

CAIRNS CITY CENTRE

alive

DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES



CONTACT US

This document is provided for general information and guidance purposes only and should not be relied upon to determine eligibility for investment incentives or programs.

For further information about Council's investment incentives and programs, please contact Council's Economic Development Unit.

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Cairns Regional Council is bringing the Cairns City Centre Alive.

Our assistance and incentive programs for investors and developers are making it easier to live, visit and do business in the Cairns City Centre.

LIVE. VISIT. DO BUSINESS.



growth



development



Investment Incentives

We welcome business investment in our City Centre. Cairns Regional Council will provide discretionary support to businesses seeking to invest in the region's future in key strategic industries.

In-kind support and direct financial incentives are available. Approved applicants will receive priority local government support through the appointment of a dedicated Case Manager who will serve as a single point of contact with Council.



Fast track development applications

We are cutting red tape and streamlining desirable development by fast tracking development applications.

Council has dedicated staff to fast track the assessment of selected low risk development applications. Eligible applications will be assessed in less than half the time allowed for under the legislation, significantly reducing red tape and holding costs.



Pre-lodgement Enquiry Service

Avoid delays by taking advantage of our free pre-lodgement enquiry service. The pre-lodgement enquiry service promotes and maintains effective communication between Council and the applicant, facilitating well-made applications and a quicker approval process.

Council offers this free service for applicants to discuss a proposal prior to lodging a formal development application.

\$\$\$ Infrastructure Charges Incentive Program

Council's infrastructure charges incentive program is stimulating development and construction in Cairns.

To date, the program has supported regional construction projects valued at over \$443 million, with some \$68 million worth of projects already completed or under construction. The current round, which is focused on construction in the City Centre, has seen 24 large commercial and retail developments granted a total discount of \$12 million.



Flexible Planning Scheme

Our development-friendly planning scheme is making it easier to live, visit and do business in the City Centre.

The scheme provides a flexible framework with a focus on outcomes not process. Reduced levels of assessment provide greater certainty for developers.

We encourage people to make the City Centre their home and take advantage of all the benefits living in the City offers. Our planning scheme promotes residential living in the City Centre, to meet the needs of our growing population and demand for inner city living.



Car Parking Concessions

To encourage desirable development in the Cairns City Centre, Council has relaxed car parking requirements for business and shopping facilities to one car park per 50m².

Integrated, mixed use developments may qualify for a further relaxation of up to 30% of the non-residential component for cross-utilisation.

Council has taken steps to optimise parking within the Cairns City Centre, and planning is under way for construction of a new multi-storey car park in Grafton Street.

CAIRNS CITY CENTRE *alive* PROJECT

The multi-million dollar City Centre Alive redevelopment project is bringing new life into the centre of Cairns through improved access, functionality and appearance.

This major infrastructure project is transforming the vital heart of the city – Lake Street and Shields Street – through enhanced traffic connectivity, bus service improvements and substantial landscaping. 'Reef and rainforest' themed streetscaping and statement panels depicting the region's renowned natural attributes will represent all the great things about Cairns, and create a more inviting environment for people to visit, shop and do business.

Key components of the city centre transformation include a new bus transit hub to better meet the growing needs of the community, and the opening of Lake Street to two-way traffic in a shared, low-speed environment.

Due for completion in late 2014, the City Centre Alive project will deliver improved public transport services in the city centre, enhance vehicle and cycle connectivity along Lake Street, and increase the commerciality of the city heart.

