

**THE STRAND
INFORMATION KIT >>**



**TOWNSVILLE'S AWARD-WINNING
RECREATIONAL BEACHFRONT FOR
LOCALS AND VISITORS**



Other Councils 18/10/2011

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INTRODUCTION

Townsville's Strand is a 2.2km stretch of beach just minutes from the city heart, where Townsville meets the sea. Since Townsville was first settled the Strand has been a popular place for socialising and public events. Swimming on the Strand has long been a favourite pastime in Townsville.

The Strand was developed from the need to restore and secure the coastline due to destructive storms. This provided the opportunity to redevelop and reinstate the 2.2km stretch of Townsville's main beach to create a recreational facility, that provides the opportunity for a wide range of physical activities to improve the health and well-being of the community.

The Townsville Strand foreshore officially opened in October 1999, redefining Townsville's appeal as a tropical resort city. The opening weekend attracted over 80,000 residents and visitors to the city to view the results of the multi-million dollar development which is the largest beach and headland creation project of its kind ever developed in Australia.

The Strand now offers a friendly and relaxed atmosphere for locals and visitors to Townsville. Its inclusiveness of people of various ages and interests, visual attractiveness, proximity to the sea and city, cleanliness and sense of safety, and range of recreational and social opportunities available to the community have all been highlighted as attributes. On an average week over 25,500 people visit the Strand to take advantage of the ambience and free amenities available for use by the public. Over 1.3 million people visit each year.

The aims of The Strand redevelopment in relation to facilities were:

- >> to provide a recreational facility to encourage physical activity in the community to cater for all age groups
- >> to ensure facilities and space for a diverse range of sporting and recreational activities are available and kept maintained
- >> to enhance the sense of community in Townsville, by providing a safe inner city beachside facility which residents can utilise free of charge, 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

- >> to improve the health of the community by providing facilities that encourage physical activity, exercise and participation.

These objectives have been achieved, with the following included:

- >> construction of a 2.2km 'promenade', that can be used for a wide range of physical activities
- >> downsizing of roadways, to create a peaceful environment
- >> additional pedestrian areas, to make access safe and secure
- >> major 200 x 100 metre Park providing space for all types of physical activities such as soccer, football, cricket or kite flying
- >> children's play areas catering to different age groups
- >> foreshore parkland
- >> themed lighting, to allow for safe use of The Strand into late evening
- >> two Stinger Resistant Enclosures – Life Guard protected
- >> precincts to appeal to different ages
- >> shady environment
- >> Water Play Park
- >> Basketball Half Court
- >> Rock Pool
- >> Space Net; and
- >> Water Fountain

This 'meeting place by the sea' continues to draw vast numbers of people. On an average week over 25,500 people visit the Strand to take advantage of the ambience and free amenities available for use by the public 24/7. The Strand is a facility that provides the opportunity for people of all ages to be physically active in their daily life. It is an environment that encourages people in the Townsville community, of all ages, to be out and about in their local community.

The Strand is kept well-maintained and keeps its reputation as a clean, safe and welcoming environment for people of all ages.

Townsville City Council does not allow drinking of alcohol in public places on The Strand and provides security officers and cameras to ensure The Strand remains a facility that people of all ages feel welcome to use.

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Townsville City Council stages major events that attracts and exposes people to this wonderful recreation facility, with the expectation they will return.

The specific features of The Strand provide for a wide range of activities including:

- >> the promenade - 2.2km of landscaped, well-lit pathway gently winding along the seafront
- >> park areas - 4 headlands, Strand Park and the grassed areas along the promenade
- >> beach areas - 4 beaches
- >> stinger resistant enclosures - 2 stinger resistant enclosures (November-May)
- >> rock pool - tidal swimming with wheelchair access
- >> playgrounds - 3 (one enclosed) with equipment designed for balance and coordination
- >> teenager - equipment for teens designed to assist in balance; and hand games to increase hand and eye coordination
- >> basketball half-court
- >> exercise equipment - 8 strategically placed exercise stations along the promenade
- >> the pier - 60metre pier purpose-built for anglers, with triangular shade awnings, filleting stations, a bin, lighting and safety rails
- >> water play park - specially designed water based play activity
- >> space net - constructed entirely of rope, standing nine metres high and covering 18 metres of sand, the structure looks like a giant spider web
- >> Tobruk Pool renovations
- >> artworks along The Strand - 13 main pieces are located along the promenade
- >> BBQ's and plenty of space for family picnics
- >> public toilets and showers
- >> fishing platform at the Rock Pool
- >> 21 shade structures positioned at various locations along The Strand; and
- >> water fountain

The area has ample parking including disabled, is serviced by public transport and is wheelchair accessible.

