mosquito by killing the larvae is the only way to stop the spread of the disease, which in its worst form, can be fatal.

During wet season weather with rain falling daily, it is absolutely necessary to follow the following simple rules to stop the spread of Dengue.

- Daily check your yard for mosquito breeding. Tip out and store any containers that could hold water.
- Be aware that plants that hold water between or in a cup of leaves can be breeding grounds for mosquitoes.
- Use indoor surface insect repellent, burn mosquito coils and use zappers around the house
- Wear insect repellent, especially during daylight hours

All-Abilities Playground for Sugarworld

An All-Abilities Playground to be built next to the Water Park at Sugarworld Gardens complex in Edmonton is the first of its type in the region.

Cairns Regional Council is seeking community feedback on the playground's concept design which will be on display at Cairns Libraries, Council Chambers on Spence St and on Council's website www.cairns.qld.gov.au

All-Abilities playgrounds are designed with interactive play spaces and equipment that maximises children's play experience while minimising barriers of age – teenagers are included - and physical abilities to play.

The initial Sugarworld playground concept design was developed following a series of workshops, surveys and consultation with stakeholders and community groups.

Further community consultation is invited on the current concept plan.

To provide feedback for the design:

- Complete the online form at www.cairns.qld.gov.au
- Phone for a copy of the feedback form at 4044 3044
- Fill out a form at Council's Customer Service Centre, Spence St.

Community input closes 28 February 2009.

Esplanade festivities

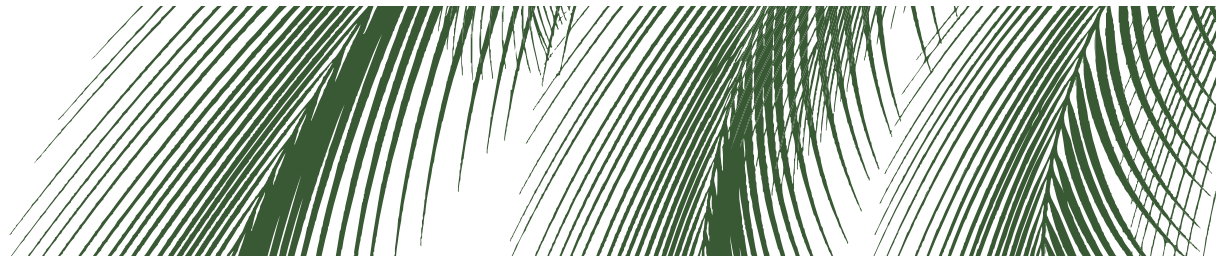
Foreshore Friday 7:00– 9:00pm Friday 26 December near the Lagoon Pool featuring free family entertainment

Lagoon music 3:00-6:00pm Saturday and Sunday 27 & 28 December

New Year's Eve Esplanade entertainment will begin at 6.30pm. Listen to musical accompaniment for the Esplanade fireworks displays at 9:30 pm and midnight by tuning into Sea FM's Tropical Firestorm from 9:00pm

Appendix B

Community Information Newsletter and Feedback Form



smithfield town centre

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Would you like to be included on our database to receive additional information about the project? Y/N

What is your preferred method of receiving information? Post/email

What age category are you in? 15-24 ☐ 25-34 ☐ 35-44 ☐ 45-54 ☐ 65+ ☐

We'd like to hear your comments about:

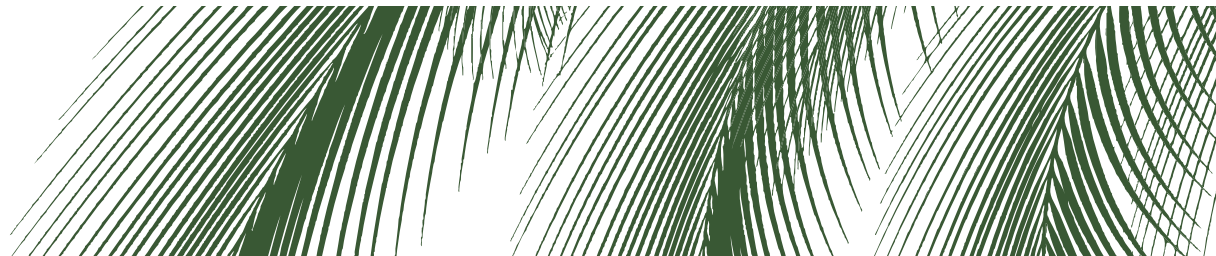
Do you support the idea of a Town Centre at Smithfield now or into the future? Y/N _____

Within the Smithfield Catchment Area (Machans Beach to Ellis Beach) what are your priorities?
 (Rank from 1 = most important to 10 = least important)

- Rank
- ☐ Employment opportunities
 - ☐ Housing Choice
 - ☐ Transport and access
 - ☐ Pedestrian and cyclist links
 - ☐ Community meeting places
 - ☐ Open space and recreation areas
 - ☐ Government and business services
 - ☐ Retail choices
 - ☐ Social and leisure facilities (e.g. restaurants, bars)
 - ☐ The need to travel into the Cairns CBD

Other Comments: _____

Please return completed form to: Cairns Regional Council, Reply Paid 359, Cairns, Qld, 4870.



smithfield town centre

THE TOWN CENTRE PLANNING PROCESS

What's involved?

CairnsPlan is the planning scheme for the former City of Cairns. The land included in the proposed Smithfield Town Centre site currently falls under a range of land use designations under CairnsPlan.

The existing Smithfield Shopping Centre is identified in CairnsPlan as a "Subregional Centre".

To identify the Town Centre in Cairns Plan a Schedule 1 Amendment process must be undertaken including:

- A Structure Plan for the Smithfield Town Centre
- A structure plan for the Town Centre is currently being developed. The draft Structure Plan sets out the framework for future development of the Smithfield Town Centre. The draft Structure Plan will:
- Set a Vision for Smithfield Town Centre;
 - Identify existing land uses;
 - Articulate new Town Centre uses for the 'greenfield' areas; and
 - Provide appropriate connections and interfaces between the existing and proposed land uses.

Where are we?



smithfield town centre

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Cairns Regional Council will be holding Community Information Sessions at the Marlin Coast Recreation Centre to provide information to the community about the proposed Smithfield Town Centre and answer any questions you may have.

The Community Information Sessions will be held at the following times:

Thursday 11 December 2008 3.00-6.00pm

Friday 12 December 2008 3.00-6.00pm

Saturday 13 December 2008 9.00-12.00am

Marlin Coast Recreation Centre, Leisure Park Road, Smithfield

WHAT IS THE PROJECT ABOUT?

The Smithfield Town Centre planning process is not about the creation of a new shopping centre. It is about creating a sense of place for the community, a focal point where locals can gather; where they can live, work and play.

WHY IS THE PROJECT IMPORTANT?

