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# Cassowary Coast Community Connect E-News



09 July 2024

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## **Cassowary Coast 2024/25 Budget Tackles Unprecedented Depreciation Costs**

Cassowary Coast Regional Council's 2024/2025 Budget was handed down at a Special (Budget) Meeting on Wednesday 26 June 2024.

Mayor Teresa Millwood presented her first budget for this term of Council, saying that she refused to accept a rate rise without forensically seeking cost savings first.

"I made a commitment to the community when I was voted Mayor earlier this year to keep this council focused on essential services of roads and rubbish, and to provide ratepayers with value for money," Mayor Millwood said.

"This year our budget has been heavily impacted by inflation which has seen the cost of building roads and basic infrastructure increase substantially.

"Ambitious waste reduction targets set by the Queensland Government has increased our costs for waste and resource recovery operations by 30%.

"And a mandatory transport revaluation of Council's roads, bridges and pathways has resulted in a whopping 13% increase in depreciation expense."

By Australian Accounting Standards and performance measures set out by the Queensland Audit Office, councils must account for depreciation in its financial statements.

The 2024/25 Budget provides for \$103 million of expenditure for operations which is made up of:

- \$33 million for employee expenses
- \$33.8 million for materials and services
- \$36.3 million for depreciation

"This is by far the greatest amount of depreciation required to be accounted for within any of our Council's prior budgets, representing one-third of our

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operational spend, and \$4.1 million more than last year's budget," Mayor Millwood said.

[Read More about the 2024/25 Budget](#)

### **Mayor's Speech: 2024 National General Assembly of Local Government**

Mayor Teresa Millwood took to the stage in front of 700 delegates at in Canberra to tackle the issue of a 'fair share' for councils by providing relief to ratepayers through commensurate financial support from state and federal governments. She joined fellow councillors at the 2024 National General Assembly of Local Government in a panel discussion about the 'Cost Shifting Crisis'.

This is her introductory speech as part of the panel:

"I feel the State and Federal governments need to come to the party and recognise the importance of local government and make sure we are at the table when decisions are being made.

"We are the foot soldiers of government who deal with the everyday pain.

"A prime example of cost shifting in the Cassowary Coast, and I have to say One Coast Cassowary Coast, has been primary health.

"Primary health is an initiative our council chose to support given the lack of services provided by federal funding. Market failure has seen the need for local government to step up and fill the gap along with NQPHN (North Queensland Public Health Network) and the thin market funding which has been very drawn out. This has seen our council contributing to a lease on a commercial facility to provide critical health care services. This was supported with a motion at the LGAQ conference in October 2022. In May 2023 the Better Health NQ Alliance proposal was taken to the Health Minister and Department of Health executives.

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[Read more](#)

### Notice of Detour - Footpath Reconstruction Mourilyan Road, Innisfail

Cassowary Coast Regional Council and Northn End Ag and Civil wish to advise the commencement of a single-lane detour from Monday 8 July to Friday 2 August 2024.

The single lane detour for vehicles traveling southbound will be in place for construction works between the roundabout and Fitzgerald Street for the Mourilyan Road Footpath Reconstruction.

We confirm all residents along Mourilyan Road will have access to their property during this time. We advise residents and the community to travel along the Corso via Ryan and Fitzgerald Street.

A full breakdown of traffic impacts can be found below:

Week 1: Week Commencing Monday 8 July 2024

- Detour during work hours only with all lanes open outside working hours

Week 2: Week Commencing Monday 15 July 2024

- Detour for the entire duration during day/night

Week 3: Week Commencing Monday 22 July 2024

- Detour during work hours only with all lanes open outside working hours

Week 4: Week Commencing Monday 29 July 2024

- Detour during work hours only with all lanes open outside working hours

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Council thanks the community for their patience and cooperation during these important works. If you have any further questions about this project, please contact:

Site Supervisor: Project Manager:

Darren Simmons 0417 010 536 Leo Copelin 0473 667 228

Alternatively for more information contact Council on 1300 763 903 or email [enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au)

### \$1.6 Million Program of Reseal Works Commence

Cassowary Coast Regional Council is pleased to advise bitumen reseal works are commencing across the region on Thursday 4 July, with works planned to be completed within 6-8 weeks, weather and resources permitting.