The parkland area is roughly 112,441m², not including the adjoining Anzac Park which is another 31,147m². This area provides 70,000m² of turf, planted with

16,000 trees and shrubs and 900 palms in addition to 22,500 native groundcover plants.

In addition to the sporting and recreation facilities, amenities provided include:

- >> drinking water
- >> toilets / Change rooms
- >> showers
- >> barbeques
- >> tables and seating
- >> cafés / Restaurants
- >> kiosks
- >> public Art; and
- >> themed lighting

The Strand also has spectacular views and an international reputation for great design of a public space.

GENERAL INFORMATION

ALCOHOL >>

It is illegal to consume alcohol along The Strand as it is a Public Place and a breach of Local Law 51.

ARTWORKS >>

There are 12 main pieces of artwork located along the Promenade.

> DUGONG

(located at entrance to beach at northern end of the Pier Headland)



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> **FLAGPOLES AND PENNANTS**
WIND FLAGS
(located on the Rock Pool Headland)



> **LYIN' FISH**
(next to Jamaica Joe's Restaurant)



> **HAMBELUNA**
(located adjacent to Strand Park)



> **SEA TURTLE**
(located at Oxley Street intersection)



> **HAMBELUNA LAGOON**
(located in Strand Park)



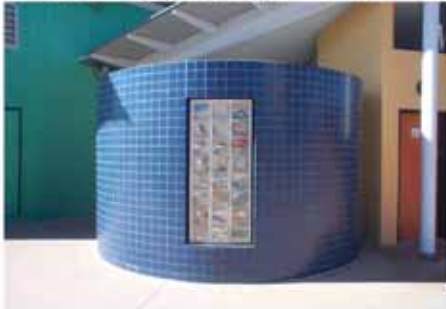
> **THE COCONUTS**
(located between the Rock Pool and Landsborough Street Headland)



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> **FLOTSAM & JETSAM - THE GLASS TILE ARTWORKS**
(located in the amenities block at Picnic Bay Surf Club & in pavers leading to The Pier)



> **THE PALM TREE DRUMS**
(located between the Gregory Street Amphitheatre and Picnic Bay Surf Club)



> **LAND BOAT**
(located adjacent Tobruk Pool Kiosk)



> **MIXTURE OF MEMORY AND DESIRE - MOSAIC TILES**
(located at Gregory Street Amphitheatre)



> **THE OCEANIC IMAGES MADE OF WOOD**
(located behind the amenities block at the Water Park)



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AWARDS >>

The Strand has won many awards since its redevelopment and opening in October 1999. Our most recent are:

- >> Keep Australia Beautiful Clean Beaches - Australia's Cleanest Beach 2008 (& 2004)
- >> Keep Australia Beautiful Clean Beaches, Australia - Environmental Innovation Water 2008
- >> Keep Australia Beautiful Clean Beaches, Australia - Protection of the Environment 2008
- >> Queensland Heart Foundation Local Government Awards, Provision and Use of Facilities to Improve Heart Health, Queensland - State Overall Winner and State Category Winner 2008
- >> Keep Australia Beautiful Clean Beaches, Australia - Environmental Innovation, Highly Commended 2008
- >> Keep Australia Beautiful Clean Beaches, Australia - Litter Prevention, Highly Commended 2008
- >> Keep Australia Beautiful Clean Beaches, Australia - Heritage and Culture, Highly Commended 2008
- >> Parks & Leisure Australia 2007 Awards of Excellence for Management of Open Space Development
- >> Keep Australia Beautiful - Clean Beach Challenge, Queensland Cleanest Beach Award 2007
- >> Youth Friendly Place 2007 - Children's Advocacy and Resource Association
- >> Keep Australia Beautiful - Clean Beach Challenge, Friendly Beach Award 2006
- >> QNI North Queensland Tourism Awards - Major Tourist Attraction 2006
- >> DisAbility Action Week - Recreation Sport Award 2006; and
- >> World Leisure International Innovation Award - International Innovation Leisure Amenities (Outdoor, Indoor 2006)

