

SPORTS, ARTS, CULTURE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE	5
8 FEBRUARY 2012	

COUNCIL RESPONSE TO CAIRNS BUSINESS AND SPORTING GROUP
OCTOBER 2011 INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

Louise Dixon LD: 1/58/16: #3448982v2

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council supports the attached formal response to the Cairns Business and Sporting Group regarding the Cairns Regional Master Plan, Sports Tourism and Sports Medicine Infrastructure Plan, October 2011.

INTRODUCTION:

This report provides Council with an assessment of Cairns Regional Council's projects and priorities relative to the Cairns Business and Sporting Group (CBSG) Cairns Regional Master Plan, Sports Tourism and Sports Medicine Infrastructure Plan, released in October 2011 (refer Attachment 1). The report seeks Council's endorsement as the basis for the assessment for a formal response to the group.

BACKGROUND:

At the 9 November 2011 SACCS meeting, Council was provided with a summary of current sport and recreation planning projects, the status of implementing these plans and other precincts, as well as the priority actions within the next six years.

COMMENT:

Following the Federal election in August 2010, The Hon. Warren Entsch MP established the group that was subsequently named the Cairns Business and Sporting Group (CBSG). The Hon. Warren Entsch MP stood aside following the first meeting to encourage an apolitical consultative process. Members of the group include sporting, business and tourism representatives and the group's mission statement is:

"To develop a master plan that identifies the infrastructure needs of our region that would enable us to develop elite sports, training, research and medical facilities and add economic value and community lifestyle benefits to the Cairns region."

Since 2010 the group has been working to develop the Sports Tourism and Sports Medicine Infrastructure Plan, with consultation and input from community sporting groups, associations and business people.

The CBSG priorities in the Infrastructure Plan have been assessed against the priorities outlined in the November SACCS report (Attachment 2) and the draft ten year capital works programme. It should be noted that future year allocations for capital works are indicative only and subject to consideration when Council formally approves the budget each year.

The proposed response letter and assessment table are at Attachment 3. Comments have been included to show those projects that link with the State government's Queensland Infrastructure Plan, a blueprint that will guide the state's infrastructure priorities for the next two decades and beyond.

Only three of the top thirteen CBSG priority projects align in some way with Council's current plans and priorities:

- The Rectangular Stadium (although Council has only committed to a needs study),
- Tobruk Pool redevelopment, and
- Port Douglas Sports Precinct (intent to undertake planning).

Other projects on Council's forward plans would take priority over the hockey, bowls and tennis projects that CBSG has flagged for possible Council funding contributions.

CONSIDERATIONS:

Corporate and Operational Plans:

Linkages to Corporate and Operational Plans were made and identified for each Council project/study in previous reports to Council.

Statutory:

There are no statutory requirements associated with this particular report. Links to any requirements were made and identified for each Council project/study in previous reports.

Policy:

Linkages to Council policies were considered and identified for each Council project/study in previous reports.

Financial and Risk:

Indicative costs and sources of funding have been identified in the CBSG report and comments included as to whether or not the project and amount has been identified in Council's capital works budget. It should be noted that the future year capital budget allocations are indicative only and subject to review when considered by Council each financial year.

Many of the CBSG projects would be undertaken by entities other than Council if funded. As such, any Council financial contributions to these particular projects would be grants from Council's operating budget. The current 10 Year Financial Model has no current allowance for any significant grant contributions of this nature.

Sustainability:

Not applicable for this report.

A Council committed to continual improvement of existing and future facilities is a sustainable step in meeting the range of community demands for sport and recreation opportunities and facilities.

CONSULTATION:

Officers from the Sport, Recreation and Community Development Branch were consulted as part of this report.

OPTIONS:

- a) That Council supports the attached formal response to the Cairns Business and Sporting Group regarding the Cairns Regional Master Plan, Sports Tourism and Sports Medicine Infrastructure Plan, October 2011.
- b) That Council supports the attached response with changes as agreed by Council.

CONCLUSION:

That Council supports the written response to the Cairns Business and Sporting Group regarding the Cairns Regional Master Plan, Sports Tourism and Sports Medicine Infrastructure Plan, October 2011.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Attachment 1 – Cairns Business and Sporting Group, Cairns Regional Master Plan, Sports Tourism and Sports Medicine Infrastructure Plan, October 2011
- Attachment 2 – CRC priorities for the next 6 years (as at November 2011)
- Attachment 3 – Response to the Cairns Business and Sporting Group

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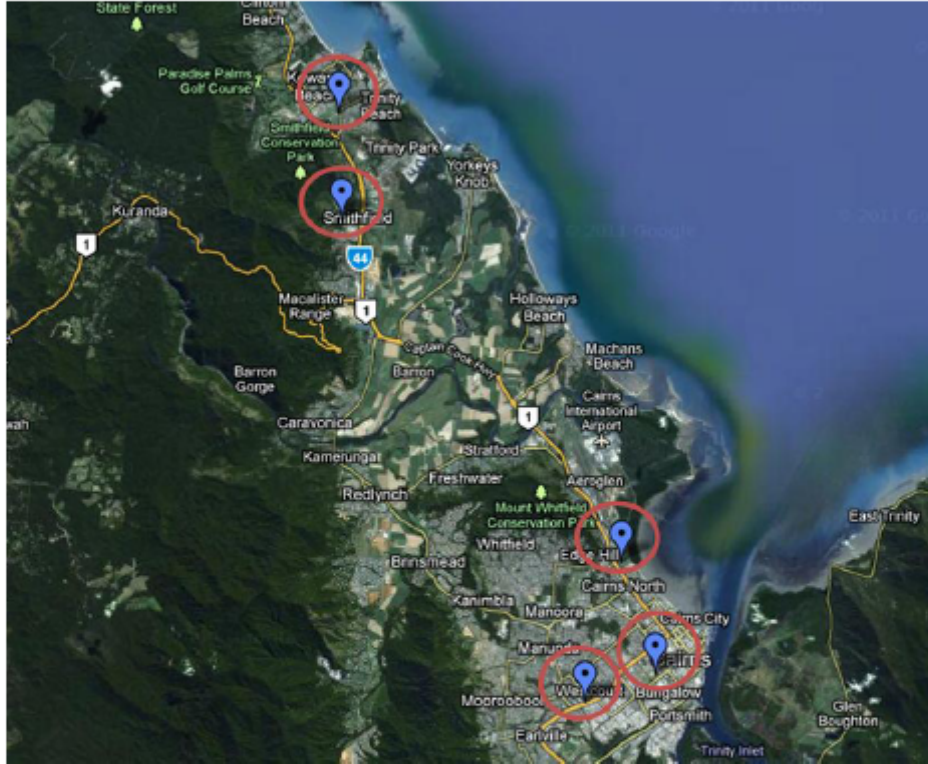
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ATTACHMENT 1

Cairns Business and Sporting Group

CAIRNS REGIONAL MASTER PLAN



**Sports Tourism and Sports Medicine
Infrastructure Plan**

October 2011

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Cairns Business and Sporting Group

Preamble

The Cairns Business and Sporting Group (CBSG) is committed to the development of the Australian National Institute for Tropical Sports and Medicine (ANITSM) in the Cairns region. The proposed master plan highlights the great synergies between:

1. The Australian National Institute for Tropical Health and Medicine,
2. The Cairns Performing Arts Centre, and,
3. The Cairns Convention Centre

These facilities are an integral part of the overall plan to develop Cairns as the tropical campus of the Australian Institute of Sport. ANITSM is committed to a faculty of tropical sports medicine and while a performing arts centre will be able to attract world class events, it will be restricted in the events that it can host due to limited venue size.