The \$1.6 million works program will be carried out on sections of various roads throughout the Cassowary Coast area with a total of 45.76 kilometers receiving bitumen resealing. Contractors will commence the resealing works from the north region and progress to the south over the works period.

Council's aim through the reseal program is to ensure we can preserve the quality of our roads and extend the existing life of our network. The reseal is primarily about waterproofing the surface to protect and extend its life as well as improve surface texture.

Council appreciates your patience and apologies in advance for any inconvenience this may cause. Residents in those areas are encouraged to not park on the street until sealing works are complete.

For further information on these works, please contact Council on 1300 763 903.

[Full List of Roads to be Resealed](#)

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### Embracing Growth and Collaboration on the Cassowary Coast

The Cassowary Coast Regional Council welcomed RDATN with open arms over the past two days, showcasing their dedication to advancing regional prosperity through strategic initiatives and collaborative efforts.

The tour explored port enhancements, promoted sustainable tourism initiatives and highlighted the region's proactive approach to economic growth through projects in sand management, CBD upgrades and more.

A highlight of the visit was witnessing the Mission Beach Revitalisation project's progress, supported by RDATN through a Letter of Support for federal funding. Council appreciates RDATN's support in assisting CCRC on securing \$7.9M towards this transformative endeavour!

Cassowary Coast Regional Council encourages the establishment of new businesses, particularly those that have environmental, economic and social sustainability as core principles. Council is especially interested in attracting industries and businesses that are looking at investing in clean technologies and other new emerging industries that support climate change adaptability, as well as those that require abundant supplies of water and other natural assets.

[Learn More](#)

### Temporary Road Closures - Fitzgerald Esplanade, Innisfail near Graham Academy of Dance

Cassowary Coast Regional Council wishes to gently remind the community that a temporary road closure remains in effect along a portion of Fitzgerald Esplanade, near the Graham Academy of Dance, until late November 2024.

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This closure is essential for the ongoing Callendar Park drainage project, which plays a crucial role in our region's infrastructure.

To ensure smooth traffic flow and safety, we kindly request that residents utilize alternative routes via Campbell Street or Emily Street during this period. Your cooperation in observing the designated barriers and signage is greatly appreciated.

The project is fully funded by Cassowary Coast Regional Council.

[View Callendar Park Drainage Works Project Page](#)

### **Cassowary Coast Regional Council Show Holiday Closures**

**Council's Customer Service Centres and Libraries will be closed for the upcoming Annual Show Holidays.**

Innisfail Show - Public Holiday on Friday 12 July - Innisfail Customer Service Centre and Library will be closed.

Tully Show - Public Holiday on Friday 26 July - Tully Customer Service Centre and Tully, Cardwell and Mission Beach Libraries will be closed

### **Waste Transfer Stations Closures**

Innisfail Show - Friday 12 July – Stoters Hill Waste Transfer Station operational hours will be 9:00am – 4:00pm. Bells Creek as usual will not be in operation.

Tully Show – Friday 26 July – Tully and Mission Beach Waste Transfer Station operational hours will be 9:00am – 1:00pm. Cardwell Waste Transfer Station operational hours will be 10am - 2pm

No changes to operational hours will occur for Murray Upper and Hull Heads over the Show Holidays.



National Tree Day - Jackey Jackey Revegetation



**Cassowary Coast  
REGIONAL COUNCIL**

## *National Tree Day*

**CALLING ALL NATURE ENTHUSIASTS!**



Join our tree planting team  
and let's revegetate the  
Cassowary Coast together!

**SUNDAY 28 JULY 2024**

**9:30 AM TO**

**12:30 PM**

*Lets Revegetate The  
Cassowary Coast  
Together!*

*Event in Partnership with*



**PLEASE EMAIL**

**[amber.kellett@ccrc.qld.gov.au](mailto:amber.kellett@ccrc.qld.gov.au)  
to register your interest!**

Tree Day - Planet Ark

### State of the Region Roadshow Comes to Cassowary Coast

Join Katrina Paterson from ID (Information Decisions) to understand the changes in economic conditions and how this effects your local region and businesses. Learn how to leverage the previous year's economic story for future opportunities and key tools and opportunities.