The Smithfield Catchment Area, from Machans Beach north to Ellis Beach is expected to support an additional 18,000 people by 2030. Given this rapid growth, it is important for Cairns Regional Council to look at long term planning to ensure orderly and sequential development for the remaining potential commercial land.

Key elements considered in the Town Centre planning process include but are not limited to:

- Ongoing employment opportunities
- Integrated transport options
- Connectivity to all centres
- Conservation of native vegetation and recreational land uses
- The proposed population demand on the area

For more information phone 4044 3044.



smithfield town centre

WHAT DOES A TOWN CENTRE INCLUDE?

A Town Centre is a place where people can live, work and play. It encompasses a variety of uses including:

- Residential
- Commercial
- Showrooms (e.g. furniture, whitegoods)
- Offices
- Retail
- Open spaces
- Community facilities (for public gatherings and events)

This is much like the Cairns CBD, which offers a wide mix of retail and service businesses, accommodation type, facilities and activities.

A well-planned community will be more self-sustaining with a variety of local jobs, quality services and facilities, integrated transport and good connectivity both within the community and with other parts of the Cairns Region.

It will also integrate with the existing retail hubs in the region, including Smithfield Shopping Centre, Campus Shopping Village and Clifton Village.

WHAT WILL THE TOWN CENTRE LOOK LIKE?

Specific questions about what exactly what the Town Centre would include and how it might look cannot be answered at the moment - this is because we are yet to even have a concept plan.

WHO IS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT?

Smithfield Town Centre is an initiative of the Cairns Regional Council to create a self sustaining community in which locals can live, work and play. Council is being assisted in the planning process by Flanagan Consulting Group, The Buchan Group Architects and Conics.



Appendix C

Story Boards

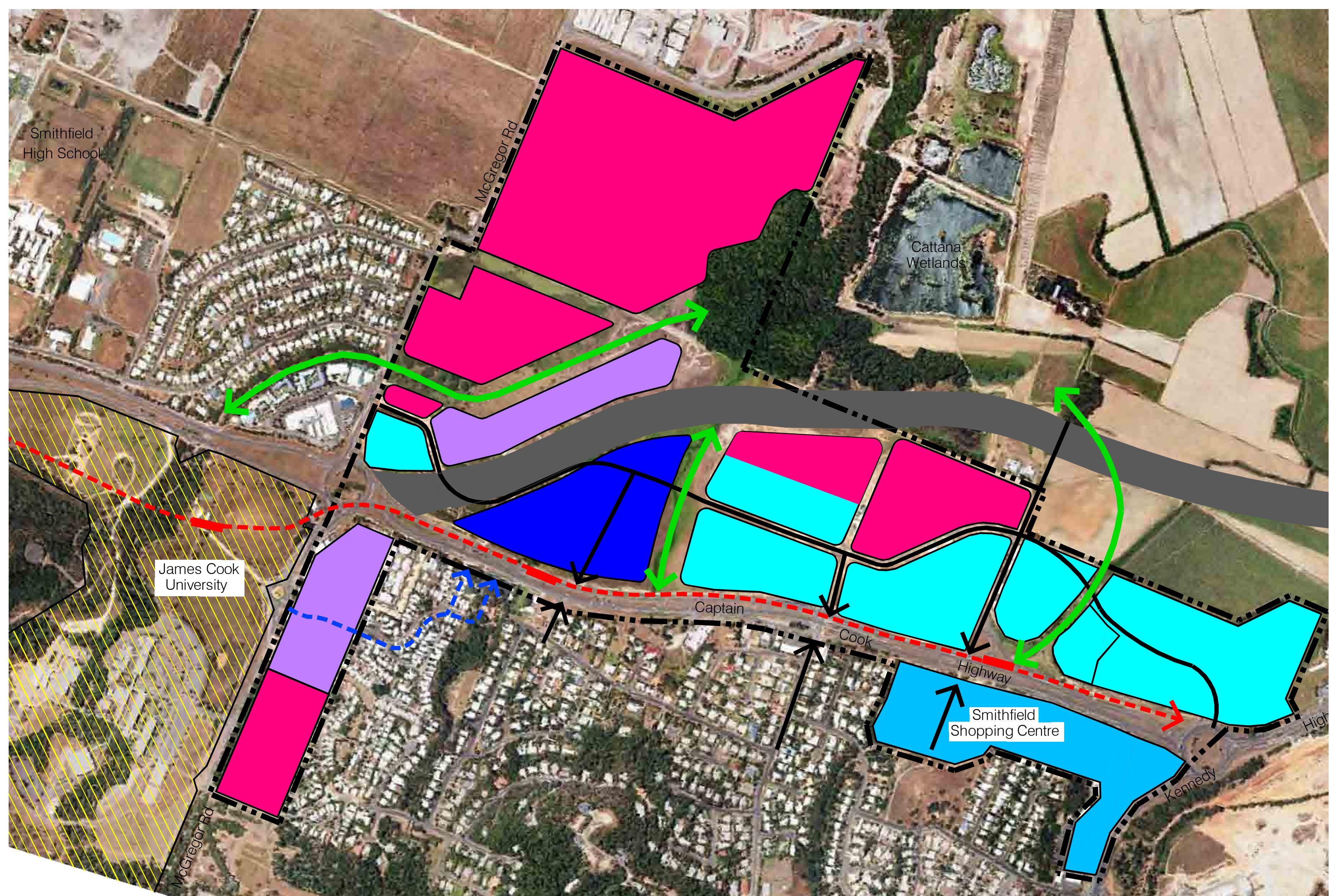
smithfield town centre

STRUCTURE PLAN

In order to facilitate the Town Centre, an amendment to the Cairns Plan will be undertaken to include a Structure Plan for the Smithfield Town Centre.

The draft Structure Plan below sets out the framework for the future development of the Smithfield Town Centre. The draft Structure Plan:

- Sets a Vision for Smithfield Town Centre;
- Identifies existing land uses;
- Articulates proposed new Town Centre uses for the 'greenfield' areas; and
- Provides appropriate connections and interfaces between existing and proposed land uses.



LEGEND

	Mixed Use Core		Smithfield Town Centre
	Mixed Use Frame		At Grade Intersection
	Employment		Possible Future Busway Route
	Residential		Possible Future Bus Stations
	Smithfield Shopping Centre		Proposed Pedestrian / Bicycle Path from JCU
	Proposed Captain Cook Highway Bypass		Open Space Link
	JCU Campus		



smithfield town centre

ABOUT THE PROJECT

What is the project about?

The Smithfield Town Centre planning process is **not** about the creation of a new shopping centre. It is about creating a sense of place for the community, a focal point where locals can gather; where they can live, work and play.

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smithfield town centre

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What will the town centre look like?