By aligning with the much larger stadiums, proposed in this master plan (20,000 seat rectangular stadium; 5000 seat hockey stadium, 3000 seat netball stadium and the Tobruk Aquatic Centre) it provides an opportunity for the region to attract much larger international performances that would never be consider in smaller venues like the proposed performing arts centre.

The performing arts centre, with the convention centre, provides space that can be utilised for international standard combat arena sports including judo, weightlifting, gymnastics and fencing.

CBSG sees no reason why these projects would not enhance the sporting infrastructure component rather than being in competition with each other. CBSG believes that the rectangular stadium would greatly add to ability of both the Convention Centre and the Performing Arts Centre to attract an even greater array of world class events.

Further, CBSG believes that the five precinct concept (including the regional precinct) serves to maximise economic opportunities presented by the development of infrastructure, given the proximity of events to hospitality hubs in the Cairns region. CBSG notes the additional advantage of the four precinct plan, specifically that a public transportation system could be established, with the price included in the event ticket that would allow patrons to park at a precinct being utilised less and be transported to the main precinct as required.

CBSG is also aware of plans for the establishment of the National Institute of Golf at the Sheraton Mirage in Port Douglas, Queensland. CBSG supports the construction of additional aspects of the Sports tourism industry in the Cairns region, like the aforementioned Golf Institute as well as other elite sports facilities. Further to this point the group supports ongoing state and federal governments to continue their commitments to sporting infrastructure in the Southern Corridor of Cairns.

The group is committed to maximising the opportunities available to Cairns following the release of the road map, noting several key points.

1. The master plan provides an outstanding opportunity for residents of regional Far North Queensland especially Cape York and the Torres Strait, to train and play in world class sporting facilities in Cairns. CBSG notes the existing status of Cairns as the regional services hub for Indigenous communities across the Far North and submits that the existing family, social and transport connections provide an unprecedented opportunity for indigenous athletes to access world class training and support facilities.
2. CBSG is strongly of the view that the development of projects in the master plan would radically change the indigenous participation rates in elite sports in the north, given the ability of athletes from Cape York and the Torres Strait to train closer to family members and communities.
3. Development of Sports Tourism not only through elite training by also state, national and Masters Championships.

Executive Summary

At present there are only three tropical sport acclimatisation training centres. CBSG believes that Cairns is well placed to compete with Kuala Lumpur, Hong Kong and Singapore in becoming the best tropical sports and sports tourism destination in the world. CBSG believes that Cairns can not only compete, but eventually supersede those locations becoming the fourth and best destination. CBSG notes

CBSG notes that the AIS recently spent twelve million dollars in Italy¹ as part of pre competition acclimatisation training facilities acquisition. This facility will be used extensively leading into the London Olympics in 2012. CBSG notes that two other tropical centres, namely Townsville and Darwin, both compete with Cairns as a tropical sports tourism and health destination in Australia. Significantly however, while both enjoy more sporting infrastructure, they both lack the significant amounts of hotel accommodation found in Cairns. CBSG highlights the advantages that Cairns enjoys over both cities namely, a successful tourism industry, an open international airport with existing transport links to

¹ <http://corporate.olympics.com.au/news/multi-million-dollar-facility-opened-in-italy>, Accessed 5 September 2011

South East Asia and Europe² and significant capability for further expansion as required, as well as approximately 29,000 bed spaces.³ CBSG submits that it is cheaper to construct the necessary infrastructure (sports facilities) opposed to constructing the required accommodation in Darwin or Townsville. Further, the existing hospitality trained workforce in the Cairns region adds significant clout to place Cairns ahead of Darwin and Townsville, as the workforce is already trained and ready for use.

Further, the road map supports the collaboration with James Cook University, given their plans for a National Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine.

Over the past twelve months, following the Federal Election of 21 August 2010, the Cairns Business and Sporting Group has been assembling an infrastructure master plan for the Far North Queensland and the Torres Strait.

It has specifically identified that there exist promising opportunities for a sports tourism industry in the far north Queensland region.

The group was initially established by The Hon Warren Entsch MP, who stood aside following the first meeting to encourage an apolitical consultative process. CBSG has consolidated a vision for the Far North Queensland sports tourism industry and it consists of several key aspects:

1. To continually consult with the local community regarding the development of Cairns, Atherton tablelands and Port Douglas as major sports tourism hubs for Far North Queensland and the Torres Strait.
2. To present to the RDAFNQ a detailed guide of works already under construction as well as works that have been costed and that are deemed to be 'shovel ready'.
3. To argue a case for the expansion of a sports tourism industry in Cairns to assist in the economic recovery and ongoing economic development of communities across far north Queensland.
4. To demonstrate the positive benefits to the whole region, including benefits for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander across Far North Queensland.

CBSG is aware that this master plan will continue to evolve as required.

² <<http://www.cairnsairport.com.au/Flight/Route-Maps.aspx>>, Accessed 22 August 2011

³ ABS, *Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Queensland*, Mar 2011, cat. no. 8635.3.55.001

Master plan

In response to this opportunity, CBSG resolved at a private meeting on 14 February 2011 to adopt the following as its mission statement:

“To develop a master plan that identifies the infrastructure needs of our region that would enable us to develop elite sports, training, research and medical facilities and add economic value and community lifestyle benefits to the Cairns region⁴.”

CBSG is committed to the formulation, over the coming months and funding rounds to partnership with RDAFNQ to achieve the best outcomes for the region.

Priorities:

CBSG identifies several precincts that would sufficiently serve Far North Queensland, as well as develop ongoing economic and social opportunities for people living in the region. The group wishes to thank those organisations who participated in the consultation process and notes the importance of the inclusion of a wide array of participants.

This master plan reaffirms the need for landmark infrastructure in the region, specifically:

1. A rectangular stadium, to seat between 20,000 and 30,000 persons, of a quality that would enable it to host top level rectangular sports teams (ARL, NRL and Soccer).
2. A redevelopment of Tobruk Pool to the level of an international Aquatic Centre, with a FINA approved 50m pool and diving pool, as well as support infrastructure.
3. A world class 5,000 seat Hockey Stadium with a 3,000 seat Netball Stadium
4. The upgrade of Cairns Baseball Stadium to a minor League Standard.
5. Upgrading the Cairns short course and Atherton Tablelands endurance mountain bike trails
6. Upgrade to Cazaly’s stadium to increase spectator size and playing capacity to attract a grade AFL games.
7. Construct a roof over the centre courts of the Cairns international Tennis Centre
8. Construction of a roof over the Marlin Coast Bowls Club at Trinity Beach
9. Establishment of an equestrian centre at the Cairns Showground
10. Upgrading gymnasiums to support AIS accredited athletes.
11. Upgrade of Mirage Golf Course to an International Golf Academy
12. Support the establishment of an Australian Institute for Tropical Health and Medicine, which would include a faculty for Tropical Sports Medicine Faculty, at James Cook University

CBSG is aware that completion of this master plan could take between 10-15 years to complete. It submits however, that funding opportunities will regularly present themselves at each budgetary and election cycle at all three levels of government: Local, State and Federal. Larger projects, like the Rectangular Stadium, Hockey Stadium and Cazaly’s could

⁴ Minutes 2.11, 14 February 2011

be staged so that they may be used in part, until construction is complete. CBSG believes that funding could be prioritised by which components of the projects are 'shovel ready' at the time of the application.

Going Forward

Whilst this new approach to planning infrastructure and investment is still evolving, recent budgetary developments have increased the importance of regional infrastructure across the region. This means Far North Queensland is well placed to position itself as an elite tropical sports tourism destination.

The strategic roadmap being formulated by CBSG indicates that continued collaboration and consultation is required to achieve the best outcomes for investment in sports infrastructure across the region. The group is committed to capitalising on the opportunities available in the RDAF funding rounds.

