



Budget focuses on environmental sustainability

\$643,000 will be spent this year delivering sustainability projects to protect and preserve Townsville's eco system to make sure the city has a sustainable future.

Chair of Sustainable Development Committee Cr Ann Bunnell said all of the projects were vital in safeguarding Townsville's special environment and lifestyle that were valued so highly by the community.

The Sustainable Townsville Project (\$93,000) includes supporting Council, business and industry with eco-efficiency; energy conservation and renewable energy projects.

Other major projects include:

- Integrated Environmental Management & Sustainability System (\$255,000). Managing, monitoring, and auditing environmental quality (air, land and water) and sustainability activities of Council;
- Supporting the new Townsville Thuringowa "Creek to Coral" program in partnership with City of Thuringowa, Environmental Protection Agency, NQ Water; Townsville Port Authority; and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (\$295,000);
- Council programs supporting coordination of "Whole of Council" water infrastructure management, community education partnership program with Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA), water quality monitoring, and protection including planning for pollution control initiatives ;
- Providing support across Council for catchment management planning; coordinating community involvement; and provision of environmental advice in development assessment in regards protecting water resources/biodiversity

Ms Bunnell said the council was also demonstrating it's commitment to the environment by spending \$600,000 on Landcare Catchment Management and \$370,000 on revegetation projects across the city.

Coastal and Natural Area Management

Coastal management programs include sand renourishment at Rowes Bay (\$100,000) and Coastcare works (\$58,000) including Pallarenda, Cungulla, West Point and Geoffrey Bay.

Natural Area Management programs will total \$133,312 and include funding applications with other levels of government.

The projects include:

- Flora and Fauna for Council/Natural Area Trainee program \$ 147,000

TCC working with Natural Area Trainees (CJPs) in Council natural areas and environmental reserves with schools and community groups in management and rehabilitation of the city's natural assets i.e, Castle Hill, Louisa Creek, Stuart Creek; Rowes Bay wetland; and Nelly Bay Habitat

- Magnetic Island Walking Track – Nelly to Arcadia \$ 15,000

Allocation of \$ 15,000 dollar for dollar with developer in partnership with MICDA and QPWS (Total cash budget \$ 30,000 plus inkind from QPWS/TCC)

- Natural Area Creeks – support for local community initiative \$ 20,000

Council working with individuals and developing local community neighbourhood partnerships to solve creek erosion, weed management and habitat. Program provides inkind support for Community based Envirofund applications

Media information:

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