

appendix 18 – Government Funding Commitments

Gillard Labor Government to Invest in Cairns' Future

Media Release
AA422/2010
07 July 2010

Joint release with:
Jim Turnour
Federal Member for Leichhardt

The Gillard Labor Government has thrown its support behind a world class cultural precinct for Cairns, pledging up to \$40 million over two years to help fund the construction of a performing arts centre.

Federal Infrastructure and Transport Minister Anthony Albanese said a new, modern performing arts centre would help breathe new life into the region's economy, deliver a shot in the arm of the local tourism industry and reinvigorate the City's cultural life.

"In partnership with the Council and the Queensland Government, we're determined to put Far North Queensland on the map as a cultural destination and add to the enjoyment visitors to the region already experience," said Mr Albanese.

"Equally, this project would be a great example of our Economic Stimulus Plan at work creating economic activity in a region particularly hard hit by last year's global recession and still enduring an unemployment rate twice the national figure.

"This announcement of Federal funding is a tribute to the strong and persistent representations from local MP Jim Turnour. In less than three years, Jim has developed a reputation in Canberra as a fierce advocate for this beautiful part of Australia."

Leichhardt MP Jim Turnour said: "I am determined to develop Cairns as Australia's premier tropical city. This requires first class services and facilities and Cairns is in desperate need of a new performing arts centre.

"The Cairns Civic Theatre is too small, out dated and run down. It isn't a fitting performing arts facility for a modern city like Cairns particularly as one of the nations top tourism destinations.

"A new regional performing arts centre is the priority and should be the first stage in the development of the cultural precinct."

The Infrastructure Department will continue working with the Cairns Regional Council to finalise the business case and detailed funding proposal needed before any Federal funding can be released.

The proposed multimillion dollar performing arts centre is an essential part of the Council's larger, longer term vision of a Cultural Precinct which would also house a museum, regional arts centre, public plaza and cruise ship terminal - a vision with the potential to inject \$30 million into the region's economy each year.

Media Contacts

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-

Last Updated: 18 August, 2011

From: statements@qld.gov.au <statements@qld.gov.au>

To: Leeds Robert

Sent: Tue Jun 08 05:21:16 2010

Subject: Cairns Cultural Precinct gets \$42.5 million...and that's just the beginning: Bligh

Premier and Minister for the Arts

The Honourable Anna Bligh

08/06/2010

Cairns Cultural Precinct gets \$42.5 million...and that's just the beginning: Bligh

A world class cultural precinct has been given the green light by the state government today.

"This project will breathe new life into the Cairns economy, add a major new attraction to the Cairns tourism experience and be a showcase for indigenous art and performance," said the Premier.

"Our Government commits in this year's budget to be a one third funding partner in making this facility a reality."

Ms Bligh said the State Budget will make a \$42.5 million contribution to the project consisting of a transfer of the State owned port land valued at \$40 million and \$2.5 million as a one third contribution of funding for detailed planning of the project.

"It will put Far North Queensland on the map as a cultural destination and add a whole new dimension to the experience of visitors to the region," said the Premier.

"This is a firm commitment that the State Government will be an equal partner with the Cairns Regional Council and the Federal Government to develop the Cairns Cultural Precinct.

"When the business plan comes back, the State will fund a third of this project.

"I've been convinced that this project is what Cairns needs now and for the future.

"It will provide a new economic driver for the Cairns economy and our money is on the table ready for the project to become a reality. I look forward to working with the Cairns Regional Council to making this happen."

Labor MP for Cairns and Minister for Local Government and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships Desley Boyle said the announcement was "the best news

for Cairns that we could have."

"Over the years major projects such as the Cairns International airport, the Cairns Convention Centre and the Esplanade Lagoon have triggered a new age in the growth and development of Cairns.

"I have no doubt the Cairns Cultural and Entertainment Precinct when it's up and running will do the same.

"I am so proud that my Government has stepped forward with a commitment to the total project and, right now, money on the table for the detailed planning and design and making available the very valuable waterfront land that will make this project the Darling Harbour of Cairns."

Member for Barron River Steve Wettenhall said the community was behind the new centre for Cairns.

"This issue has united elected representatives, civic leaders and the business community," he said.