Group Participants

The group comprises the following persons as members:

Mr Murray Bain (Cairns Hockey), Cr Margaret Cochran (Deputy Mayor - Council), Mr Chris Collins (Soccer), Mr Denis Donaghey (Basketball), Mr Brett Moller (Business), Mr Kevin Maher (Business), Mr John Moore (Rugby League), Ms Wendy Morris (Adventure), Mr John O'Brien (Patron - Cricket), Ms Margot Richardson (Rugby Union), Mr Ross Steele (Adventure Sports), Mr Ron Tong (Swimming), Mr Nick Trompf (Media), Mr Phillip Warring (Baseball), Mr Simon Wild (Business), Mr Rob Weeden (Business -Chair), Mr Charles Woodward (Business & Tourism) and Mr Gary Young (AFL).

Goals

The group was initiated to provide a strong voice in the region for Sporting and Business groups, who often find it hard to attract investment from State and Federal Government. Specifically, it has been suggested that due to the economic downturn in Far north Queensland, economic diversification is necessary to the long term survival of the region:

1. The Cairns region, more so than others is heavily dependent on the tourism sector for economic growth, and has suffered significantly during the global financial crisis, as well as the consequences of a high Australian dollar. Visitor numbers fell dramatically in 2009/2010 as the economic crisis worsened. The Australian dollar began its ascent in value against the United States dollar, further wreaking havoc on an already struggling tourism sector.
2. Fewer flights into the region from both International and Domestic destinations has added to the 'snowball effect', severely reducing the influx of people and dollars in the region.
3. CBSG is aware that the long term economic future of the Cairns region is dependent on a diversification of its tourism industry, which it aims to strengthen the industry by adding sports tourism and sports medicine to its recreational tourism sector.

4. The proximity of Cairns International Airport to the city boasts an enormous opportunity for business and tourism operators when the development of Cairns into Australia's premier tropical sports medicine and sports tourism destination happens. Each working group within the CBSG has identified groups that would travel to Cairns, some from the USA, Asia and Europe, to train and compete if facilities were upgraded to a sufficient standard. This would mean an enormous ongoing economic opportunity for Cairns, with increases passenger numbers as can be seen in figure 1.
5. The climate of Far North Queensland is perfectly suited to acclimatisation training for teams preparing to travel overseas to play in SE Asia, as well as being perfectly suited to train athletes in preparation for the 2016 Olympic Games to be held in Rio de Janeiro. The group notes the existence of the Australian Institute of Sport's European Training Centre in Varese, Italy.⁵ We would suggest that the creation of a similar facility in Cairns would be highly beneficial, as well as significantly cost effect for athletes to acclimatise to tropical environments before major international competitions. CBSG also notes the establishment of the AIS winter sports training facility in Thredbo, NSW. (CITATION).
6. The group notes that the AIS European Training Centre's location was chosen because of, "...the enthusiastic support of the Varese Provincial Government, which aims to establish a high level of sports tourism in the region. The province will finance construction of the facility. The Australian Sports Commission has been actively involved in developing the project and the future of the European Training Centre, in conjunction with the Varese Province."⁶
7. The group supports the development of an Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine, including a Faculty of Tropical Sports Medicine in Cairns. This would be a partnership funded by James Cook University, the Federal Government (as the Australian Institute of Sport). CBSG is currently making representations to the AIS and JCU regarding the construction of an Institute in Cairns.

⁵

http://www.ausport.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0013/153130/AI_31602_Euro_Training_Centre_broch_LR.pdf (accessed 14 April 2011)

⁶http://www.ausport.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0013/153130/AI_31602_Euro_Training_Centre_broch_LR.pdf (accessed 14 April 2011)

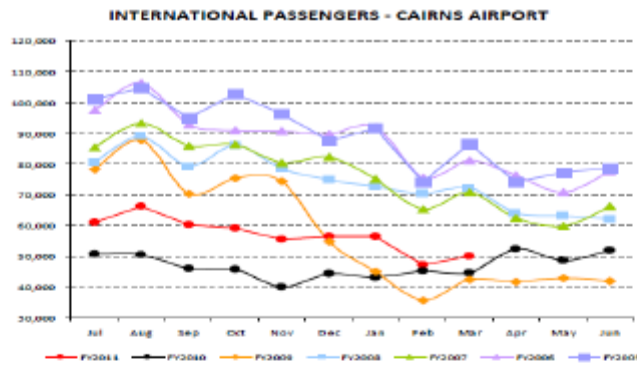


Figure 1 - International Passengers arriving at and departing from Cairns International Airport⁷

Engagement Process

The Cairns Business and Sports group has sought to involve community sporting groups, associations and business people in its consultation process, so as to make the process of applying for funding from the RDAFNQ as open and transparent as possible for the wider community. The group publicly advertised that it was seeking information and consultation on the 15th of February 2011.

Persons writing an expression of interest were asked to answer the following questions:

1. How many people participate locally in the sport on a weekly or monthly basis?
2. What facilities does your organisation currently use? If newer facilities were available, what would best suit your organisation's needs to enable elite sport training and competition?
3. How much funding would be required to build these new facilities?
4. Are there wider benefits for codes other than that you are directly involved in?
5. Are there other social/economic/community benefits not previously described?
6. What level of financial or in-kind contribution could your organisation possibly make to any potential infrastructure development?
7. Is your sport currently able to attract intrastate/interstate/international visitation for competition or to use your facilities for training camps?
8. If not, what additional facilities would you need to attract such visiting teams?
9. Does your organisation have plans and/or cost estimates for these additional facilities?

Observations

The Group noted that there is significant scope and interest in the development of the Cairns region into a Sports Tourism and Tropical Health Education hub. Specifically, the group noted the minimal amount of investment in capital expenditure that would have immediately positive flow on effects for the wider region, in the short and long term.

⁷ <http://www.cairnsairport.com.au/Airport/Airport-Statistics.aspx>, Cairns International Airport, International Passenger Numbers, FY2005-2011

Economic opportunities

CBSG notes the huge long term advantage that upgraded facilities would provide for the region. Elite level sporting events are being lost to larger cities due to state and federal government reluctance to build and upgrade existing sports tourism and sports infrastructure in the wider region. While many suggestions of development are Cairns focussed, CBSG is aware that Cairns is the regional services hub for Northern Queensland including the Torres Strait and Cape York. Many 'flow on' benefits to the wider community are apparent, given the groups enthusiasm for development of sports infrastructure not only in Cairns city, but also across the Tablelands, Cape York and into the Torres Strait.

Social opportunities

Investment in sports infrastructure has proven social benefits that go far beyond being able to attend elite sports events. Improvements to community health, lower incidence of crime, development of social skills in young people are all proven results of investment in sport and recreation infrastructure.⁸ CBSG notes the Federal Government's recent advertising campaign, encouraging members of the community to participate in sports and recreation.

As previously detailed, the development of Cairns into a regional hub would greatly increase the participation in elite sports by Indigenous Australians, due to Cairns' existing role as services hub for Indigenous people from Cape York and the Torres Strait.

Environmental opportunities

CBSG notes the existence of significant environmental opportunities like the development of environmentally appropriate facilities with the efficient use of government moneys. Further, there exists an opportunity to allow some of the facilities to be appropriately constructed so as would allow them as being used in severe weather events, a regular occurrence across the region. The recent stress placed on evacuation centres in Cairns has highlighted the need for expansion of community facilities to a higher standard. CBSG believes that the facilities it is recommending for construction should also be considered by the RDA and the Queensland State Government in light of a shortage of evacuation facilities in relation to severe weather events.