BARBEQUES >>

There are 13 twin electric barbecues on The Strand. They are cleaned daily and are free to the public. Due to the immense popularity of The Strand, Council is unable to give exclusive rights to any barbecue or table and chair setting on The Strand.

Barbeques are a Christie's Electric Barbeque supplied by Big Splash Enterprises, PO Box 4873, Cairns Qld

4870. Phone 07 4033 5433, Mobile 0412 928 578, Email bigsplash@pobox.com
Stainless Steel Top and Splashbacks supplied by Combined Metal Fabrications, 52-54 Hugh Ryan Drive, Garbutt Qld 4814. Phone 07 4775 6699

BASKETBALL HALF-COURT >>



The Townsville McDonald's Crocodiles have sponsored this basketball half-court which is located next to Strand Park. The court's tip off circle and key both feature the team's logo and the court has been officially named The McDonalds Crocodiles Half Court.

The basketball half court operates from 6am to 10pm.

BEACHES >>



There are 4 beaches positioned along The Strand. They are located as follows:

- >> Rock Pool to Stuart Street Headland
- >> Strand Beach
- >> Burke Street Headland to Gregory Street Headland; and

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>> Gregory Street Headland to Tobruk Pool.

The concept of foreshore protection and tidal land reclamation is often based on placement of large quantities of sand with the realisation that nature will eventually create the beach profile. While protection through rock armouring is by no means a new technique, its application is an inexact engineering science. The placement of the 'shot rock' causeway was utilised to not only provide a stable working platform for heavy machinery but also to minimise the loss of fines during the construction of the revetment walls.

The beaches were designed using state of the art modelling software to model both the expected seasonal movements of the beaches, and the beaches response to storm wave activity. The modelling was part of a wider coastal processes study which examined in detail the coastal processes of the Cleveland Bay foreshores for both the existing and future developed cases.

BICYCLES >>

Bicycles are permitted on The Strand subject to the rider obeying the State Laws regarding bicycle safety.

BICYCLE RACKS >>

There are three sets of bicycle racks situated along The Strand. They are constructed of stainless steel and hold six bicycles.

BINOCULARS >>

There are 3 coin operated binoculars along The Strand, situated opposite the Water Park, on the Landsborough Street Headland and on the Rock Pool Headland.

BINS >>



There are 31 bins positioned on The Strand. They are located at all the heavy usage areas along The Strand and are emptied twice per day and cleaned early every morning. Due to popular demand and acceptance of the public recycling program, 11 double recycling bins have been installed along The Strand.

Single, double and double recycle stainless steel units constructed by Combined Metal Fabrications, 52-54 Hugh Ryan Drive, Garbutt Qld 4814. Phone 07 4775 6699

CAMPING >>

It is illegal to camp on The Strand as it is a Public Place and a breach of Chapter XV, Section 520.

CAPITAL BUDGET >>

Capital budget of approx \$300,000 per annum to include upgrades and recapitalisation of assets.

CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUNDS >>



Three younger children's playgrounds (one enclosed) are positioned on The Strand.

These children's play areas cater to different age groups and boast equipment designed for balance and coordination.

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They are located as follows:

- >> the Galaxy Playground is located at the Rock Pool. A five-way swing and Look Out are also located at the Rock Pool.
- >> the Townsville Rotary Playground is located near the Pier; (this playground was completely replaced in June 2011); and
- >> the Sunrise Rotary Equal Access Playground is located south of the Oxley Street Water Fountain, just north of the Water Play Park.

DOGS >>

Dogs are permitted to be walked along The Strand providing they are on a leash at all times. Dogs are prohibited from all beaches along The Strand.

