

## Planning and Development Industry Reference Group Minutes

<b>Date:</b>	9 August 2022	<b>Start Time:</b>	9am	<b>Location:</b>	Cairns Regional Council Civic Reception Rooms
<b>Meeting Chairs:</b>	Ed Johnson – Director Planning, Growth & Sustainability Kristy Gilvear - Industry Co-Chair				
<b>Attendees:</b>	Planning and Development Industry Reference Group Members:  Ed Johnson, Kristy Gilvear, Nikki Huddy, Keith Savage, Lisa Mackee, Greg Gould, Brett Nancarrow, Gisela Jung, Mark Conlan, Nathan Lee Long, Deb Wellington; Lisa Law; Gavin Allwood; Stuart Ricketts, Keanu Johnston; Kylie Nolan, Claire Simmons; Terry James; Mica Martin; Shane Moon; Paul Steele				
<b>Visitors:</b>					
<b>Apologies:</b>	Peter Fry; Andrew Prowse; Rodney Byl; Lyn Powell; James Thorne-Stones; Leah Lang				

#	Minutes	Actions
1	<b>Review of IRG Minutes 7/6 and DA Sub Working Group Minutes 1/8 – Next DA Sub Working Group set for 27/9</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IRG Actions Register attached <a href="#">#6862322</a></li> </ul>	Ongoing
2	Director Planning, Growth and Sustainability – Welcome  EJ covered  Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following the functional review – Council have established 3 branches each with an Executive Manager (EM) within the directorate.</li> <li>Branches are:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Licensing and Compliance, Executive Manager (EM) - Kel Barnes – looking after, property, health, local laws and compliance.</li> <li>Growth &amp; Sustainability – EM – announcing Fleur Anderson to the role. Fleur will start 19 September. Fleur has most recently been with Cairns Historical Society, she has had similar roles in Victoria, with a strong</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

sustainability background – Fleur will be looking after, sustainability and strategic planning. Her core business will be looking at 30-50 years from now, including planning scheme amendments.