⁸ http://www.ausport.gov.au/participating/schools_and_juniors/juniors/issues/social_benefits, accessed 20 April 2011



Figure 2 - Cairns City Precincts

Precinct: Cairns North

The Cairns Business and Sporting group supports the development of existing and construction of new infrastructure at the Tobruk memorial pool site in Cairns north precinct. This site would eventually play host to:

1. An international standard Aquatic Centre
2. An international standard Hockey Stadium (5,000 seats)
3. An international standard Netball Stadium (3,000 seats)
4. A gymnasium fully accredited by the Australian Institute of Sports.

Costs

1. the renovation of the existing pool to a FINA approved standard⁹, and
2. the construction of a diving pool to a FINA approved standard,¹⁰
3. the construction of an AIS accredited gymnasium, and
4. the construction of a roof over four centre courts at the Cairns International Tennis Centre.
5. Hockey Stadium and adjacent Netball Stadium

Total: \$31.6 million

FNQ Swimming

This large organisation has 1746 members participating on a weekly basis. FNQ Swimming does not have a permanent base at this time and the construction of a facility at Tobruk pool would be extremely beneficial for not only swimmers in Far North Queensland, but across the country. Far North Queensland Regional Swimming Association as an incorporated not for profit organisation may be able to run the facility post upgrade and it is expected that the facility would generate income for the Association in an economically and environmentally sustainable manner. It will be able to guarantee interstate and

⁹ FNQ Swimming, Expression of Interest, April 2011 p. 1.

¹⁰ FNQ Swimming, Expression of Interest, April 2011 p. 1.

international age group competition and training camps following the expansion of its facilities.

CBSG Response

CBSG supports the development of an International quality Aquatic centre at Tobruk pool including facilities for Water Polo, Diving and Synchronised Swimming

CBSG submits that consideration should be given to it would be possible to seek access to the new primary health centre, adjacent to the North Cairns Precinct, to accommodate the establishment of a satellite campus of the Australian National Institute of Tropical Sports and Medicine.



Figure 3 – Proposed site of the Northern Precinct

Cairns Hockey Association

The association has approximately 1400 athletes participating in Hockey in Cairns every 'season' (winter) with up to 800 playing in the 'off-season' (summer). Hockey is a sport enjoyed and played by both men and women, of all ages and will prove to be a major drawcard in the development of international sports tourism in the Cairns region. The proposals put forward by the Cairns Hockey Association include a new stadium, training facilities, sports medicine facilities; Australian Institute of Sport approved gymnasium and renovation of scoring and timekeeping equipment.

CBSG Response

CBSG endorses Cairns Hockey's funding proposal and notes that the project has been shovel ready for a significant amount of time. Further, Cairns Hockey's proposal is well placed to capitalise on Cairns' proximity to Asia as a drawcard to attract overseas teams to train in

tropical climates. CBSG is also aware that preliminary undertakings have been made by teams based across south east and south west Asia.

CBSG notes that the Cairns Hockey stadium with adjacent Netball Stadium can be staged as follows:

1. Stage 1a (Recently Completed) at \$3 million
2. Stage 1b at \$5.5 million
3. Stage 2 at \$8.5 million
4. Stage 3 at \$4.2 million
5. Stage 4 at \$3.5 million

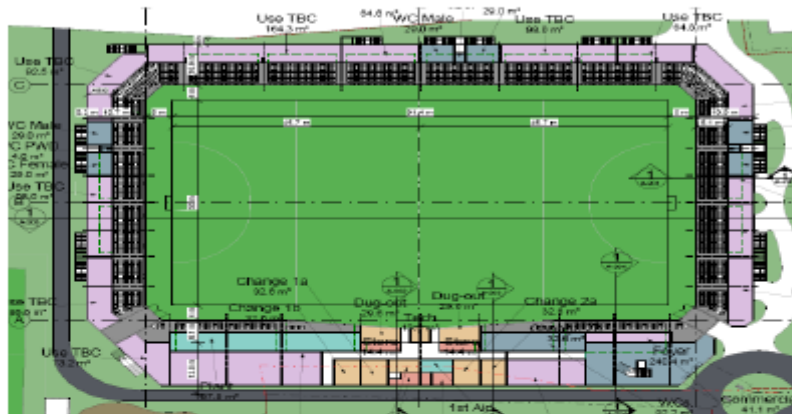


Figure 4 Cairns Hockey Stadium (proposed) – Northern Precinct

Cairns International Tennis Centre

CBSG supports the construction of a roof over the Cairns International Tennis Centre and notes media commentary regarding the desirability of the facility without sun protection for spectators.

The cost of a roof at the Cairns International Tennis Centre was last estimated at \$3.9 million in 2010.¹¹

CBSG Response

CBSG supports the inclusion of the Cairns International Tennis Centre as part of the Northern Precinct (Tobruk Pool and Hockey and Netball stadia).

Precinct: Northern Beaches

CBSG supports the configuration of funding to the Northern Beaches precinct as follows:

1. Development of Diamond One and Two to a Minor League Standard (Cairns Baseball League)

¹¹ thenewsport.com.au, August 10 2010

2. Marlin Coast Lawn Bowls Club redevelopment, and
3. Cairns Mountain Bike Club Facility.

Cairns Baseball League

The Cairns Baseball League (CBL) has a large and active support network, involving 60 people per game and the local senior league plays 108 games a season, every year from April until October.¹² The CBL have recently resigned a 25 year lease on the Trinity Beach Baseball Grounds.¹³

CBSG Response

CBSG supports the allocation of \$ 1 million dollars to the Cairns Baseball League for the purpose of stages two and three of its master plan namely:

1. Upgrade of Diamond One
2. Upgrade of training facilities
3. Upgrade of player's facilities.
4. Upgrade of field facilities
5. Upgrade of Diamond Two

Total: \$1 million



Figure 5 - Cairns Baseball League Diamond as at May 2011

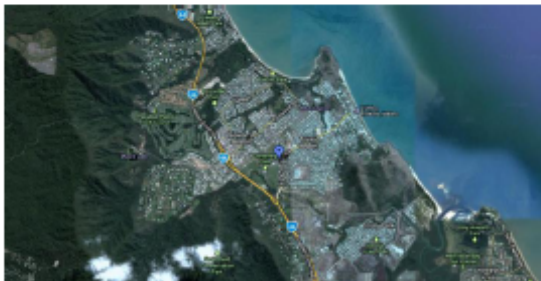


Figure 6 - Cairns Baseball League, Trinity Beach

¹² Cairns Baseball League, Expression of Interest, March 2011, p. 1.

¹³ Cairns Baseball League, Expression of Interest, March 2011, p. 2.

Marlin Coast Bowls:

CBSG is aware of lobbying being undertaken by Marlin Coast Bowls Club at present to obtain funding for a roof over their green. The club has identified a roof structure as a top priority, given the need for shelter during the wet season. Due to guarantee issues and the loan guarantee ceiling of Cairns Regional Council, the Club is unable to secure funding to construct a roof. The total cost at this point in time is estimated to \$750,000. CBSG notes the extension of the lease by Cairns Regional Council to 31 October 2036.

CBSG Response

CBSG endorses the allocation of \$750,000 to cover the costs of the roof and associated buildings for the Marlin Coast Bowls Club.

Cairns Mountain Bike Club facility

CBSG is aware of plans to expand on the facilities associated with the Cairns Mountain Bike Club facility. The proposal's cost is in the order of 1.1 million dollars.

CBSG Response

BSG endorses the refurbishment of the Cairns Mountain Bike Club facility to an international standard.

Miscellaneous Opportunities

CBSG is aware of further opportunities in the Cairns Beaches Precinct, including but not limited to:

1. Establishment of Polo Grounds

CBSG has received information from Marlin Coast Bowls Club which indicates their renovation and upgrades to cost \$645,000.