DOGGY BAG HOLDERS >>

There are eight (8) doggy bag holders, attached to bins, positioned along the length of The Strand to assist owners with the disposal of faeces.

Constructed by Wulguru Steel, 352 Stuart Drive, Wulguru Qld 4814. Phone 07 4778 3055

DOGGY DRINKING BOWL >>



A doggy drinking bowl has recently been installed along The Strand.

Constructed by Combined Metal Fabrications, 52-54 Hugh Ryan Drive, Garbutt Qld 4814. Phone 07 4775 6699

DRINKING FOUNTAINS >>



There are seven (7) drinking fountains, positioned along the length of The Strand.

ECONOMIC & SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT >>

Over a 5 year period, the average annual growth in The Strand visitation has grown 5.9% annually compared to an average population growth of 1.8% for Townsville.

Surveys of The Strand are conducted annually by Townsville City Council's Community and Cultural Development to:

- >> determine usage patterns
- >> to make observations and gather feedback; and
- >> to provide an analysis of the types of uses and issues

These surveys were done by:

- >> locating recorders at points along the Strand over a seven day period; and
- >> conducting 200 personal interviews using a structured interview schedule and the gathering of additional qualitative information for analysis.

The report measured the level of usage over a 7 day period, for a 9 hour period, between 7am to 7pm. The report found that the number of people visiting the Strand and engaging in the range of recreational and social activities varied greatly depending on the day of the week and location along the strand. The following table summarises the level of people moving through the points selected for recording purposes. Estimated rates are given for weekdays and weekends, as there is a significant difference between these levels. These figures are also rounded to the nearest 5%. Estimates of average number of people at the selected sites on a daily and weekly basis are also included, with

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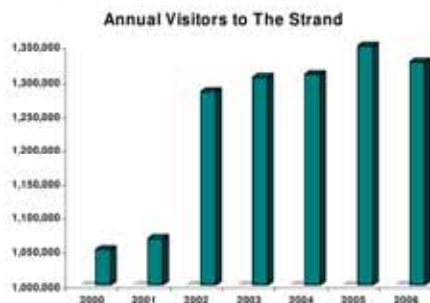
calculations being based on 9 hours throughout each day. This is a conservative estimate as it has been observed that significant numbers of people are visiting the Strand before 7am and after 7pm. It was also noted that 60% of visitors were residents of Townsville and (the former) Thuringowa.

Average Movement at Selected Locations along the Strand (7am to 7pm)

Location	Hourly Visitation		Weekly Visitation	
	Wdays	Wends	Wdays	Wends
Strand Park	270	392	16,200	9,408
Water Park	209	344	12,540	8,256
Rock Pool	206	287	12,360	6,888
Average Yearly Visitation	228	341	15,983	9,548

Total: 1,327,612 per annum

On an average week over 25,500 people visit The Strand to take advantage of the ambience and free amenities available for use by the public. Over 1.3 million people visit The Strand each year.



The 2.2km long, 4 metre wide, promenade offers a great venue for people of all ages to enjoy the outdoors. Some of the activities monitored by the recorders conducting the survey were:

- >> walking
- >> jogging
- >> exercise
- >> cycling/bike riding
- >> swimming

- >> fishing
- >> visiting the Water Park
- >> walking with a pram
- >> walking the dog
- >> skateboarding
- >> skating/Rollerblading; and
- >> scooter riding

EVENTS >>

Community Services - Business Support handles the bookings for all events/functions/ceremonies for ALL Parklands throughout Townsville (including Pioneer Park at Riverway). On average over 1,200 bookings are made each year. These bookings range from small events such as wedding and naming ceremonies, charity walks, fundraisers and private functions, through to parades, memorial services, and a range of events including community sports, arts, culture, dance, song, and music.

Fees and Charges apply to most events. Feature and major events held on the Strand include:

> **CULTURAL FEST** has now become a permanent Townsville tradition which brings the whole community together over the five night, 3 day event. Up to 70,000 thousand people each year flock to Cultural Fest to enjoy the dancing, music, arts and crafts, and food of the many different cultures in our society. The Townsville Intercultural Centre plays a major role in the organisation of the event.