"We've hit pay dirt on this issue. This is a giant leap forward for this project and it will provide a huge confidence boost to the region going forward.

"I am delighted that the Premier and the Treasurer have realised the importance of this project for our region."

Member of Mulgrave Curtis Pitt said the project was an important step towards diversifying the region's economic base.

"This will fulfil the vision of a water front precinct that the city has held for many years," he said.

"Maybe now we will see artists such as Pink not only visit Port Douglas for a holiday but hold a major concert in Cairns as well."

Cook MP Jason O'Brien said he believed the centre would deliver many benefits for the Cairns community.

"This is something that will give a new dimension to Cairns as a community and as a tourist destination."

Media: 32244500



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure and Transport

File Reference: 10/6938

Linda Cardew
Project Manager
Cairns Entertainment Precinct
Cairns Regional Council
PO Box 359, Cairns Qld 4870

Linda

Dear Ms Cardew

Cairns Entertainment Precinct

The Department of Infrastructure and Transport (the Department) became aware of a media article (attached) reporting that the Cairns Regional Council had scaled back the scope of the Cairns Cultural Precinct project to \$150 million, compared to the earlier concept which was estimated at \$240 million.

The Department requests that Council provide it with more detail on the current status of the proposal and whether in fact Council has re-scoped the project as reported. If so, I would be grateful for advice on how this will impact on the Queensland Government's consideration of the proposal through the Project Assurance Framework. I understand we are scheduled to meet on 19 September 2011 and I request that you cover these issues at that meeting.

The Australian Government has made a \$40 million funding commitment to the project. A copy of the Minister's media release of 7 July 2010 announcing this is attached. Consistent with this commitment, the Australian Government has made provision of \$40 million in the Infrastructure Employment Projects program in 2011-12 for the Cairns Cultural Precinct project.

As you would be aware, the Department has consistently advised that it required a detailed project proposal that would demonstrate a feasible and viable project based on a maximum Australian Government contribution of \$40 million. It also needs to be satisfied that funding contributions from other parties have been confirmed and that Council would make provision for any cost overruns during the construction phase and in operating costs once the project was completed.

With this information, the Department will be in a position to finalise its assessment and allow decisions consistent with legislative requirements on funding for the project. A key component of the Department's consideration will be the Queensland Government's Project Assurance Framework assessment of the proposal. Funding

would be governed by a Funding Agreement executed between Council and the Department.

We look forward to continuing to work with Council as it develops this project, noting that expenditure of funds from the Infrastructure Employment Project program needs to occur by 30 June 2012.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Pittar', with a horizontal line through the middle of the letters.

Roland Pittar
General Manager
North West Roads Branch

16 September 2011

Cc:

Lyn Russell
Chief Executive Officer
Cairns Regional Council



21 September 2011

Office of the Mayor

VS: RL#3324153

The Honourable the Premier Anna Bligh MP
Premier of Queensland
PO Box 15185
CITY EAST QLD 4002

Dear Premier

RE: CAIRNS ENTERTAINMENT PRECINCT

Thank you for meeting with me yesterday to discuss a funding partnership for the Cairns Entertainment Precinct. I was pleased to note your continued support of the project and in principle support of Council's decision to stage the project.

Cairns Regional Council has today voted to approve \$57.3 million for the project. We now have a decision on the project from two levels of government and are committed to completing the Queensland Government Project Assurance Framework Business Case in order to allow the State Government to make a decision on a cash contribution to the project.

I have instructed my officers to expedite the completion of the Business Case and work with their Queensland Government colleagues to bring it forward for consideration by the Cabinet Budget Review Committee.

Queensland Treasury Corporation will assess Council's Financial Sustainability Review at their October 12 board meeting. I believe the Business Case can be completed and assessed in time for a decision to be made soon after this decision. This would enable Council to acquit the \$40 million contribution from the Federal Government before June 30, 2012.

Thank you again for your continued support of this project. I look forward to continuing to work together with you and the Federal Government to deliver this important project for Cairns and for Queensland.