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The Roadshow Information Session will be held on Thursday 18 July 2024 from 9:00am at the Innisfail Disaster Centre.

Register now at 4041 1729 or [engage@rdatropicalnorth.org.au](mailto:engage@rdatropicalnorth.org.au)

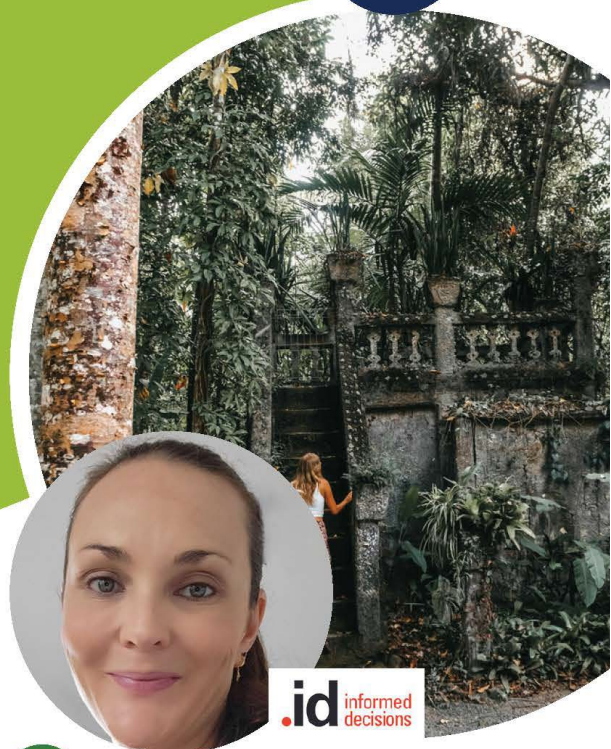
Regional Development Australia Tropical North

# State of the Region Roadshow

With the changes in economic conditions (inflation, interest rates rises, housing shortages) over the last year, the annual release of the "State of the Region" dataset will help unpack the latest economic and employment data.

Join Katrina Paterson from .id (Informed Decisions) to understand how this effects your local region and businesses and how to leverage the previous year's economic story for future opportunities.

RDA Tropical North has also brought together a fantastic group of representatives from AusIndustry, Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility, Office of Northern Australia, FNQ Regional Organisation of Councils, Dept of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water and Dept of Home Affairs - Business, Industry and Regional Outreach to connect with directly for insights and Q&A's on how they can help YOU



## INFO AND TO REGISTER

Contact: Lainie Poon | 07 4041 1729

[engage@rdatropicalnorth.org.au](mailto:engage@rdatropicalnorth.org.au)

Thursday, 18 July 2024 | 9:00am

Innisfail Disaster Coordination Centre  
11 Flying Fish Point Road, Innisfail

## Author Talk

# AUTHOR TALK BARBARA HANNAY



### **Mission Beach Library**

Friday 26 July  
10.00am - 11.00am

### **Innisfail Library**

Friday 26 July  
1.30pm - 2.30pm



Spaces are limited, bookings essential.  
PH: 1300 366 616 or visit [cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/libraries](http://cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/libraries)

[Book Now](#)

Career Opportunities at Council



## Live and Work on the Cassowary Coast

### Current Career Opportunities

- Technical Officer - Innisfail
- Rates and Revenue Officer - Innisfail
- Service Delivery Lead - Precincts - Tully
- Truck Driver - Tully / El Arish
- Manager Asset Engineering - Cassowary Coast

Apply now or find more information by visiting:  
<https://www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/position-vacant>



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### *Acknowledgement*

Cassowary Coast Regional Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land and sea on which we operate, the Mamu, Djiru, Girramay, Gulngay, Warrgamay, Jirrbal and Bandjin Peoples. We wish to acknowledge our respect for their current and emerging leaders and those in the dreaming. We thank all First Nations people for the contributions they make in building this community.