> **OUTRIGGERS** There are three major outriggering clubs along the Strand including Coral Sea Outriggers, Townsville Outriggers and Magnetic Island Outriggers. Each club hold their own regatta each year which involves a series of competitive canoe races and beach activities for all ages.

> **STABLE ON THE STRAND** allows the Churches of Townsville and Thuringowa to come together to create the Christmas message in story, song and festivity for the people of this region. The 6 day and night Christmas celebration draws crowds of up to 30,000 people.

> **STRAND NIGHT MARKETS** Since the Strand Night Markets first started on the 5th of May 2000, they have

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consistently attracted large crowds. Numbers in excess of 10,000 frequently visit the markets to experience everything on offer. Stallholders average around 100 sites that offer the public a wide range of original items to purchase. Food vendors also offer original meals as the markets are designed to provide culturally diverse food from an average of at least 10 different food vendors.

The Strand Night Markets are held in Strand Park on the first Friday of the month, May to December inclusive, (the July markets are moved to the second weekend to coincide with the VB's). The markets are held from 5pm to 9.30pm. An entertainment area is also provided with tables and chairs available for diners.

EXERCISE STATIONS >>



Challenge yourself on the eight (8) exercise points positioned along The Strand. The exercise points include Warm up bench, Chin up bars, Bent Knee sit up bench, Step up stairs, Wall Climber, Balance Beams, Ring Grab and a Cool down bench.

FIRE TWIRLING >>

Fire twirling is prohibited along The Strand. A recreation business hire permit is required to perform fire twirling in public, this entails the user having public liability insurance cover and applying for the permit. Charges apply.

FISHING >>



Fishing off the Pier and the Rock Pool fishing platform has restrictions of no more than 3 lines per person. The two well lit sinks and cutting tables on the Pier should be left in clean condition. There are purpose built holes drilled into the end of some timber decking on the Pier to hold fishing rods.

There is one sink and two cutting tables on the Rock Pool platform.

LENGTH OF THE STRAND >>

The Strand is 2.2 kilometres from the Rock Pool to the sun dial at the Tobruk Pool.

LIFESAVERS >>

Surf Life Saving Queensland has a contract with Townsville City Council for the provision of Lifeguard Services.

The provision of Lifeguard Services to Townsville's main bathing beaches is a community service.

Services provided by Lifesavers include:

- >> Adequate patrol of flagged/safe swimming areas which incorporate, during the stinger season, the stinger resistant net areas
- >> Emergency response in the patrolled area and the adjacent beach
- >> First aid, and, in particular, expertise in applying first aid to marine box jellyfish stings
- >> Advise to beach users on water and beach safety and marine stingers
- >> Control of surf craft
- >> General supervision of playgrounds and other facilities on the Strand (rover); and
- >> Assistance with the enforcement of Local Laws.

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Council receives reports of any incidents of injury from the lifeguards, with advice being reported to Risk Management.

LOST PROPERTY >>

Any lost property found along The Strand is handed into the Strand Police Beat.

MAINTENANCE >>

Maintenance and upkeep of The Strand costs Council \$1.3million (Management \$400,000, Maintenance \$900,000) on top of the Council budget of \$580,000; with an average capital works replacement program of approximately \$300,000.

PIER >>



The Pier is situated at the further most point of the Stuart Street headland and angles slightly to the left; it is 70 metres long and 3 metres wide.

A sink and cutting table has been constructed in two separate and well lit locations so that fishing ventures can be run any time day or night. These should be left in a clean condition. There are purpose built holes drilled into the end of some timber decking to hold fishing rods. A third fishing platform can also be found at the Rock Pool. Restrictions of no more than 3 lines per person apply on each platform. Bins are provided in each location.

It was due to the generosity of the Townsville Port Authority for providing a barge that enabled the prompt construction of the Pier. The barge was used as a

platform from which to drive piles and erect other pre-cast elements. With timber decking, water services, lighting, safety rails and two large sail shade structures, the Pier is a popular destination choice for all Strand users.