Specific questions about what exactly what the Town Centre would encompass and how it might look cannot be answered at the moment - this is because we are yet to even have a concept plan.



smithfield town centre

ABOUT THE TOWN CENTRE PLANNING PROCESS

What's involved?

Cairns Plan is the planning scheme for the former City of Cairns. The land included in the proposed Smithfield Town Centre site currently falls under a range of land use zonings under Cairns Plan.

The existing Smithfield Shopping Centre is identified by CairnsPlan as a "subregional centre".

In order to facilitate the proposed development, Council must apply to the State Government for a Schedule 1 Amendment to change the Planning Scheme in accordance with a Structure Plan for the Smithfield Town Centre.

Where are we?



**Please note: all future dates identified above are indicative only.*





smithfield town centre

HEIGHT AND SCALE

The Regional Plan foreshadows building heights of between six and eight storeys within the Core of the proposed Smithfield Town Centre. Community feedback is sought on appropriate building heights and the scale/density of development within the Town Centre.

HEIGHT

		I like it	I don't like it
2 storey			
3-4 storey			
up to 8 storey			

SCALE

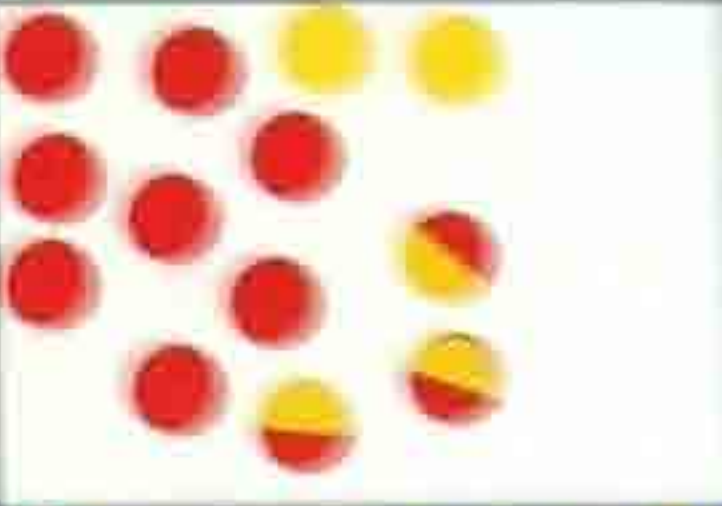
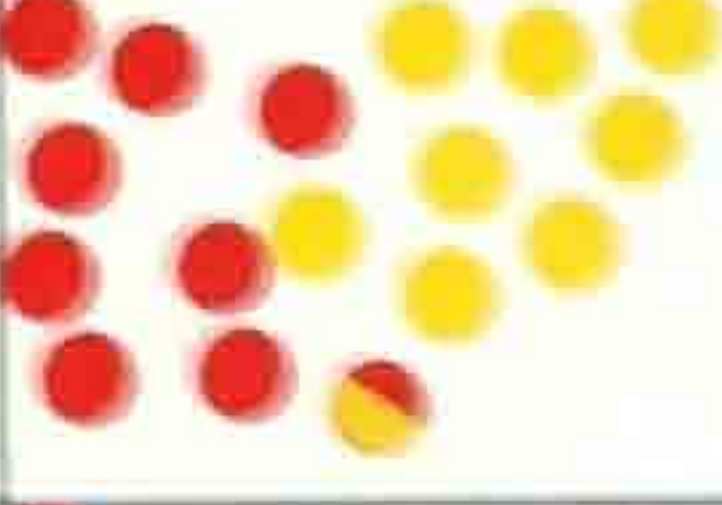
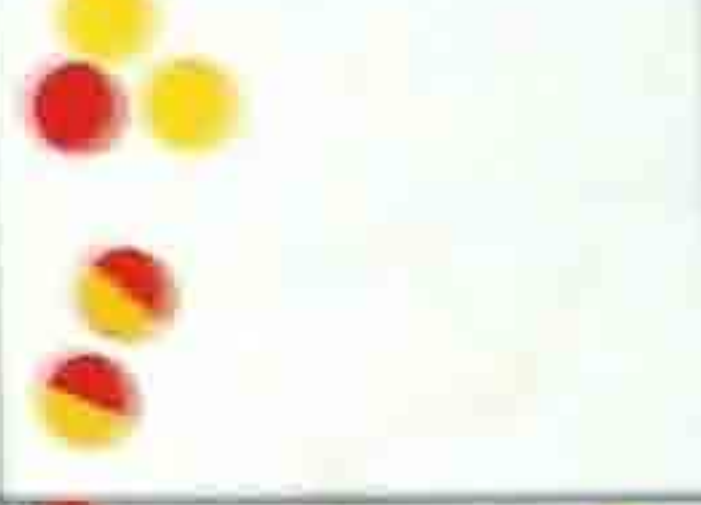
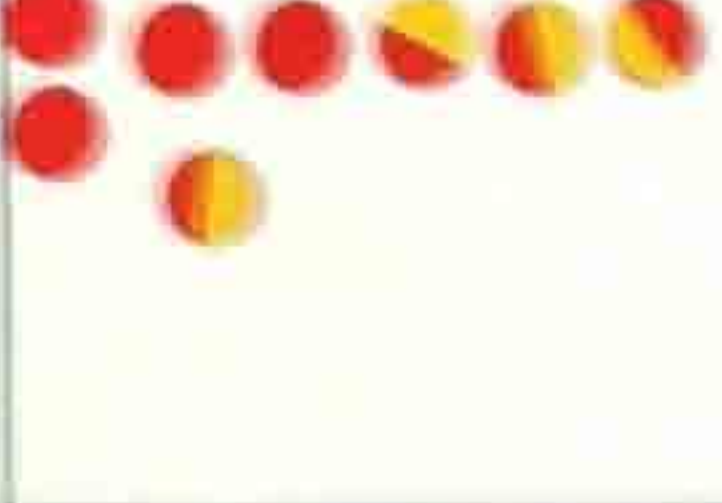
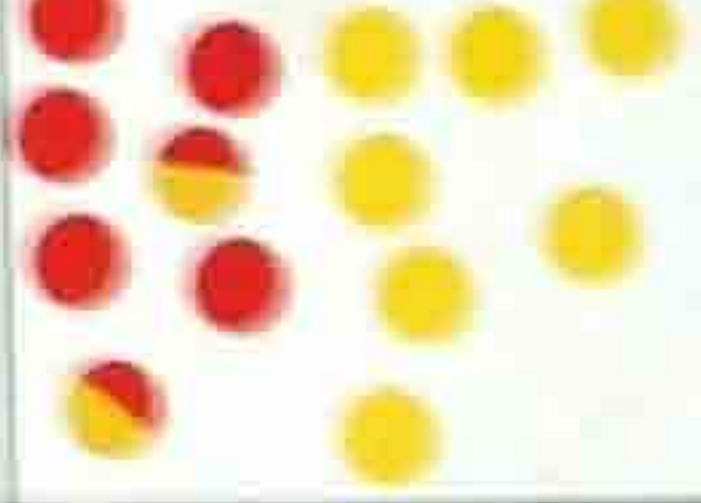
		I like it	I don't like it
Low density			
Medium density			
High density			