Precinct: Cairns City, Rectangular Stadium



Figure 7 Blue Tongue stadium, Gosford NSW

Background

The construction of a Rectangular Stadium in the Cairns region has been floated for many years, but has never attracted any serious attention from Cairns Regional Council until they announced a feasibility study into the Stadium in late 2010.¹⁴ CBSG are supportive of the construction of a Rectangular Stadium, along the lines of Blue Tongue Stadium on the Central Coast of New South Wales. CBSG believe that a similar sized stadium in Cairns would be beneficial to all codes of football and soccer and would encourage the development of Cairns's sports tourism industry.

Blue Tongue Stadium was jointly funded by the State and Federal Governments in 1998, to a total cost of \$24 million. Current estimates suggest that a stadium in Cairns could cost up to \$35 million, for a similar sized facility when adjusted for inflation.¹⁵

CBSG acknowledges that Barlow Park is a world class Athletics track and should remain as such. In the short term, CBSG submits that the field lighting could be installed and upgraded to facilitate the needs of High Definition TV Broadcasting. This would allow temporary use of the existing Barlow Park facility for any of the three codes (Rugby League, Rugby Union and Soccer), while a rectangular stadium is being constructed. After construction, the existing facility at Barlow Park would become the second ground for tournaments and championship events.

Proposed Solutions

CBSG suggests that a joint local, state and federal funding model be adopted to support construction of a rectangular stadium in Cairns.

¹⁴ <http://www.cairns.qld.gov.au/about-council/community-engagement/current/current-projects/cairns-rectangular-needs-study> (accessed 25 July 2011)

¹⁵ <http://www.rba.gov.au/calculator/annualDecimal.html> (accessed 25 July 2011)

CBSG suggests that the stadium should be built at one of the following locations:

1. A new, renovated Barlow Park Facility on Scott St or Little Barlow Park, alternatively;
2. Endeavour Park, MacDonnell and Cannon Sts, Cairns.

The preferred site would be located within the Cairns Central Precinct but a second preference for the North Cairns Precinct, adjacent to the Cairns North Precinct. As an interim measure it has been suggested that lighting upgrades at Barlow Park would act as a stop gap measure for field sports in the region.

CBSG response

CBSG supports the reconfiguration of Barlow Park to support a 20,000 seat stadium in two primary phases, initially for 10,000 covered seats and then 10,000 uncovered seats in phase two. Other key components of the plan include:

1. Maintenance of the BMX track at the Cairns Showground
2. International standard Equestrian Centre within the Cairns showgrounds complex.

Rugby League

The Cairns Business and Sports group recognises the importance of ongoing support for Rugby League in the far north Queensland region. Specifically, it lends it full support to the construction of a rectangular stadium, seating 25,000 in the Cairns region. CBSG notes that Cairns Regional Council is in the process of conducting a feasibility study into a proposed stadium, and expects the Council to endorse the long argued position of the urgent need for a rectangular stadium for the ongoing economic development of Cairns.

CBSG notes the loss of expenditure and economic advantage in Cairns by the forced use of the Barlow Park facility, inhibiting the growth and development of sport in the region.

Rugby Union

Rugby Union in Cairns enjoys wide community support and, like Rugby League requires the construction of a rectangular stadium to attract interstate, intrastate and international visitation. CBSG emphatically supports the construction of a rectangular stadium in Cairns.

CBSG also notes the proposed Port Douglas Sports Complex and supports the allocation of funds to build a grandstand and supporting infrastructure.

Soccer

Soccer, like Rugby Union and League supports the construction of a rectangular stadium in the Cairns region. Soccer in Far North Queensland is damaged by the lack of a large scale playing facility and would benefit largely from the availability of a rectangular stadium, being able to attract international and interstate visitation.

CBSG notes the lost opportunities that have passed the Cairns region by, including but not limited to NRL, IRB 7s, Lions Tours and NSL games solely due to the lack of a rectangular stadium.

Cairns West Precinct

Cazaly's

AFL Cairns has developed the regions premier oval stadium at Cazaly's over the past twenty years¹⁶. AFL Cairns maintains that the continued development of Cazaly's would provide immediate and ongoing economic benefit for the Cairns region, not only for sport and sports tourism but also music and cultural events. The stadium has historically provided elite sport and entertainment and works with Cairns Regional Council and Tourism Tropical North Queensland to formulate its events strategy. The value of the stadium to the city was highlighted in 2011 with a capacity crowd of 11,000 attending the region's first ever AFL Premiership match of which some 4,000 attendees were from outside of the Cairns region.

The necessary expansion required to attract more regular AFL premierships season games as well as elite international and domestic cricket includes the construction of a new grandstand to seat a further 3,000 spectators, improvement of broadcasting facilities as well as the construction of corporate facilities. AFL Cairns already owns property surrounding the stadium. This will allow the organisation to also develop appropriate infrastructure to accommodate future growth such as spectator services, like car parking, public transport interchanges and player-team facilities, like indoor/outdoor warm-up and training amenities.

Stage three is costed at \$20 million¹⁶. Previous stages have been co-funded by AFL Cairns and grants from the Federal, State and local Governments.

CBSG Response

CBSG endorses the allocation of \$20 million to complete AFL Cairns' plans for Cazaly's stadium.



Figure 7 – Proposed addition of new grandstand and seating, Cazaly's AFL stadium

¹⁶ AFL Cairns, Expression of Interest, p. 1.

Junior Rugby League

CBSG is aware of 23 acres for the development of Junior Rugby league in the West Cairns precinct, but has not as yet received any construction costs or lease costs associated with development of the site.

Cricket

CBSG submits that a second gymnasium facility could be established in the West Cairns precinct, to supplement the AIS gym located in the Cairns North precinct, to tie in with the Sport's use of Cazaly's oval in the West precinct.

Cairns Central: International Equestrian Centre

CBSG is aware of proposals to develop the Cairns Showground into an International first class Equestrian Centre. This would be the only functioning International Equestrian Centre in North Queensland. This facility could also be used for arena sports, like gymnastics, weightlifting and martial arts.

Regional Opportunities

(Outlying facilities and expansion possibilities)

Tablelands Integrated Mountain Bike Alliance (TiMBa)

TiMBa estimates that there are up to 10,000 people actively involved in Mountain Biking in the Cairns region¹⁷. CBSG notes that there are fourteen specialist bike shops in Far North Queensland, and that there are 350 active members of the Cairns and Tablelands cycle clubs. TiMBa research estimates that up to 60 000 tourists that visit the Cairns region every year are mountain bike enthusiasts, which represents an enormous lost financial opportunity due to a lack of appropriate investment. TiMBa has managed to stage many international and interstate events, including the Herberton 8 hour race and the Rural and Rainforest Reef event. CBSG notes that the TiMBa believes it can maintain between \$5 million and \$10 million in annual funding from international and interstate visitation pending the upgrade of facilities.

To attract international and interstate mountain bike events would require an upgrade of:

1. The Tablelands Cycle Sports Club facility (\$1.6 million)

CBSG supports the allocation of \$1.6 million to TiMBa for the aforementioned upgrades.

Additional opportunities

CBSG is aware of expansion opportunities and wishes to emphasise that the sports listed in this report are in no way exclusive or exhaustive. CBSG is aware of opportunities in Sailing, Rowing and Archery, but has not received any detailed information regarding those sports at this time. CBSG is also aware of the potential of an International Standard Golf Institute at the Sheraton Mirage in Port Douglas.

¹⁷ TiMBa, Expression of Interest, p. 1.

Recommendations

That the following projects be funded from 2011 through 2021:

CBSG recognises the size of the investment required but welcomes investment from private sources as well as government to accelerate the development of Cairns into a premier tropical sports tourism destination.