Yours sincerely

Val Schier
Mayor
Cairns Regional Council

cc The Honourable Anthony Albanese MP, Leader of the House and Minister for
Infrastructure and Transport
The Honourable Desley Boyle MP, State Member for Cairns
Senator The Honourable Jan McLucas, Senator for Queensland
The Honourable Steve Wettenhall MP, State Member for Barron River
The Honourable Curtis Pitt MP, State Member for Mulgrave
John Bradley, Director-General, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Leigh Tabrett, Deputy Director-General, Arts Queensland

**CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES
CAIRNS ENTERTAINMENT PRECINCT COMMITTEE**

**21 SEPTEMBER 2011
COMMENCING AT 2.00 PM**

PRESENT: Cr A Blake
Cr M Cochrane
Cr L Cooper
Cr D Forsyth
Cr P Gregory
Cr N Lanskey
Cr K Lesina
Cr J Leu
Cr R Pyne
Cr V Schier (Chairperson)

APOLOGY: Cr S Bonneau

OFFICERS:

L Russell	Chief Executive Officer
L Kirchner	A/General Manager Corporate Services
B Finegan	A/General Manager Infrastructure Services
B Gardiner	General Manager Water & Waste
I Lowth	General Manager Community, Sport & Cultural Services
F Dix	A/Manager Marketing & Communications
L Guy	Media Coordinator
R Leeds	Executive Advisor to the Mayor
L Cardew	Manager Cairns Cultural Precinct Project
L Sparkes	Manager Cultural Service Facilities
D Crees	A/Manager Governance
L Whitton	Snr Coord Financial Accounting
P Finkelstein	Civic Theatre Manager
D Henley	Minute Secretary

APOLOGY

Council notes the apology of Councillor Bonneau and grants leave of absence.

PURPOSE OF MEETING

To consider the matters listed on the agenda.

1. CAIRNS ENTERTAINMENT PRECINCT – MARKETING/COMMS REPORT1

Vanessa Lahey : 26/7/18-03 : #3310505

FORSYTH / LEU

That the Cairns Entertainment Precinct Committee receives and notes this report.

carried with Cr Blake and Lanskey voting against the motion

2. CAIRNS ENTERTAINMENT PRECINCT – FUNDING PARTNERSHIP 4

Linda Cardew: 26/7/18-03: #3316086

COCHRANE / COOPER moved an amendment

Council resolves, in order to secure grant funding for the Cairns Entertainment Precinct comprising \$40million from the Commonwealth Infrastructure Employment Program committed by Minister Albanese in July 2010, and a monetary requested contribution of \$57.3 million from the State Government, to

- a) deliver Option 6, Stage 1 as detailed in the Project Assurance Framework: Preliminary Evaluation assessment dated September 2011; and***
- b) provide in principle \$57.3million over the three year construction period, being the balance of \$154.6million total funding required, subject to a satisfactory outcome from the State's independent Financial Sustainability Review of Council's finances and completion of the required Business Plan to the satisfaction of the Council and the State Government.***

- c) *That a formal response from the Federal Government Minister be sought indicating that they will extend the June 30th 2012 deadline for the expenditure of the \$40million grant*
- d) *That no construction tenders be let until all above conditions are met.*

The motion was put and there being an equality of voting, the Mayor exercised her casting vote against the motion.

The amendment was lost with Councillors Leu, Forsyth, Lesina and Pyne voting against the motion

LESINA / PYNE moved the original motion

Council resolves, in order to secure grant funding for the Cairns Entertainment Precinct comprising \$40million from the Commonwealth Infrastructure Employment Program committed by Minister Albanese in July 2010, and a requested contribution of \$57.3 million from the State Government, to

- a) **deliver Option 6, Stage 1 as detailed in the *Project Assurance Framework: Preliminary Evaluation* assessment dated September 2011; and**
- b) **provide \$57.3million over the three year construction period, being the balance of \$154.6million total funding required, subject to a satisfactory outcome from the State's independent Financial Sustainability Review of Council's finances and completion of the required Business Plan to the satisfaction of the State Government.**

The motion was put and there being an equality of voting, the Mayor exercised her casting vote for the motion.

carried Councillors Gregory, Lanskey, Cochrane, Blake and Cooper voting against the motion

3. REPORT FROM THE PROJECT CONTROL GROUP 9 **Linda Cardew : 26/7/18-03: #3311213**

LEU / PYNE

That Council notes this report.