smithfield town centre

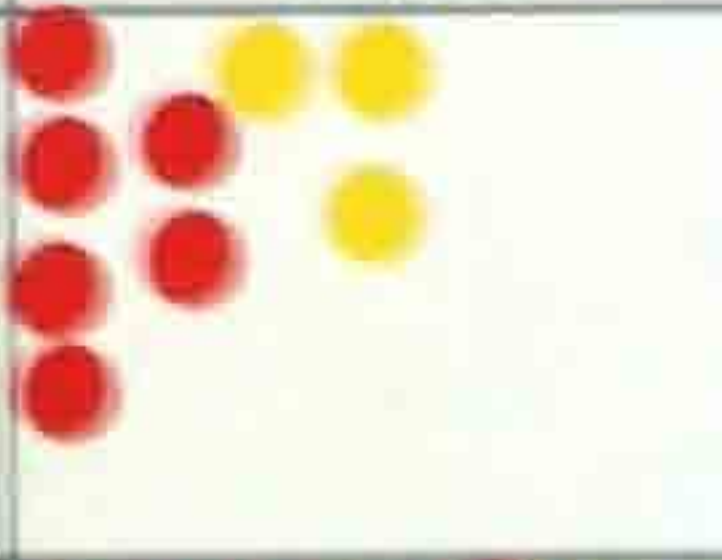
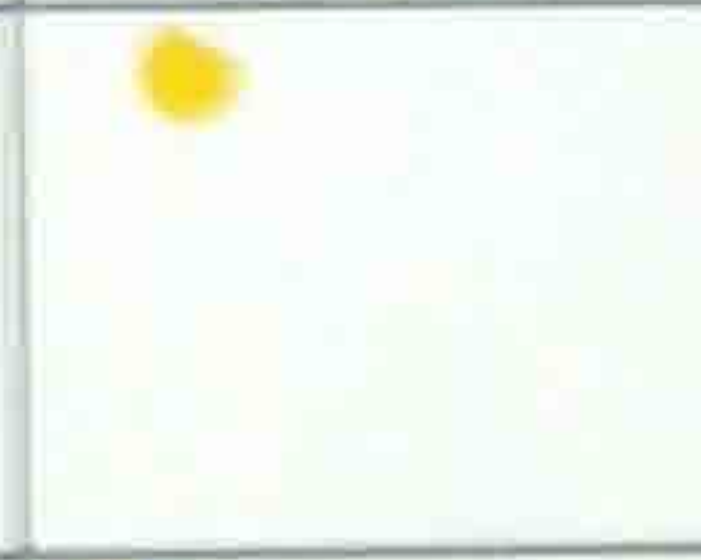
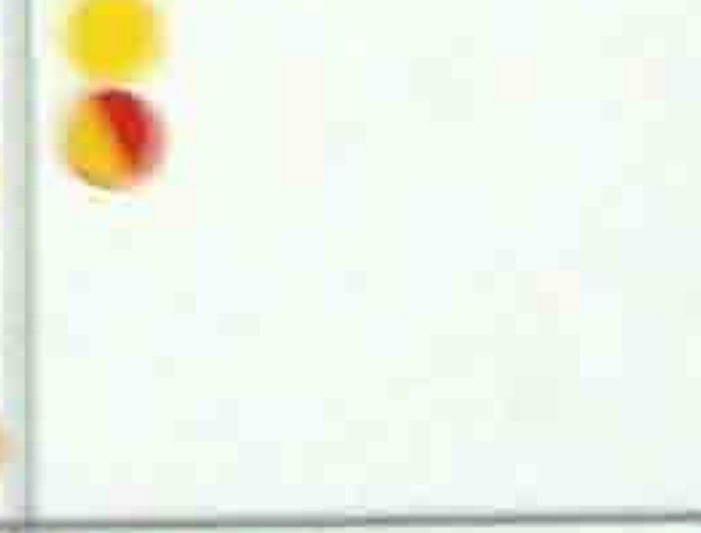
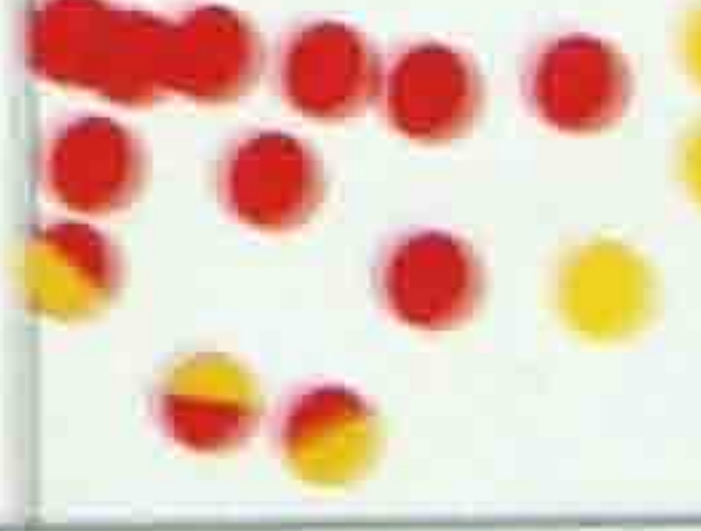
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		I like it	I don't like it
2-storey			
3-4 storey			
up to 8 storey			

SCALE

		I like it	I don't like it
Low density			
Medium density			
High density			



smithfield town centre

CORE AND FRAME

Distinction is to be drawn between the forms of development accommodated within the “Core” and “Frame” precincts of the Town Centre, as shown on the Draft Structure Plan. The images below illustrate the types of development envisaged within each area.

