

ESPLANADE MANAGEMENT POLICY

Intent: To ensure that the management and programming reflects the following key objectives of the reserve:-

- To showcase Council's commitment to the areas of environment, healthy lifestyle, culture and regional development;
- To provide a significant open space area and casual recreational facilities for the Cairns community;
- To provide safe, and secure and well maintained facilities for all those who visit the Esplanade parklands and lagoon;
- To provide effective and efficient management and regulation of activities on the Cairns Esplanade with consideration of impacts to neighbouring businesses and residents;
- To encourage sustainable public use and enjoyment of this precinct for passive recreation through provision of a wide range of recreational and cultural experiences for residents and visitors to the region;
- To establish a Fees & Charges Structure to enable Council to both recover operating costs associated with activities and to assist with regulation of activities whilst enabling community events and activities; and

To recognise the Indigenous Land Use Agreements in place, and the traditional owners of Cairns Esplanade.

Scope: This Policy applies to the lands contained within the Cairns Esplanade Reserve.

The Esplanade Reserves provide linkage and connectivity between the waterfront, the City and other neighbouring recreational and environmentally sensitive areas such as the Munro Martin Parklands / Cairns Performing Arts Centre, North Cairns Sports Precinct, Airport Mangrove Boardwalk, Botanic Gardens, Centenary Lakes, Tanks Arts Centre, Cairns Central Swamp and Cityport area. Consideration of these linkages and connectivity will be taken with any decision regarding Cairns Esplanade reserves.

PROVISIONS

Authorities

Council delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to ensure that the Cairns Esplanade and all activities associated with it are managed in accordance with this General Policy, while remaining within the budgetary limits established by the Council each year.

For events anticipated to attract more than 2500 participants, approval by the Manager Community Development is required. For all events with an expected participation of more than 5,000, approval by the General Manager Community, Sport & Cultural Services is required. Council, by resolution can approve the conduct of an Open Air Concert later than 10pm. The only exception will be the annual New Year's Eve concert that is approved through until midnight.

Approved Activities

Activities which showcase the natural and cultural heritage setting may include:

- public education, information and interest displays and events
- natural and cultural heritage tours;
- public art and landscape installations;
- natural and cultural environment and public areas management and administration;
- active living programs may include aquatic and general fitness activities.

Appropriate community celebrations and cultural events including:

- outdoor recreation and entertainment;
- promotional activities and displays associated with the community activities;
- community celebrations, festivals and markets.

Approval of food service relative to community celebrations, festival or events must consider impacts on existing businesses in close proximity. The Lagoon Western Events lawn is in immediate proximity to large numbers of food service providers.

The following points must be satisfied prior to any approval of temporary public food outlets on the Lagoon Western Events lawn:

- The food service must be unique and not directly compete with any existing Esplanade businesses
- The food service must be culturally significant to a community event
- Event attendances will exceed the capacity of existing food service businesses

Some commercial activities will require local law approval.

Fees and Charges

Except where Cairns Regional Council has resolved to reduce or waive a fee, fees are payable for all commercial events and activities carried out on the Cairns Esplanade as prescribed in the annually adopted fees and charges.

Esplanade Opening Hours

The Cairns Esplanade Lagoon will remain open to the public for the following hours;

- 6:00 am to 9:00 pm - Thursday to Tuesday including public holidays
- 12 noon to 9:00 pm - Wednesdays

Periodic closure of the Esplanade Lagoon to allow for programmed maintenance works to be carried will occur on a biennial basis. Signage indicating closure periods will be erected on site.

Muddy's Regional Playground will remain open to the public from 9:00 am until 7:00pm, Monday to Sunday including public holidays. Periodic closure of sections of the playground will occur between 9:00 am and 11:00 am on Tuesdays and Thursdays to allow for programmed maintenance works to be carried out. Signage indicating closure periods will be erected on site.

Other sections of Cairns Esplanade may be closed to the public for programmed maintenance as required. Signage indicating closure periods will be erected on site.

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This policy is to remain in force until otherwise determined by Council.

General Manager Responsible for Review:

Community, Sport & Cultural Services

ORIGINALLY ADOPTED: 27/03/2003

CURRENT ADOPTION: 28/09/2016

DUE FOR REVISION: 28/09/2020

REVOKED/SUPERSEDED:



**John Andrejic
Chief Executive Officer**