Project	Stakeholder	Funding	Cost	'Shovel Ready'
Rectangular Stadium	NRL, ARU, FFA,	Federal, State and Local Government	\$35,000,000	No
Tobruk Pool	FNQ Swimming	Federal, State and Local Government	\$6,000,000	Yes
Cairns Hockey Stadium	Cairns Hockey Association, AHL	Federal, State and Local Government	\$21,700,000	Yes
Marlin Coast Bowls Club	Bowls Queensland, Bowls Australia	Federal, State and Local Government	\$750,000	Yes
Cairns International Tennis Centre	Tennis Australia, Cairns Tennis	Federal, State and Local Government	\$3,900 000	Yes
Cairns Baseball Stadium	Cairns Baseball League, ABF	Federal, State	\$1,000,000	Yes
Cazaly's Oval Stadium	AFL Cairns, AFL	Federal, State	\$20,000,000	Yes
Cairns Mountain Bike Club facility and Tablelands Cycle Sports Club facility	TiMBa	Federal, State	\$2,000,000	Yes
		Total	\$86,450,000	

ATTACHMENT 2

SPORTS, ARTS, CULTURE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE 9 NOVEMBER 2011	5
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SPORT AND RECREATION PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

Louise Dixon LD: 1/58/16: #3266415 v2

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council note the contents of the report.

INTRODUCTION:

This report provides Cairns Regional Council with a summary of the sport and recreation planning projects, the status of implementing these plans and other precincts.

BACKGROUND:

A previous update on this topic was provided at the 22 May 2008 SACCS meeting. Furthermore, the respective projects have also been considered by Council at various stages since 2008.

COMMENT:

A summary of the actions completed since May 2008 is outlined below. Also included are the priority actions within the next six years and an overall cost summary.

All timelines for "Priority Actions" are indicative only and are subject to future Council budget deliberations and in some instances, external funding application success.

Smithfield Sporting Precinct	
Actions completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Smithfield Leisure and Aquatic Centre feasibility study completed and adopted by Council in August 2010. ▪ Marlin Coast Swimming Pool and Recreation Centre leases/contracts have been synchronised. ▪ Area leased to Surf Lifesaving Queensland for construction of an operations hub.
Priority actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2014/15 detailed design of precinct (excluding buildings) from master plan, ie pathways, carparking, fitness trail, lighting etc. ▪ 2015-2017 staged implementation of above commences.
Overall cost summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$12.85 million * Smithfield Leisure and Aquatic Centre ▪ \$6.77 million # Balance of master plan (excluding buildings) <p>* Note: 2010 Quantity Surveyor cost estimate based on concept design only. # Note: 2007 Quantity Surveyor cost estimate based on master plan.</p>

Redlynch Community Sports Facility (St Andrews Catholic College)	
Actions completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2007 master plan identifying development of sport and recreation facilities for the community and school use. ▪ 2009 Council and State Government funded implementation of 2 x multi-purpose courts, 2 x rectangular sporting fields, amenities building and car parking. ▪ Council and St Andrew's entered into a management agreement for joint management of the facilities. ▪ A Board comprising of representatives from Council, St Andrews and the Roman Catholic Diocese of Cairns has responsibility for the executive and strategic management of the facilities, in accordance with the management agreement. ▪ An advisory committee has been established by the Board to undertake the administrative and operational duties relating to the facilities, in accordance with agreed terms of reference. The advisory committee comprises a collective of Council officers, the divisional councillor, the school principal, facilities manager and two (2) community representatives. ▪ 2011 lighting to one sports field installed, funded by Council and State Government via grant programme.
Priority actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Land acquisition in line with Plan for Trunk Infrastructure (<i>currently indicated as 2021 in schedule but to be determined as part of strategic land acquisition plan</i>). ▪ Master plan area including land acquired (<i>timing to be determined in line with land acquisition timing</i>).
Cost summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$12.32 million * master plan implementation ▪ TBC – land acquisition <p>Note: based on estimates only from 2007 master plan.</p>

Manunda Sporting Precinct	
Actions completed	<p><i>North Behan Street:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Master plan adopted by Council, May 2009. ▪ Unformed road within precinct closed to allow for infrastructure to be developed. ▪ Upgrades completed on AFL field to make area playable for 2009 AFL Masters National Carnival. The cost of this project to Council was \$36,050, with AFL Cairns providing considerable additional spend/labour to achieve a mutually beneficial result. ▪ Sealing of internal road, cost \$15,000. ▪ Preliminary design of area finalised in 2011, in consultation with lessees. ▪ Funding application to construct stage 1 (development of unused area for soccer and cricket) approved by Queensland Government, to commence in 2012. <p><i>Endeavour Park:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Master plan adopted by Council May 2010. ▪ Unformed road closure and acquisition of trustee land from Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM,) to allow for expansion of fields to west. ▪ Completed works:

Manunda Sporting Precinct	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Formal car parking and road at southern end of Endeavour Park, along Cannon Street, cost \$995,000. ○ Covering of drain and improving access/car parking along MacDonnell Street, east of Endeavour Park, cost \$1.757 million. <p><i>Precinct wide:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Precinct coordination group established with the aim to meet bi-annually. The first meeting held in October 2011, to meet 2 or 3 times per year. ▪ Leases negotiated and in the process of being renewed to reference the revised areas determined in the master plan.
Priority actions	<p><i>North of Behan Street:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2012/13 implementation of stage one – upgrade unused area designated for cricket/soccer and AFL/cricket area, as per preliminary design. ▪ 2016/17 implementation of next stage – upgrade of rugby/cricket area, as per preliminary design. <p><i>Endeavour Park:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2012/13 scoping and detailed design in line with master plan. ▪ 2012/13 upgrade critical playing areas that are a safety issue. ▪ 2013/14 & 2015/16 staged implementation of above.
Cost summary	<p><i>North of Behan St:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$6.67 million <p>Note: cost estimate as at July 2011, includes items responsible by lessees (eg lighting) up to \$1.88 million.</p> <p><i>Endeavour Park:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$4.747 million <p>Note: cost estimate as at May 2010, based on master plan.</p>

Barlow Park	
Priority actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Upgrade lighting on main field, based on detailed design. ▪ Upgrade car park, based on detailed design. <p><i>Note: Cairns Rectangular Stadium Needs Study underway and may potentially impact on future infrastructure planning and implementation.</i></p>
Cost summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$3.2 million # Lighting upgrade. ▪ \$2.64 million # Car park upgrade. <p># Note: cost estimate based on detailed design, quantity surveyor not available at this time.</p>

Edmonton Sport and Recreation Facility Needs Study	
Actions completed	<p><i>Field sports:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Acquisition of land (19ha) in Walker Road, Edmonton. ▪ Development approval received for indoor centre and preliminary approval for balance of land. ▪ Use of Education Queensland (EQ) land adjacent to Petersen Park (purchase, lease, trustee) pursued since early 2008 (ongoing). ▪ Continued discussions with schools about use of facilities by community groups.