CORE

	I like it	I don't like it

FRAME

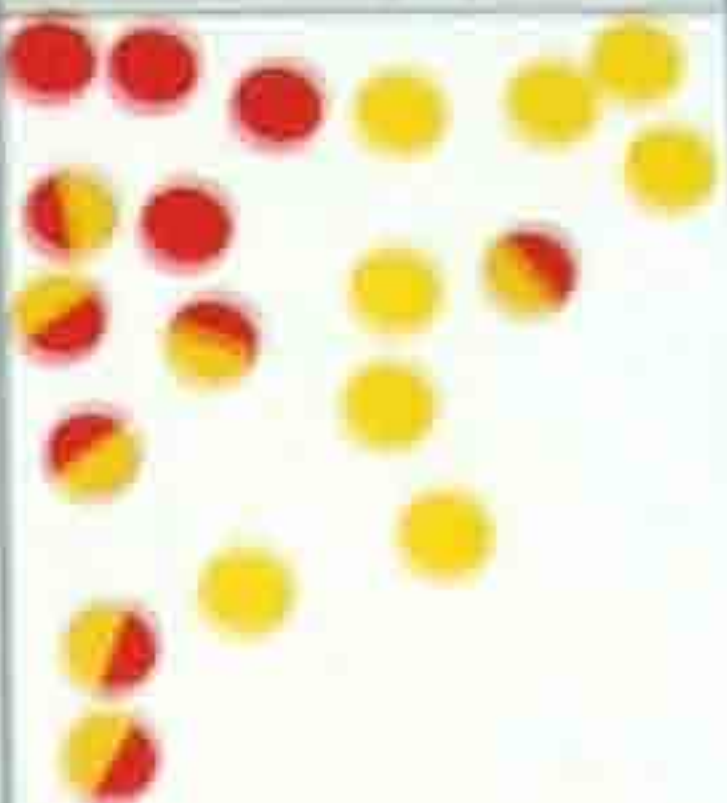
	I like it	I don't like it

smithfield town centre

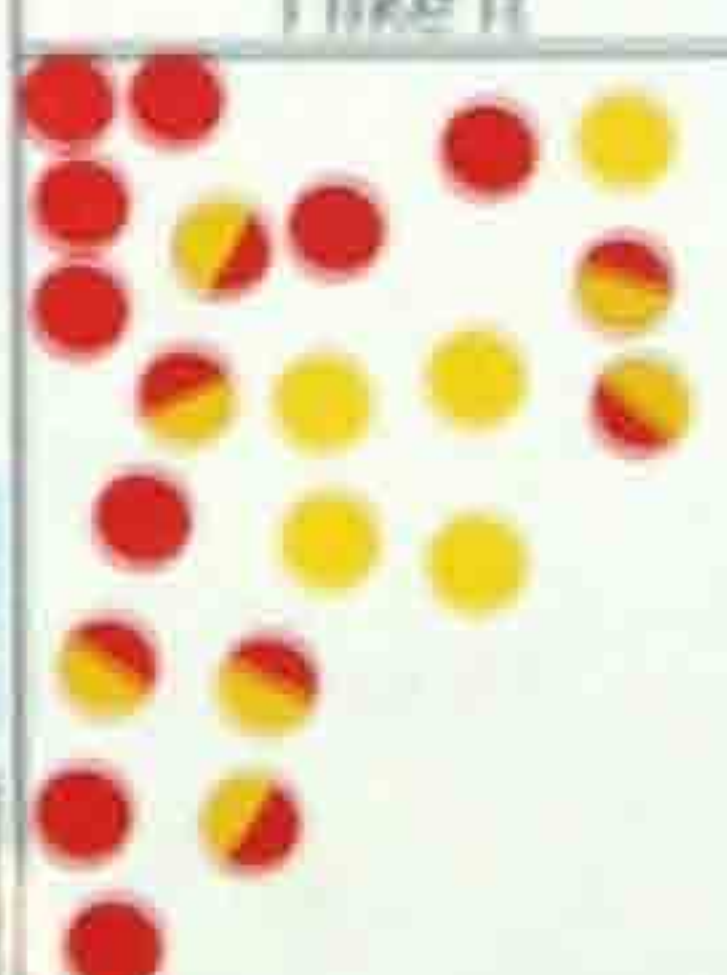
CORE AND FRAME

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CORE

		I like it	I don't like it
			

FRAME

		I like it	I don't like it
			

smithfield town centre

TRANSIT ORIENTED COMMUNITIES (TOCS)

The Far North Queensland Draft Regional Plan (FNQ 2025) identifies the establishment of Transit Oriented Communities (TOCS) in Cairns is a key element of the preferred pattern of development for the region. Smithfield is identified as a potential TOC in the Regional Plan.

Transit Oriented Communities incorporate appropriate higher densities but would be complemented by lower densities in the preferred housing mix.

Transit Oriented Communities vary in size, but are characterised by their pedestrian accessibility; that is, residences, facilities and services are generally situated within a comfortable 10 minute walk, or 400-800 metres, of a transit node, to reduce dependence on private car travel.



smithfield town centre

STYLE

North Queensland's unique geography, climate and local resources means built form in the Cairns area has developed a distinctive character and appearance. It is important that this style is retained when designing new structures, to enhance the tropical feel and charm of the region. It is intended that this tropical style be encouraged throughout the proposed Smithfield Town Centre, to promote designs that are suited to our climate and surrounds.



Appendix D

Summary of Comments from Feedback Forms

ENVIRONMENT

Water

Within the catchment (Machans to Ellis) the first priority should be to retain all conservation areas, 'endangered' and 'of concern' regional ecosystems and all current vegetation along and within 50m of ALL creeks. I note conservation of natural areas is omitted from the above priority list altogether!

Stops using fuel, for a better environment. Better for the community all round.

You have not given me enough information to decide, but at the moment, I would prefer to see Council money invested in habitat restoration and conservation of native vegetation as a means of enhancing the quality of life of residents rather than putting money into infrastructure which, for me, would not value add to a "sense of place".

In the future. I would like to see more open space, room for wildlife and birds as with all the new housing estates there is not the wildlife there used to be 5 years ago.

If it has low impact on wildlife areas and surrounds! The town centre should not impede on travel north and south.

Smithfield used to be much nicer with its cane fields. Please keep as many fields and natural bushland including wallabies. I moved to Smithfield to be out of town. If I need a town centre I go into Cairns.

I have owned a house in Trinity Park since 1989. I am concerned that bush area behind Napier Close be supervised and preserved properly.

Lots and lots of trees.

I think it is most important that this development does not result in the loss of precious wildlife corridors and native vegetation. There is already too much pressure on fragile ecosystems, including the many streams and waterways running from the mountain ranges behind Smithfield to the sea.

Preservation of existing bushlands and no increase in land clearing or destruction of bushland should be the FIRST priority for everyone.

Do not destroy the great surrounding infrastructure (i.e. the greenway)... it is the greatest resource we have!! Don't bulldoze and build over it. Build around it and use it to make it an extra special place... make it "truly" unique. Set some high targets of land to leave untouched.

I think the preservation of the Cattana Wetlands should be No.1 on the list. It's also crucial for the last remaining Jabarus and other endangered birdlife. It's also the last remaining areas that the coastal wallabies reside. Thoughts also for their protection, from transport is absolutely critical. I observe road kill every day.

As long as it is developed in an environmentally aware manner.

The northern beaches must retain environment and sustainable business and roads. Highway at Stanton Road MUST remove lights and have underpass - AT COST OF DEVELOPER!!!

Make sure that the Cattana Wetlands are safe from people's cats and other domestic animals. Also, make sure people won't be able to dump rubbish at the Cattana Wetlands.