carried with Cr Blake voting against the motion

4. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT 17

Linda Cardew : #26/7/18-03: #3311218

LEU / FORSYTH

That Council receive and note the attached financial report.

carried with Cr Blake voting against the motion

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. LETTER TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

That Council write to the Federal Government Minister requesting an extension of time for the \$40million past June 2012

COCHRANE / COOPER

The motion was put and there being an equality of voting, the Mayor exercised her casting vote against the motion.

lost Councillors Leu, Forsyth, Lesina and Pyne voting against the motion

CLOSED SESSION

COOPER / FORSYTH

COUNCIL RESOLVE INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING MATTERS AS LISTED IN THE AGENDA:

1. CONTRACTUAL MATTER – CAIRNS ENTERTAINMENT PRECINCT

–

DESIGN AND ADVISORY CONSULTANTS PHASES 2-5 –

TENDERS 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2317, 2319, 2321 AND 2322 1

Linda Cardew : 26/7/18-03: #3316041

carried

OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

COUNCIL RESOLVE TO MOVE OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

FORSYTH / LEU

carried

RESOLUTIONS ARISING FROM MATTERS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

- 1. CONTRACTUAL MATTER – CAIRNS ENTERTAINMENT PRECINCT
–
DESIGN AND ADVISORY CONSULTANTS PHASES 2-5 –
TENDERS 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315,
2317, 2319, 2321 AND 2322 1
Linda Cardew : 26/7/18-03: #3316041**

FORSYTH / LESINA

That Council resolve:

1. To appoint the following consultants for Phase 2 (development application) and Phase 3 (preparation of tender documents) further to the tenders listed below:

Tender	Discipline	Recommended Tenderer	Fee for Phases 2 & 3 ex GST	Disbursements for phase 2 & 3 ex GST	Total for phases 2 & 3 ex GST	Total for phases 2 & 3 inc GST
2307	Acoustic Engineer	Acoustic Studio	163,140	5,600	168,740	185,614
2308	Theatre planner	Schuler Shook	86,700	13,545	100,245	110,270
2309	Heritage Consultant	Converge	29,700	6,550	36,250	39,875
2310	Hydraulic Engineer	SPP Group	122,500	NIL	122,500	134,750
2311	Fire Services Engineer	SPP Group	46,200	10,200	56,400	62,040
2312	Structural engineer	Arup	205,000	6,545	211,545	232,700
2313	Mechanical engineer	Arup	274,549	included	274,549	302,004
2314	Electrical engineer	Steensen Varming	280,000	8,000	288,000	316,800
2315	Vertical Transportation	Steensen Varming	30,000	8,000	38,000	41,800
2317	Cost planner	WT Partnership	72,000	9,000	81,000	89,100
2319	BCA Consultant	Certis	76,800	2,500	79,300	87,230
2321	Façade Engineer	Arup	109,551	6,545	116,096	127,706
2322	Landscape Architect	Tract	95,660	included	95,660	105,226

- 2. That the Mayor and CEO be given authority in accordance with s.257 of the Local Government Act 2009 to negotiate and finalise any and all matters in relation to these contracts.**

carried with Cr Blake voting against the motion

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 3:29 PM

CONFIRMED THIS DAY OF 2011

.....
MAYOR

.....
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Transcript

Station: **ABC FAR NORTH** Date: **03/11/2011**
Program: **06:30 NEWS** Time: **06:33 AM**
Compere: **NEWSREADER** Summary ID: **W00046162706**

Item: **PREMIER ANNA BLIGH SAYS A DECISION ON QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR AN ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE IN CAIRNS WILL BE MADE SOON. THE CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL WANTS THE GOVERNMENT TO CONTRIBUTE MORE THAN \$57 MILLION TO THE CAIRNS ENTERTAINMENT PRECINCT. BLIGH SAY THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROVEN ITS COMMITMENT TO THE PROJECT.**

INTERVIEWEES: ANNA BLIGH, QUEENSLAND PREMIER

Audience:	Male 16+	Female 16+	All people
	N/A	N/A	N/A

NEWSREADER: The Premier says a decision on State Government funding for an entertainment centre in Cairns will be made soon.

The Cairns Regional Council wants the government to contribute more than \$57 million to the Cairns Entertainment Precinct.