Edmonton Sport and Recreation Facility Needs Study	
	<p><i>Indoor and aquatic facilities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Location and mix of facilities determined via Edmonton Multi-purpose and Aquatic Centre feasibility study, completed and adopted by Council in December 2009. ▪ Various funding applications submitted for stage 1 implementation were unsuccessful. ▪ Funding for stage 1 now secured via Queensland Government and Abu Dhabi cyclone shelter funding, as well as the Federal Government's Better Regions funding programme. ▪ Detailed design of stage 1 close to completion. <p><i>Difficult to locate sports:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Resolution by Council in 2010 to pursue land in Thomson Road, adjacent to existing speedway precinct, however, the land owner advised the land is currently not for sale. ▪ Council formally written to Tablelands Regional Council (TRC) and Cairns Kart Racing Club to advise that a regional motor sport (and difficult to locate sports) precinct will be pursued collaboratively with TRC at a mutually agreed time and no earlier than 2012. Subsequent discussion with TRC officers.
Priority actions	<p><i>Field sports:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Progress MCU process to allow senior sporting group use at Petersen Park, Edmonton and lighting to the second field. ▪ 2010/11 money allocated to install lights on second field at Petersen Park. ▪ 2010/11 Walker Road scoping and preliminary design, 2014/15 detailed design. ▪ Advocate for the most advantageous outcome for Council in relation to the Education Queensland land adjacent to Petersen Park, ie transferred to Council as trustee land at no cost. ▪ Continue dialogue with schools with respect to use of facilities by community groups. ▪ 2015-2017 staged development of Walker Road for field sports. <p><i>Indoor and aquatic facilities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Determine tenure and management of centre for stage 1. ▪ 2014/15 detailed design of aquatic facilities ▪ 2015-2017 implementation of aquatic facilities ▪ 2016/17 decommission Edmonton pool <p><i>Difficult to locate sports:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2011/12, collaborate with TRC to find a suitable location for a regional motor sport precinct.
Cost summary	<p><i>Walker Road sporting precinct:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$17.2 million (2008 indicative cost based on concept design, not quantity surveyor cost.) <p><i>Edmonton Leisure Centre and Aquatic Centre:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Refer Project Services report re Stage 1: 2 indoor courts, change

Edmonton Sport and Recreation Facility Needs Study	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> rooms and multi purpose spaces ▪ \$5.78 million* Stage 2: aquatic components ▪ \$2.37 million* Stage 3: health and fitness studio ▪ \$3.16 million* Stage 4: additional 2 courts <p><i>* Note: 2009 Quantity Surveyor cost estimate based on concept design only.</i></p>

Alley Park Sporting Precinct	
Actions completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trustee reserve purposes corrected to reflect actual and planned use. ▪ Cairns Plan zoning changed to reflect correct use. ▪ Land adjacent to Bruce Highway secured from State Government at no cost to Council.
Priority actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2014/15 scoping and preliminary design of staged master plan in consultation with the sporting community and other stakeholders. ▪ Resolution of land tenure with DERM for a number of parcels adjacent to Bruce Highway.
Cost summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$7.422 million (<i>note: 2006 preliminary budget allowances based on master plan only, not quantity surveyor cost.</i>)

Port Douglas Sports Precinct	
Actions completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Awaiting advice from State Government regarding funding application submitted for lighting to AFL/cricket oval and cricket nets.
Priority actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2011/12, install lighting to AFL/cricket oval and other areas, subject to funding application. ▪ Undertake master plan of precinct (<i>timing TBC</i>).

Trinity Beach Sports Precinct	
Priority actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Undertake master plan of precinct (<i>timing TBC</i>).

North Cairns Sporting Reserve	
Actions completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cairns International Tennis Centre completed. ▪ Cairns Hockey Association revised lease.
Priority actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2012/13 undertake Pools Strategy which will include future facility requirements of Tobruk Pool.

Aeroglen Reserve (Touch Park)	
Actions completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Extension of Touch Association's tenure of land to north for expansion of playing fields. ▪ Basic improvements to the fields in this area to allow for use.
Priority actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2011/12 prepare site management plan to address safety issues. ▪ 2011-2017 upgrade critical playing areas that are a safety issue.

Skate Park & BMX Facilities Strategy	
Actions completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strategy underway
Priority actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any infrastructure actions to be determined from strategy.

Other Sports	
Priority actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engage and work with regional sports bodies and associations to prepare strategic plans for the development of their sport and facilities to support this development.

Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan 2010- 2015	
Key achievements	<p>Strategic Plan completed and adopted by Council in July 2010.</p> <p><i>Outcome 1: Planning to meet current and future recreation needs</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Refer above for major precinct actions completed and outstanding actions. ▪ Cairns Rectangular Stadium Needs Study underway. ▪ Service regions defined around precincts with the additional resource of the part State Government funded Sport and Recreation Coordinator position. <p><i>Outcome 2: Sustainable and diverse provision of recreation opportunities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fees and charges and tenure arrangements in process of being reviewed internally before consulting with stakeholders. <p><i>Outcome 3: Supporting nature based recreation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lifeguard contract renewed to reflect recommendations within the strategic plan. The new agreement builds on the previous agreements with a commitment by both parties to explore a future alliance model whereby costs can be minimised through operational synergies, third party sponsorship and advocacy for State Government and Federal funding. ▪ Community gardens on Council land established in Port Douglas and Edmonton. <p><i>Outcome 4: Contributing to the social, physical and economic health of our communities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhancing the Active Living Programme at the Cairns Esplanade and Active Games in Parks. ▪ Fenced dog off leash areas established in local parks in Smithfield and Earlville.

CONSIDERATIONS:

Corporate and Operational Plans:

Linkages to Corporate and Operational Plans were made and identified for each study in previous reports.

Statutory:

There are no statutory requirements associated with this particular report. Links to any requirements were made and identified for each study in previous reports.

Policy:

Linkages to Council policies were considered and identified for each study in previous reports.

Financial and Risk:

Indicative costs have been identified in the comments section and are reflected in Council's capital works programme. The majority of projects are eligible for State Government funding and some Federal Government funding programmes. In addition, opportunities for partnerships towards capital funding private entities will be explored.

Sustainability:

Not applicable for this report. A sustainability assessment was completed in previous reports to Council.

A Council committed to continual improvement of existing and future facilities is a sustainable step in meeting the range of community demands for sport and recreation opportunities and facilities.

CONSULTATION:

As outlined in previous reports to Council.

OPTIONS:

That Council note the contents of the report.

CONCLUSION:

This report provides Cairns Regional Council with a summary of the sport and recreation planning projects and the status of implementing these plans.

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

Louise Dixon
Sport and Recreation Planner

Alice Heather
Manager, Sport Recreation and Community Development

Ian Lowth
General Manager, Community, Sport and Cultural Services

ATTACHMENT 3

10 February 2012

Mr Joshua See
Secretary
Cairns Business and Sporting Group

Via email: joshua.see@aph.gov.au

Dear Joshua

RE: CBSG CAIRNS REGIONAL MASTER PLAN, OCTOBER 2011

Further to my email of 8 November 2011 providing a copy of Council's sport and recreation infrastructure priorities over the next six years, I write in relation to the Cairns Business and Sporting Group's Sports Tourism and Sports Medicine Infrastructure Plan October 2011.

Council has undertaken a thorough assessment of the priorities and recommendations in the report against Council's priorities over the coming ten years. A copy of the assessment including if and when projects complement Council's capital works programme is attached.

We look forward to ongoing collaboration around projects such as the Rectangular Stadium Needs Study and the Tobruk Pool redevelopment.

Unfortunately, at this stage, other projects on Council forward plans would take priority over the hockey, bowls and tennis projects where you have flagged possible Council funding contributions.

It would be appreciated if you could please forward this to the members of the Cairns Business and Sporting Group. Should you wish to discuss Council's assessment please don't hesitate to call me on 4044 3307.

Yours sincerely

IAN LOWTH

General Manager Community, Sport & Cultural Services

CC: The Hon. Warren Entsch MP, Federal Member for Leichhardt

Attachment: Cairns Regional Council assessment of CBSG priorities (#3416372)

**Assessment of Cairns Regional Council projects and priorities against
Cairns Business & Sporting Group Cairns Regional Master Plan, Sports Tourism and Sports Medicine Infrastructure Plan,
October 2011 (#3416372)**

Note: Items 1-8 were projects recommended in the CBSG report to be funded from 2011 through to 2021, **total \$86,450,000.**

It should be noted that Council's future year capital budget allocations are indicative only and subject to annual review and consideration when Council formally adopts the budget each year. Council's current priorities may change with new emerging needs, shifts in community requirements and changing opportunities eg sports tourism.