The Pier is designed for pedestrian and fishing use only and not for any boating operations. The Townsville City Council has gazetted a Sports and Recreational reserve that runs the length of Strand beach. The width of the reserve is approximately 200 metres seaward from the high water mark. In early October 1999, the Council resolved to forbid powered watercraft from this reserve, unless the owner is the holder of an approval issued by the Council.

PLAQUES >>

Plaques are coated with a micro-crystalline wax which is reheated every six (6) months to refresh the surface and remove any build up of grime.

PUBLIC SHOWERS >>



There are fifteen (15) public showers positioned along the length of The Strand.

Showers are made from mild steel piping and are painted with 2 pack epoxy.

Showers are changed over on an annual maintenance rotation.

Designed by Tippet Schrock Architects, Belrowes Place, 49 Bundock Street, Belgian Gardens Qld 4810. Phone 07 4772 3044.

Constructed by Thomas Steel Fabrication, 19 Hartley Street, Garbutt Qld 4814. Phone 07 4775 1266, Email tsteel@tpg.com.au

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QUALITY ASSURANCE >>

Quality Assurance checks are done on a regular basis, surveying and documenting all elements on the Strand, Anzac Park and on Gregory Street in need of repair or improvement. All incidents are recorded in a detailed database, with works requests being raised with the relevant departments (internal and external) with regards to these repairs/improvements.

Weekly referencing is done to ensure recorded repairs/improvements have been addressed. Frequent meetings are held with the relevant departments to ensure repairs/improvements are being addressed in a timely manner.

REDEVELOPMENT (ALSO COVERED IN FURTHER DETAIL LATER ON) >>

For many years, our Strand consisted of nothing more than a beach, a sea rockwall and a narrow footpath adjacent to the road. The rockwall was high enough to obstruct views of the beach for motorists.

Ironically the development evolved due to destructive monsoonal storms in 1997 with Cyclone Justin and 1998 with ex-Cyclone Sid. These storms caused significant damage and compromised the structural integrity of the rock wall. Extensive repairs were necessary to about 80% of the length of the wall. The Townsville City Council decided to redevelop 'The Strand' by developing the beaches as a means of foreshore protection. The decision to proceed was made, notwithstanding the fact that the development would occur directly in a marine environment with significant natural, fisheries and world heritage values.

The aims of the redevelopment were to:

- >> Secure the coastline with a civil structure designed and constructed to withstand a one in one hundred year storm event
- >> Restore the foreshore using a technique designed to minimise the need for future wall maintenance / sand replenishment
- >> Redevelop by reinstating a beach alignment slightly offshore, providing greater opportunities for improved amenity and passive recreation opportunities

- >> Redevelop to create stable 'sandy beach' compartments and extend active recreation such as swimming and fishing; and
- >> Provide all of the above and, at the same time, minimise the risk of environmental harm.

Over many years the development of Townsville has seen the opportunity for natural beach renourishment reduced to almost zero on the Strand.

Works were undertaken along the 2.2km stretch of Townsville's main beach. These works included the reconstruction of seawalls, beach renourishment, reclamation of land from the sea, and improved storm protection along the length of the beach. The project involved significant landscaping including the construction of a boulevard, downsizing of roadways, additional pedestrian areas, play areas, foreshore park land, theme lighting, some commercial opportunity and facilities to cater for wider interest groups within the community with particular emphasis being given to people with disabilities.

The project involved the construction of three headlands, which feature recreational facilities, restaurants and headquarters for Lifesavers. The headlands were devised for a dual role. Apart from their public amenities facility, the headlands will protect the new seawall and beach. They are in areas that have been most vulnerable to cyclone damage and are designed to trap sand and break the force of waves. It was also essential that the foreshore be high enough to withstand a 1 in a 100 year storm event where the sea level could rise by up to 3 metres.

The restoration of the beachfront, including significant landscaping and road works, required more than 40,000 truck movements in transporting 250,000 tonnes of armour rock, 400,000 tonnes of beach sand, 390,000 tonnes of clean fill and 70,000m² of turf to the site. 16,000 trees and shrubs, 900 palms and 22,500 native groundcover plants were required to complete the protection program.

The finished project ensures the protection of the beaches and rock wall whilst providing greater opportunities for improved amenity and passive recreation opportunities. The protection represents usage of public works funding to protect the foreshore

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while also increasing tourism potential and thus generating revenue for the community at the same time.