Anna Bligh says the government has proven its commitment to the project.

ANNA BLIGH: We're very close to finalising our decision in relation to that, that will happen as part of our mid-year review of the budget, we've already committed the land to it, so the Queensland Government I think has pretty good bonafides on this project.



* * END * *

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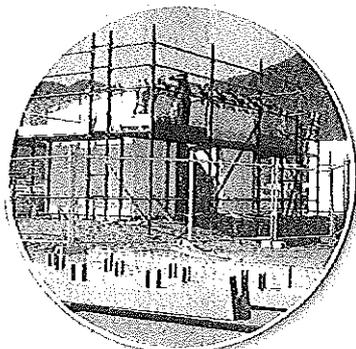
WILL BE UNVEILED TODAY

of building vision



Commitment: Premier Anna Bligh will today announce her Government's 20-year vision for infrastructure in the Far North. The plan includes six new schools and Bruce Highway upgrades.

Project highlights identified in the plan...



EDUCATION

- Six new schools, including four primary schools and two secondary schools
- TAFE upgrades already in progress
- Six early childhood education centres
- Support for tropical expertise and research



ECONOMY

- Expanding regional airports at Innisfail, the Tableland and Cape York
- Cairns foreshore redevelopment in progress
- Focusing industrial development along the southern growth corridor in Cairns
- Development of the Port Douglas waterfront and Cairns Entertainment Precinct



ROADS & TRANSPORT

- Upgrades to the Bruce Highway, including the Cardwell Range realignment, Wrights Creek Bridge upgrade, southern access corridor
- Kuranda Range upgrades
- Smithfield bypass
- Bus network from Palm Cove to Gordonvale including dedicated bus lanes and upgraded bus stops
- Improved freight facilities across the region

Alert as termites found on vessel

A TERMITE-infested boat, believed to be kitted out in Mexico, has been intercepted by Cairns quarantine inspectors on arrival into the Trinity Inlet earlier this week.

Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service officers found evidence of the insects throughout the "large sailing vessel" which were later determined to be western dry-wood termites.

A Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry spokesman said the vessel was inspected in the Cairns Port as part of a routine arrival for vessels entering their first port in Australia.

Operators were given the option to treat the vessel or to leave the port, he said.

"The vessel operators chose to leave the port."

Retail expert to lead free seminar

NATIONAL retailing guru Tony Gattari will advise city retailers how to boost business at a seminar this morning.

The former Harvey Norman's computer and communications division general manager, who has passed on his tips for success to thousands of business owners around the world, will lead the two hour breakfast meeting.

Successful retailers Marjo Calanna of the Queensland Calanna Pharmacy chain and Port Douglas retailer Doug Calvert, who owns four shops in the tourism village, will be part of a panel discussion for the 60 retailers.

This forum is free of charge at the Sebel Hotel Cairns from 7am to 9am today.

kick start cairns trade fair

CAIRNS RECREATION CENTRE
8 - 10 November 2011 10am to 3pm

Exhibitor Sites | Market Stalls | Amusements & Rides
Large Food Court | Local Entertainment

prizes

LUCKY DOOR PRIZE - 2 night stay at Hamilton Island Resort

NOMINATE YOUR SCHOOL - Fund Raiser Roller Disco valued at \$4000.00.

BEST OVERALL EXHIBITOR - 7 day Holiday for 4 Adults in SAMOA and much more!



* You must attend the Trade Fair to enter competitions

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Compere: Newsreader

Premier Anna Bligh says a decision on Qld Government funding for an entertainment centre in Cairns will be made soon. The Cairns wants the Government to contribute more than \$57m to the Cairns Entertainment Precinct. Bligh say the Government has proven its the project.

Interviewee
Anna Bligh, Queensland Premier



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Hi Bree Knox

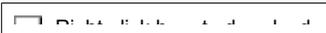
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Comperer: Fiona Sewell

Sewell announces that Premier Anna Bligh is launching her vision for the Far North today, with a 20 year plan of infrastructure projects like a back-up hospital in Edmonton, new schools, police stations, a bus-based transport system, expansion of existing airports including the Cairns Base Hospital. It includes the development of the Port Douglas waterfront and the Cairns Entertainment Precinct and the Bruce Highway.



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