Maintenance of native corridors, clean air, water, beaches and sustainable development are important. New buildings should have to meet environmental criteria to minimise their environmental footprint.

Corridors for wildlife - immediate stop to high-rises (this is not environmentally friendly and conducive to crime).

Council should be striving to reduce the dependence on air conditioning by requiring developers to have larger lot sizes and more effective and efficient environmental designs incorporated in individual houses.

Green space needs to be kept for the wildlife which is fast running out of habitat in the northern beaches and should be preserved and cared for for future generations. These animals exist nowhere else in the world and tourists come in part to see these animals in their natural habitat. How about spending the time and effort in set up something that they can be viewed safely at this location instead?

Water runoff and flooding.

Keep tropical environment. Stop animal arson attack on our forests. "The major cause of global warming is CO₂. The major cause of CO₂ production is forest trees" - Al Gore, An Inconvenient Truth

TRANSPORT/INFRASTRUCTURE

Upgrade infrastructure to cope with traffic growth.

Please look at a public transport system to integrate with all northern beaches suburbs and spend some effort on good (and pleasing to the eye) design.

Abundant footpaths (lacking in these areas)

Join Kewarra Beach residents to Trinity Beach with an adjoining road so residents do not have not access areas via Captain Cook Highway. A road must be linked for schools, shops etc.

All the beaches should be linked by a back road like northern beaches of Sydney. We need a cinema on the northern beaches. Even if it's a small 1 or 2 independent type cinemas. A roundabout should have been put at Paradise Palms so Kewarra Beach residents can access if they want to travel north instead of all traffic banked up at Cottesloe and Poolwood.

Transport and access is one of our greatest challenges in this flood-prone area. It would be a good time for Council to consider "end of trip" facilities. Look to Holland for their cycle strategies - fantastic role model for the rest of the world!

I own a house in Machans Beach. Road to Machans Beach upgrade. Floods often - Machans Beach then cut off - dangerous to drive road and dangerous for people who live in Machans who may get ill etc.

Cairns Council has neglected Yorkeys Knob - no street scaping of main road into Yorkeys (Varley Street)! Poor or no footpaths, no bike path or lane on roads to Smithfield Town Centre.

Bicycle paths connected from JCU to Smithfield Shops connected to Yorkeys Knob, path through Cattana wetlands to Smithfield shops.

Better public transport! Also, more medium/high density housing. More connection between Yorkeys and Smithfield and the university for shorter trips.

A regular express transport service between the centre and Cairns CBD is also encouraged. An adventurous/scenic based railway adjoining the existing Kuranda line could serve as an express commuter service for residents and tourists between the Smithfield Town Centre and Cairns CBD. Such a service would also encourage more tourism and leisure based investment and development in the area.

If the infrastructure can handle it (flooding). I own a property at Trinity Beach. Smithfield has been an area in the past that can suffer when cyclones come! Things need to be put in place to identify the flooding trends.

A well-planned "town" will have regular and fully-serviced public transport, quality bike and pedestrian links, as well as facilities such as play areas/equipment and BBQs to foster an outdoor lifestyle. Health and schooling is also very important. Fixing the traffic problem to access city also needs to be addressed.

Upgrading Kuranda Range.

There should be a plethora of non-vehicle dependent links to open spaces and recreation areas and your envisaged town centre. I rated community meeting places 4 but I think a great city has places people congregate by preference and because of desirable attributes such as aesthetic design and inspiration (eg. sculpture; games) quality seating, rain/sun protection, shade, vistas and nearby coffee shops etc.

More wheelchair access with footpaths, roads and shopping centres allowing for smooth transition, not steps from road to footpaths as is now. Pedestrian and cycling links from Palm Cove to Smithfield smoother linked up, much better than is now.

A monorail linking the beaches to Cairns and Cairns to the southern corridor would be great for tourists, but also if priced accordingly, would reduce congestion on roads and reliance on bus services for the locals.

Outgrowing infrastructure already.

I would very much like to have a public transport system to the city. Similar like Singapore or Switzerland where you don't need to own a car! Simply use public transport! No worries car park etc.

Access to beach suburbs and connections between them without going out onto the highway seems to be important for the future. Congestion at peak times and speed of traffic along the highway will become increasingly dangerous as the population increases.

Infrastructure first; services most important.

More facilities at Smithfield would save money and time. Smithfield needs a Town Centre which caters better for the elderly (eg. easier access from the highway; a covered walkway to Mt Millman, Bunnings, McDonalds, the Warehouse). At present, the Smithfield business area is divided by a major highway. What bad planning that was. Access and departure from Smithfield Shops is a farce. Shoppers carrying milk and meat must sit alongside the highway for 30 minutes in the heat waiting for a bus, sometimes it is just easier to catch a bus to town and shop in the city.

PROPOSED LAND USES

Smithfield Shopping Centre has never provided much choice in shopping - it's all clothing shops. We need an alternative with electrical and other outlets. Bring on the Town Centre then things might change. Listen to the people, not the owners of the other shopping venues, they are only interested in profit.

Smithfield Shopping Centre has got enough retail choices. I would like to see more banks. I hate driving into Cairns CBD to do my banking business.

100%. What are the existing Smithfield shop owners afraid of? A bit of competition... Must include: a supermarket the size of Bunnings, which would be an improvement on the existing corner shop size of Woolworths and Coles; a cinema!!; markets similar to Rusty's - not the maze which is on a Sunday.

You could add a retirement village and a public swimming pool, like in the city and a theme park.

A hospital on the northern side as well would be fantastic. Seniors village options (retirees; over 50s; aged care). Movie theatres; more restaurants - now only has fast food outlets or you have to go to the beaches or the city to find a decent restaurant; some form of accommodation (eg. resort/hotel/motel - there's nothing now!).

Don't forget the swings for the kids!!

Building in Clifton Beach and like the idea of Smithfield Town Centre. Need more facilities i.e. Queensland Transport/Council etc north side

The Marlin Coast Neighbourhood Centre should be relocated into this area.

Commercially-oriented town centre - NO! Community-oriented town centre - yes. Any town centre at Smithfield should only be community, recreation and leisure facilities. There should not be any commercial, retail, showrooms at this site. There is already too much commercial development in the northern beaches area (eg. Bunnings store where Mitre 10 is already located). There are too many concrete block warehouses/commercial facilities not in the Smithfield area. Rehabilitation/revegetation of a greenfield site at a Smithfield Town Centre is a better option with a range of community, recreation, leisure facilities for residents to use.

Better access in and around schools (eg. less through traffic). More kindergartens are needed for the young kids before they go to school.

There is a growth node now. We do not want a two-centre development bisected by the Cook Highway. The proposal is very futuristic considering the changed economic circumstances since first introduced. It is driven by developers with provision of extra retail space as a priority which is not required now and is not sustainable. The global economic crisis should cause this proposal to be deferred many years down the track until Australia and especially Cairns can see what future economic circumstances are.