The Townsville City Council redeveloped the multi-million dollar project, creating a multi-functional free recreational and health facility, close to the city centre, catering for all age groups.

The budget for the project was set at \$28.9 million and applications for funding were submitted to both State and Federal Government.

Funding for the project was ultimately provided by four main sources. The Queensland State Government provided \$15 million via a special grant, they also provided \$4.9 Million via the Natural Disaster Relief Assistance; the Townsville/Thuringowa Water Supply Board contributed \$4 million; with Townsville City Council contributing the remaining \$5 million.

There were over 18 companies involved in the redevelopment project with varying responsibilities. Townsville City Council had 40 workers continually employed at the site, however many more were involved in one-off areas of the project or behind the scenes.

The Strand has radically changed the face of Townsville. It surpassed the development's original goal of providing an environmentally sustainable solution to the Strand's existing problems. The new vision for the Strand went on to provide a commercially viable and aesthetically pleasant vehicle to launch Townsville into the new millennium.

COMPANIES INVOLVED IN THE STRAND REDEVELOPMENT

- >> Townsville City Council (TCC) - Principal
- >> Mac North Pty Ltd - Project Managers / Construction Managers
- >> Sinclair Knight Merz - Environmental Management Contractor / Consultant Coastal Engineering Solutions Design Engineers
- >> Citiworks (Business Unit of TCC) - Stormwater and Road works Design
- >> Engineers and Construction Contractors
- >> Rowland's Surveys Pty Ltd - Surveyors
- >> Coffey Geosciences Pty Ltd - Geotechnical Engineers

- >> Walter Smith & Associates Pty Ltd - Landscape Architect
- >> Ashburner Francis Consulting Engineers - Electrical Engineers
- >> Douglas Stark - Quantity Surveyors and Cost Consultants
- >> Cardno & Davies - Structural Engineers
- >> Tippet Schrock Architects - Architects
- >> MacCallum and Partners Architects - Architects
- >> Parker Hydraulics - Hydraulic Engineers
- >> NDYI Lighting - Lighting Specialists
- >> Peter Lynch Designs - Graphic Consultation
- >> Ray Squire Engineering - Electrical / Mechanical Engineers; and
- >> Qld Artworks Alliance - Artwork Consultant

Townsville City Council's role was to approve the concept designs, undertake consultation, provide funding, obtain environmental permits and approvals and appoint the primary consultants who are listed above.

Mac North Pty Ltd's role was to project manage the construction activities, arrange and submit the details of the development to Council for approval, coordinate the design teams consisting of a variety of specialist consultants in the fields of: Architecture, Quantity surveying, Electrical engineering, Surveying, Coastal engineering, Hydraulics, Lighting, Road works and Signage

Sinclair Knight Merz's role is that of the environmental management consultant. Sinclair Knight Merz prepared and provided the initial advice statement for the works, assisted Council with the obtaining of necessary permits and approvals, then prepared an environmental management plan for the project and monitored the construction activity to ensure accordance with that environmental management plan.

Walter Smith and Associates were the landscape architects appointed by Council to develop the concept design proposals, liaise with the other consultants and produce the detailed final landscape plans for the project.

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ROCK POOL >>



The Rock Pool is located at the northern-most end of The Strand, adjacent to Kissing Point.

The Rock Pool is open all hours Friday to Wednesday inclusive.

The Rock Pool is closed Thursdays for cleaning and maintenance. The cleaning process takes approximately four (4) hours to empty, four (4) hours to clean, and eight (8) hours to refill; and is timed to coincide with low tide. No swimming is permitted during cleaning or filling of the Rock Pool.

Lifeguards monitor the Rock Pool from 10am to 6pm daily from 01 December until Easter. The hours of operation during the other months are 9am to 5pm daily.

