

Budget Snapshot

2025/2026

\$723.7m

TOTAL
BUDGET

\$421.8m

CAPITAL WORKS
PROGRAM

5.9%

GENERAL
RATE RISE
(for the majority
of ratepayers)

\$40.7m

SERVICE AND
MAINTAIN
COMMUNITY
ASSETS

Capital works program: investing in essential infrastructure

Cairns Water Security Stage 1: **\$260.1m**
Investment in safe drinking water: **\$28m**
Sewage collection and treatment: **\$32.9m**
Roads, footpaths and drainage: **\$54.7m**
Community spaces: **\$21.8m**
Entertainment and the arts: **\$3.2m**
Waste services, collection and recycling: **\$2.9m**



In the community

Footpaths and cycleways: **\$3.7m**
Muddy's Playground revitalisation: **\$2.4m**
Improvements to parks and playgrounds: **\$3m**
Pools and aquatic facilities: **\$1.3m**
Sporting facilities: **\$2.1m**
Cairns Community and Multicultural Centre: **\$950,000**
Public toilets: **\$1.9m**
Clifton Beach and Holloways Beach erosion protection: **\$2m**
Lake Placid restoration: **\$1.1m**

Major projects

Casuarina Street bridge: **\$17m**
Mount Peter Reservoir: **\$5m**
Smart water meter rollout: **\$6.1m**
Water main refurbishment program: **\$5m**
Sewer relining program: **\$2.8m**
Navigation Drive project: **\$6.9m**



Backing Cairns: investing in industry and events

\$3.5m to promote Cairns as premier tourism destination (TTNQ)
\$2.6m to fund arts, culture and museums
\$1.4m for lifestyle and community grants and events
\$1.5m to support major events

Fees and charges

Sewerage access and cleansing: **4.5% increase**
Water access: **11.3% increase**
Water usage charge: **17 cent/kilolitre increase** (residential) and **18 cents/kilolitre increase** (commercial)
No increase to general fees and charges, with some exceptions including cemeteries and Ticketlink
No increase in parking fees
3.5% increase in parking fines (in line with State increase of Penalty Units)