Now. The Smithfield Shopping Centre should cover the existing intolerably hot open conditions of its present car parking and therefore create more showroom space.

There are six whitegoods and electrical stores in the Cairns CBD and only a limited Kmart store for this type of shopping. Please ring Collins Foods International in Brisbane and ask them to create a Sizzler restaurant at Campus Shopping Centre, or knock down that ugly dome on the adjacent roundabout and put one there.

Smithfield desperately needs a facility for mothers and children to go that is airconditioned and fun. We also need more retail facilities but not the same retail as Smithfield Shopping Centre. We need like Big W or Target type retail facility. Footpaths would be great in the older subdivisions for children and parents, as well as a more family-oriented suburb with kid-friendly eating etc. Another school as well!!

Need more family orientated facilities - a picture theatre, footpaths, more parks, medical facilities needed.

A boat ramp to replace the supposed boat ramp at Palm Cove.

I wish the town centre more involves different shops and is not a "the other Cairns centre" of "Stockland Shopping Centre". Parking space is the first priority. People would like to go shopping, I think, and if there is a dog care centre, I will take my dogs for "day care" and I can go shopping. Sounds interesting.

We need a "centre" with bars, restaurants and easily accessible. There is no heart in Smithfield at present. We need a cinema and pedestrian precinct area that is classy and not cheap and tacky (eg. Earlville). We need to be environmentally conscious and maintain a certain degree of exclusivity. Keep the industrial and government centres in town. Keep the tropical, sophisticated ambiance out here.

It is a growth area and projects need to grow with it and we would welcome outlets selling whitegoods, furniture and major discount stores!

My priorities are picture theatres, a transport hub with a fast link system to the airport.

Absolutely!! Cinema complex would be ideal for the northern beaches, so would a park, recreational area with a stage for bands and open theatre performances, ideally with cover. Stinger nets for Trinity Park and Half Moon Bay beaches.

I feel the area is becoming too urbanised, that as much open and undeveloped land as possible should be retained. There are more than enough shopping facilities already, viz Clifton Shopping Village where retailers are still struggling, some four years after it was opened.

Tourist based attractions and activities strongly encouraged, balanced with appropriate retail and recreational facilities.

Referring to the Marlin Coast Neighbourhood Centre - we seniors do NOT use the YMCA and to have the centre next to the library would be a major asset to us all. Why not!?

I believe we are well-served with retail - Central/Stockland/Smithfield and the new Westcourt (DFO) within 25 mins of the northern beaches. Urban sprawl, shops and HSES is not the tropical north that visitors want to see. You have probably already

decided on the new development and this I believe is just a publicity exercise. Clifton Village is still not up and ready and Argentea, well what a surprise that will be!

If we want to go to a town centre we can drive to Cairns.

A large community hall suitable for dances, weddings etc is sadly lacking. (No church halls as in other suburbs). As the population has grown dramatically in the last 10-20 years a hall available at a reasonable cost is a must. The design must include a good kitchen and smaller rooms/areas that can be utilised by smaller groups (eg. cards, mah-jong, yoga, craft, meditation groups, etc). Also, a large enough car parking (with a view to safety at night) to accommodate approximately 50-120 or so cars - re: wedding or 21st birthday or such.

Community needs are adequately met by existing developments. With current economic realities, no extra retail outlets are needed.

Much needed entertainment area with cinemas, outdoor concert venue, parklands, keeping in mind to preserve the rural feel of Smithfield (eg. horses in open areas and plenty of green areas).

Quality education opportunities across all ages (especially high school).

Improved health facilities is also of high importance.

Commercial accommodation options for visitors, student accommodation for university students as there is not enough.

We need Spotlight in the northern beaches.

More tourist attractions.

I would like a children's playground (similar to Muddy's) included in the concept.

The beaches are in need of more social and leisure facilities (eg. cinemas). It would also be great to see larger retailers like Big W/Target out here. To would be great to have an area for community events along the lines of Fogarty Park in town.

Town Centre should not include "showrooms" (eg. furniture and whitegoods). These should be outside the "town centre".

The community centre needs to be moved to provide more access (i.e. parking bigger centre).

I would like to see Big W or Target out here. Better choice of food outlets both restaurants and fast food.

More retail shops are not necessary. The "spirit of the northern beaches" is the land - for wildlife, for people to enjoy, forever! NOT high density housing/shopping centres/pubs/clubs/pokies!

Other priorities include: a theme park, hospital at university, smart industries.

All important government offices (eg. motor registration etc) should be in Smithfield.

PLANNING AND DESIGN

I fully support the Smithfield Town Centre concept and hope CRC continue supporting the plan. Coming from a city with years of no forward planning, I can soundly say planning and action is vital. CRC please support the concept of Smithfield Town Centre.

The beach suburbs should be kept wholly separate from each other and from the other suburbs, to retain their small village character.

I'd like to see an end to the proliferation of ugly concrete slab buildings.

None of the associated service or businesses have even started at Bluewater. Lots of promises, nothing fulfilled. Lots of new housing in the area, not one new shop or service.

Totally in support of "in-situ" living/employment.

It is a very good idea to develop Smithfield into the second town centre in Cairns City.

The new town centre should embrace a village atmosphere and not become a place that becomes an appendage of urban sprawl attempting to absorb the inevitable growth and development of Cairns.

The above priorities need to be extended to Redlynch, for the benefit of families.

The beach suburbs tend to be all zoned R1 and R3 with little in between. Need more R2 zones to provide a transition between single houses and four-storey multi-unit developments. The 800m² min area for dual occupancy is too conservative. Should be 640m² to provide more housing choice and assist affordability.

History says more of the same retail outlets not making a living. Smithfield is well large enough. This area is becoming overdeveloped. You do not mention wildlife preservation. Take a good long look at the Gold Coast over the last 30 years. Do we want it repeated here? The answer has to be NO!!!

Depending on concepts and highway changes - we do not support the original plan we were told about. If any centre designed takes away customer access to our existing business we would be extremely disappointed. Creating more jobs on one side of the highway does not necessarily assist businesses on the existing side.

I feel the area is catered for already, including demographics taking into account population growth until 2030.

It is an exciting concept and one that will create jobs for our young people in years to come. Transport (public) will be a key component as our population ages. Let's not forget our youth with things for them to do and participation in numerous projects.

Only if it is done in a holistic, not urban, way. We need to adopt an approach similar to California, where they are creating self-sustainability, building intelligent designs

and utilising what occurs naturally to compliment the existing landscape. We also need the Rudolph Steiner School to operate in cairns area, not on top of the range.

Hope awnings/umbrella/sail cloth type of design roof tops to shade all public areas.

Wide streets would be good.