Item	Info from CBSG plan					CRC Comment	
	Project	Stakeholder	Funding	Cost	Shovel Ready	Project Identified in CRC capital works planning ?	Additional Comments
1	Rectangular Stadium: 20,000 seat stadium, 10,000 covered seats phase one, 10,000 uncovered seats phase two. Preferred location a reconfiguration of Barlow Park, second location Endeavour Park, Manunda. Barlow Park solution short-term: upgrade lights.	NRL, ARL, FFA	Federal, State & Local Gvt	\$35,000,000	No	New stadium not identified in CRC capital works programme. Identified in CRC capital works programme: 17/18-lighting upgrade \$1.6M	- Council is currently undertaking a Cairns Rectangular Stadium Needs Study. Part 1 of the study identified a need for a 20,000 capacity stadium with up to 10,000 covered seats costed at approximately \$66.4M with an annual operating shortfall of just under \$2M. - Part 2 of the study will refine further details including funding and management models, will be put to Council for adoption. - After this any costs identified as Council responsibility will be added to the capital works planning. - Short-term measures, funding towards Barlow Park lighting upgrade has been provisionally allocated however it will depend on outcomes of study. - Stadium identified in Queensland Governments "Queensland Infrastructure Plan".
2	Tobruk Pool: international standard aquatic facility, renovation of existing pool and new diving pool to FINA standard.	FNQ Swimming	Federal, State & Local Gvt	\$6,000,000	Yes	Identified in CRC capital works programme: 14/15-detailed design 15/16-implementation \$1.5M	- A Tobruk Pool redevelopment is planned, however the exact nature is yet to be determined and will be identified in the upcoming Pools Strategy, to be completed 2012. - project not identified in Queensland Governments "Queensland Infrastructure Plan".

Item	Project	Stakeholder	Funding	Cost	Shovel Ready	Project Identified in CRC capital works planning ?	Additional Comments
3	Cairns Hockey: construct hockey and netball stadium, AIS accredited gym.	Cairns Hockey Association, AHL	Federal, State & Local Gvt	\$21,700,000	Yes	Not identified in CRC capital works programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council officers aware of and have discussed proposal with CHA. - CHA currently undertaking planning approval for carparking and first stage of building. - Request for Council financial assistance would need to be supported by detailed evidence and assessment of the need via a feasibility study. - Council officers not looking to add any part of proposal to capital works programme. In 2009 Council committed \$550,000 in 2010/11 and 2011/12 operating budgets towards the second synthetic pitch. - Project not a current priority in comparison to other projects in Council's programme. - project not identified in Queensland Governments "Queensland Infrastructure Plan".
4	Marlin Coast Bowls Club: construct roof structure over bowling green.	Bowls Qld, Bowls Aust	Federal, State & Local Gvt	\$750,000	Yes	Not identified in CRC capital works programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project not a current priority in comparison to other projects in Council's programme. - project not identified in Queensland Governments "Queensland Infrastructure Plan".
5	Cairns International Tennis Centre: construction of roof over four centre courts.	Tennis Australia, Cairns Tennis	Federal, State & Local Gvt	\$3,900,000	Yes	Council Contribution Identified in CRC capital works programme however beyond the current 10 years. \$800,000 added to year 22/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project not a current 10 year priority in comparison to other projects in Council's programme. - project not identified in Queensland Governments "Queensland Infrastructure Plan".
6	Cairns Baseball Stadium (Trinity Beach): upgrade diamonds one and two to minor league standard; upgrade training, player and field facilities.	Cairns Baseball League, ABF	Federal & State Gvt	\$1,000,000	Yes	Not identified in CRC capital works programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project not a current priority in comparison to other projects in Council's programme. - Council officers currently working with club on their State Government grant funding application. - Document states "<i>CBL recently resigned a 25 year lease...</i>" however a twenty year lease was renewed in 2005 and expires 28/02/2021. - project not identified in Queensland Governments "Queensland Infrastructure Plan".

Item	Project	Stakeholder	Funding	Cost	Shovel Ready	Project Identified in CRC capital works planning ?	Additional Comments
7	Cazaly's Oval Stadium: construct new grandstand (additional 3,000 spectators), improved broadcasting facilities, construction of corporate facilities, develop other infrastructure: carparking, public transport interchange, player/team facilities, indoor/outdoor warm-up and training amenities.	AFL Cairns, AFL	Federal & State Gvt	\$20,000,000	Yes	Future works not identified in CRC capital works programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council officers not looking to add part of the proposed future works to its capital works programme. - Project not a current priority in comparison to other projects in Council's programme. - Council committed \$750,000 (\$250,000 per year over the next three years commencing financial year 2012/2013) towards the recent upgrades. - project not identified in Queensland Governments "Queensland Infrastructure Plan".
8	Cairns Mountain Bike Club facility (expand/refurb to international standard \$1.1M) & Tablelands Cycle Sports Club facility upgrade (\$1.6M)	TiMBa	Federal & State Gvt	\$2,000,000	Yes	Not identified in CRC capital works programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council officers not looking to add any part of the proposed future works to its capital works programme. - Cairns Mountain Bike Club project not a current priority in comparison to other projects in Council's programme. - Request for Council financial assistance would need to be supported by detailed evidence and assessment of the need via a feasibility study. - project not identified in Queensland Governments "Queensland Infrastructure Plan".
9	Establishment of Polo Grounds, Cairns Beaches Precinct					Not identified in CRC capital works programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not a lot of detail or costs provided regarding proposal. - Existing polo grounds at Trinity Beach, lease with Marlin Coast PoloCrosse Club until 2020. - Council officers not looking to add part of the proposed future works to its capital works programme. - Project not a current priority in comparison to other projects in Council's programme. - project not identified in Queensland Governments "Queensland Infrastructure Plan".

Item	Project	Stakeholder	Funding	Cost	Shovel Ready	Project Identified in CRC capital works planning ?	Additional Comments
10	Maintenance of BMX track at Cairns Showgrounds					Not identified in CRC capital works programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No further detail or costs provided regarding proposal. - Lessees mostly responsible for maintenance of facilities therefore not a Council responsibility. - In 2010 Council committed approximately \$80,000 in sponsorship and in kind assistance to Cairns BMX to host the 2011 BMX Australia National Championships in April 2011. - project not identified in Queensland Governments "Queensland Infrastructure Plan".
11	International standard Equestrian Centre within Showgrounds complex to also cater for arena sports like gymnastics, weightlifting and martial arts.					Not identified in CRC capital works programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No further detail or costs provided regarding proposal. - Request for Council financial assistance would need to be supported by detailed evidence and assessment of the need via a feasibility study. - Council officers not looking to add any part of the proposed future works to its capital works programme. - Project not a current priority in comparison to other projects in Council's programme. - project not identified in Queensland Governments "Queensland Infrastructure Plan".
12	Port Douglas Sports Complex, grandstand and supporting infrastructure at Rugby Union grounds					Capital works not identified in CRC capital works programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Precinct master plan identified to be undertaken in 2016/17. - Infrastructure works to be identified and costed in detail at that point. - Project not a current priority in comparison to other projects in Council's programme. - project not identified in Queensland Governments "Queensland Infrastructure Plan".

Item	Project	Stakeholder	Funding	Cost	Shovel Ready	Project Identified in CRC capital works planning ?	Additional Comments
13	Gymnasium in the West Cairns precinct, a second gym to complement the AIS gym at the hockey stadium.					Not identified in CRC capital works programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council officers not looking to add any part of the proposed future works to its capital works programme. - Project not a current priority in comparison to other projects in Council's programme. - Request for Council financial assistance would need to be supported by detailed evidence and assessment of the need via a feasibility study. - project not identified in Queensland Governments "Queensland Infrastructure Plan".