- Planning & Development – EM – Claire Simmons – looking after Development Assessment & Development Engineering, includes the assessment of all Development Applications
- The Growth Management Strategy – towards 2050 tender has been awarded to Towards 2050 Collective – The Wolter Consulting Group.  
This is an exciting moment for Council and we will be looking at a variety of things, including affordability and availability for houses, growth and hazards. Deb Wellington will go into more detail.
- Today, Development Services are processing a high workload with approx. 161 Development Applications per month. This figure is still trending high.
- The new survey plan process is working well. For a 3 month period last year, assessment took on average approximately 44 days to process. For the same period this year, assessment took an average of 20.4 days to process. This is in response to well made applications being received. It is our commitment that if a well made application is received, assessment will occur as quickly as possible.
- It has been nearly 12 months of holding the Industry Reference Group. As part of the Terms of Reference for the group, 4 KPI's were established.
  - DA assessment times at or below the UDIA – the quarterly data to be released in the coming days
  - Not more than 50% of Development Applications, not properly made – data will be available at next IRG.
  - A streamlined DA process – we are reaching out to other Local Government Areas (LGA) – most likely is Brisbane City Council's assess smart system – acknowledging that this is an ongoing journey.
  - Partner with Industry for awards program – Council welcomes a partnership – happy to be approached for any ideas.
- The sub IRG group meeting occurred on 1 August – this group discussed town planning assessment matters. Also discussed:
  - Pre-lodgements – Council has the view that the higher the number of pre-lodgements the better it is going. The pre-lodgement process is to de-risk development assessment – the process has been rebuilt and is working better, however acknowledge that it can still be fine-tuned – acknowledge that we need to offer advice that is stuck to.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Street trees – Issue on being a defect at plan sealing – the problem seems to be with the builders once developers have completed their work. Council is looking at and for options. Possible options raised includes an amendment to CairnsPlan 2016 Scheme’s Acceptable Outcomes for Dwelling Houses and/or a bond option. Council acknowledges there needs to be different scenarios for different delivery models.</li> <li>○ Erosion &amp; Sediment Control – Erosion issues on greenfield sites is atrocious – the issues seem to be post Works Acceptance – Council can take a heavy enforcement approach, but would prefer not to. There is also a general issue of tidiness – Council would prefer to go through an education journey rather than enforcement. Council receives many complaints on the issue. We need to make people aware that this is a focus.</li> <li>● CairnsPlan Major Amendment – is currently underway – noting that the major amendment is not a full review of the scheme. The amendment process is continual process to ensure the scheme is maintained. The amendment process will continue during the Growth Strategy. Feedback can be lodged at any time through the website - <a href="#">Current scheme   Cairns Regional Council</a>.</li> <li>● FNQROC is currently open for submissions of proposed changes. Council will be issuing a whole of Council submission. Council encourages all to make a submission of any suggested amendments.</li> </ul>	
3	<p><b>Terms of Reference Actions Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● See previous discussion.</li> </ul>	
4	<p>Strategic Update</p> <p><u>Towards 2050 Growth Strategy Presentation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Has been awarded to Towards 2050 Collective – The Wolter Consulting Group.</li> <li>● The IRG will be kept informed of the progress.</li> <li>● Will be using the Community Engagement tool – Hive. This is an interactive platform for the community. The launch will within the Cairns Post piece on growth.</li> <li>● Is overlaying with the review of the Regional Plan. The strategy will be a key piece and Council will be working together with the State.</li> <li>● It is intended to be a strong partnership approach with the State and the timing is the best opportunity to tie the two together.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members of the group raised strong concerns that none from the Towards 2050 Collective are from Cairns, that no members of the team are exclusively Cairns based.</li> <li>• Council acknowledges that Cairns is a unique place, with one of the objectives to define and underpin the strategy in 'Cairnsness'</li> <li>• Members raised that Council need to ensure that the work is grounded in Cairns, with sufficient time spent in the region, especially from a scenic amenity perspective.</li> <li>• Members raised the concern that there is insufficient local content in significant project.</li> <li>• The issue of how do we build local capacity was raised, noting Council has an obligation as a corporate citizen to invest in our local talent, acknowledging that there is a lack of experts in the region.</li> <li>• The Towards 2050 Growth Strategy is owned by Cairns Regional Council and the Strategic Planning team, who all live and work here are part of the team.</li> <li>• Good community engagement will ensure we represent the community.</li> <li>• Engagement with the industry will also be required.</li> <li>• Members raised concerns with past experiences, like the Mount Peter Masterplan.</li> <li>• Suggested that a Project Control Group be established and should contain local members – give the opportunity to challenge if required. Council will review options and come back to the group</li> <li>• This is the largest project Cairns Regional Council has done, and Council staff are integrated into the Project.</li> <li>• Council notes that a stringent procurement process was followed in the awarding of the tender.</li> <li>• The project will be biggest engagement that has been undertaken, with education, capacity building and grounding in Cairns being a key component.</li> <li>• The IRG will be involved at critical junctions.</li> <li>• The Strategy will answer how the city will grow moving forward. The technical reports will form the basis of a new Planning Scheme.</li> <li>• It will be the foundation for a new planning scheme.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Urban Heat Update</b></p> <p><u>Presentation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The seminar was worthwhile and well attended. Experts from Cairns and beyond presented and attended.</li> <li>• The issue of Urban Heat is a very important issue and will continue to be so into the future.</li> <li>• The current model, which is a southern model of house design is not appropriate for the tropics.</li> <li>• The old style – the Queenslander design, was more appropriate.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do we change the model?</li> <li>• The Darwin subdivision of the 'Breezes' was an innovative design and addressed urban heat.</li> <li>• The evidence supports that greening (vegetation) reduces urban heat.</li> </ul>	
6	<p><b>General Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meetings need to ensure that the conversation is two way.</li> <li>• The Growth Strategy will feature heavily in future meetings.</li> </ul>	
7	<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuesday 11 October 2022 – 9am.:</li> <li>• Reminder about shared responsibility and approach to bringing forward agenda items, as the IRG terms of reference seeks to ensure that both Council and industry members are bringing forward matters for discussion, to reflect the collaborative approach of the IRG.</li> </ul>	