Need to beautify the beachfronts, at Yorkeys Knob in particular.

Planting is very important in a hot climate (see Singapore - tree city). Plenty of parking spaces, plenty of green belts (i.e. treed corridors and SHADY!), parks to walk dogs etc, lots of gardened areas around the built up areas to beautify and soften. Shade trees in the car parks (i.e. make it appropriate to a HOT climate from day one. Make it a space to feel good in NOT just functional (i.e. be innovative, respect the public).

PROJECT TIMING

We would like to see a Town Centre at Smithfield developed as soon as possible.

Not now - maybe some years down the track. We certainly do not need another regional shopping centre in Smithfield or the northern beaches. The existing Smithfield Shopping Centre is more than adequate for now and the foreseeable future.

Now, not in the future.

Great scheme, but the timetables? Far, far too slow! Smacks snail-pace bureaucracy. Please speed it up.

ASAP.

ASAP

This project should be brought forward to assist the building industry during the recession.

In the future if there is need. Not now.

Now 2010-2013.

NOW

I believe it is important to go ahead with this plan now. Smithfield Centre and the car park is already overfull. It will reduce some need to travel to CBD and will be an important part of living here. Please go ahead and remember to leave open spaces too! With thanks.

Now would be best, suitable location may not be available in the future.

With the growth of our area. The sooner the better.

As soon as possible would be great.

CHARACTER AND AMBIENCE

Be careful about preserving the ambience of a place. You don't want another row of hotel and spa buildings like Port Douglas has on its main road approach into the town itself. I saw it for the first time only recently, and wasn't impressed. Too many put up. Don't overdo it.

We want a "beating" heart as a centre of the community, not a dead heart.

Should have an open feel and maybe incorporate the Smithfield Shopping Centre if possible.

We have a house at Palm Cove and spend about 4 months each year there. We hope the planning will retain the "village" atmosphere of Palm Cove and that new development will not make blocks too small and houses too big.

Need some local shops/cafes at Clifton Beach to provide less sterile "village" feel.

My family chose to live in the northern beaches away from the CBD, town centres, traffic, development and crowds. We are slowly losing that idyllic lifestyle as we are being encroached upon. The beaches are losing their appeal and are being taken over by "homogeneity".

SMITHFIELD SHOPPING CENTRE

Expanding Smithfield Centre is a much better idea.

In supporting a Town Centre we do not want the retail focus to shift from Smithfield Shopping Centre to the detriment of businesses that have been through the redevelopment and other tough times.

I am a business owner in the Smithfield area and the dollars are spread very thinly now.

Smithfield already has a shopping centre within 15 minutes of the furthest suburb away. A new centre will destroy the existing centre, leaving two half-used shopping areas. This seems to be a money-making venture for Cairns Council.

As a retailer in the Smithfield Centre, I would like to see a return of investment for the stores that currently exist due to an increase in foot traffic through the centre. Not a reduction due to another CBD present.

In conjunction with the Smithfield Centre.

While I empathise with the shop owners, proposed development of a Smithfield Town Centre should proceed immediately for the service of all residents and not be held up because of the impact on the shop owners of Smithfield Shopping Centre.

By expanding the Smithfield Shopping Centre - Build up - Multi level in the existing car parks with a new car park on top of the complex. Smithfield Shopping Centre could also be joined to the business park off Mt Millman by an overhead overbridge walkway. An additional car park could be introduced in the business park area with access to Smithfield Shopping Centre by way of an overbridge. Save money by expanding an existing site rather than starting from scratch.

CINEMA

When is someone going to build a cinema on the northern beaches? I hope there is one planned for his development.

Fast track a cinema. Not Birch Carrol and Coyle!

Cinemas

Movie theatre

Our picture cinema is very well overdue in this area of Smithfield.

Actually, my No.1 choice would only be a cinema complex. I know myself and many other northern beaches residents travel into the CBD regularly to see a movie, which is inconvenient. "Gold Class" would be something that Cairns doesn't have also.

Cinema and walking tracks.

Cinemas would be better in the new Town Centre.

Cinemas would be good.

MISCELLANEOUS

Cairns City Council has already done enough damage by approving all the high density "slums of the future" developments. How much wildlife have you killed as a result of these? Leave the beaches alone and save the wildlife. Save taxpayers' money by not printing this crap.

Why is the CRC wasting ratepayers' funds on this exercise when it is already being done by a private consortium? This council is a shambles of conflicting and ill conceived ideas. This glossy brochure is a fine example of a waste of resources and poorly designed as I have to send half of the information back with this reply!

Sounds exciting.

Increase in law enforcement patrols to the northern beaches.

Keep outside capitalist investors who buy our lands for cheap, subdivide, then sell back to us at very high prices, and also capitalist builders who take away opportunities for our young people. Might slow down a little but will make the Cairns region a better place for the people that matter - the people that live here and have done so for many years, paid for what we have, our infrastructure.

Maybe, depending on how well it is done. The consultation sticker thing does not ask about parks, open space, community areas.

Only with SIGNIFICANT community consultation, that has NO vested interest.

Brochure needs to be out in time, in future, for people to attend meetings. Area has distinct geographical limits and I see no real need to create a "town centre" at considerable expense to ratepayers with marginal benefit (get rid of consultants). Cairns CBD needs further support and infrastructure, rather than some fancy new town centre at Smithfield.

Two day notice for this meeting is not enough - one or two weeks would be better.

Please note I received this brochure after the community informations had already been held.

This invitation arrived too late for us to attend due to Christmas workload. More than 3 days notice please.

Not sure. Probably won't be here anyway as Cairns is fast losing the qualities that attracted me here in the first place.

Why do you waste paper asking the above as you do what you decide?

Keen to see this happen. I own an investment property in Trinity Park and would love to see the value increase, but more importantly, the development would be great for the people living in the area, an opportunity for employment, growth and will make it a better place to live.

Leave it as it is, this is a money making exercise by the owners of the land to get it rezoned.

A town centre encompassing the facilities mentioned overleaf can only enhance the lifestyle of northern beaches residents and visitors.

Would be just great not to have to go to Cairns for a lot of things. Being a pensioner, it gets hard to travel.

Ease off on liquor licensed bars etc. Think! Create a family lifestyle, safe! Ease off on zoning in Smithfield to accommodate townhouses/duplex in the rich area. If you want grog go to Cairns, stay out til 6am there! More people + more available alcohol = grubs and trouble.

SEEKING MORE INFORMATION

Have not had enough info yet to make a decision. Would like to know proposed site of this project and its effects on existing businesses.

Investors in Palm Cove concerned/interested in regional development. Spend 3/12 of the year in Palm Cove.

You should have shown a map of the area being discussed. I own an investment property in Yorkeys Knob and I do not know if I am in this area.

As an investor and owning two properties in Trinity Park, I am interested in what is happening.