In July/August 1968 work commenced on a major sporting and holiday attraction for Townsville, the Kissing Point Rock Swimming Pool. Townsville firm Nazarene Bros. Pty Ltd were granted the contract valued at \$57,127 to build the 1½ acre rock pool in the sea off Kissing Point. The pool, almost as large as seven house allotments, would be enclosed by a 660' sea wall similar in construction to the harbour breakwater. It would have a beach front of 400', a top surface width of the wall 12', with rocks weighing a ton or more used to build the seaward side. Three screened pipes built into the wall allowed water to pass in and out of the pool with the tides. The floor of the Rock Pool was subsequently changed to cement with tidal gates, pumps and a retaining wall.

SECURITY CAMERAS >>

There are seven (7) cameras positioned along the length of The Strand. They are monitored by a contracted security company from a central camera

location. A link has also been set up with the Townsville Police Station.

Procedures in place with Council ensure that the six areas along The Strand where cameras are placed are recorded on a nightly basis.

Any incidents are recorded in a database for future reference and passed onto Police for action.

SECURITY PATROLS >>

Placement of security patrols along The Strand ensure a safe and welcoming environment for all Strand users and ensures Council assets within the Strand are protected and preserved.

Conducting security patrols on the Strand is an integral part of the security network that ensures a high standard of public safety that is expected by residents, businesses, sporting clubs and visitors and ensures a safe environment in which they may enjoy the amenity of The Strand without disruption or fear of harm.

Security Patrols operate Mondays & Tuesdays 7pm to 11pm; Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 8pm to 12am; Saturdays 2pm to 12am and Sundays 12pm to 10pm (Sundays 12pm to 8pm in Winter).

SHADE STRUCTURES >>



There are twenty-three (23) shade structures positioned along the length of The Strand.

Designed by Tippet Schrock Architects, Belwos Place, 49 Bundock Street, Belgian Gardens Qld 4810. Phone 07 4772 3044

Constructed by Combined Metal Fabrications, 52-54 Hugh Ryan Drive, Garbutt Qld 4814. Phone 07 4775 6699

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SIGNAGE >

Orientation and interpretive signs on rules of use of The Strand and the facilities are well marked and are aimed at enhancing the visitor experience. The signage is also pictorial, so that language or illiteracy is not a barrier.



Signage is made from mild steel, with the posts constructed from Mast sections. They are painted with 2 pack epoxy undercoat, 2 pack epoxy colour coat and overlaid with etchings and text; and then coated with 2 pack epoxy PSX700 clear marine protectant.

SPACE NET >>



As part of the Townsville City Council's commitment to building a healthy and active city, a \$150,000 Space Net climbing structure was constructed on The Strand in February 2006. It is located on Strand Park Beach (net 2).

The net climbing structure is the largest in regional Queensland. Constructed entirely of rope, standing nine metres high and covering 18 metres of sand, the structure looks like a giant spider web.

The three dimensional adventure playground is fitted with hammocks which act as shade or an ideal resting

place for children. Softfall sand has been placed under the net which has been approved by the Environmental Protection Agency and meets Australian Safety Standards. Since its construction the Space Net has been a magnet for people of all ages and has boosted The Strand's popularity as a recreational draw card.

The Space Net was severely damaged during Cyclone Yasi hit on Wednesday 2nd February 2011 and has since been removed from the Strand. A smaller version may be purchased and located to a headland on the Strand at a later date.

STINGERS >>

Marine stingers are present in a variety of forms in Australian waters: they present a risk to swimmers with consequences ranging from significant discomfort through to death (in particular the Chironex Box Jellyfish).

People of all ages and different states of health may be exposed to injury from marine stingers. It is possible that a sting, an envenomation or poisoning which normally carries no risk to one person may, due to the location of the sting, a pre-existing condition, or some other complicating factor, become critical to another.

> CONTROL MEASURES

The high-risk 'stinger season' usually coincides with the summer (warmer) months running from November to May.

Stinger resistant enclosures (nets) go into the water at the beginning of November, but may be positioned earlier if stingers are caught in lifeguard drags of the beach.

Stinger resistant enclosures (nets) come out of the water at the end of May, unless extended due to influx of stingers.

Protective clothing such as 'Stinger Suits' is recommended.

The enclosures are situated at:

Net 1 – Rock Pool end of The Strand

Net 2 – Strand Beach next to Picnic Bay Surf Club

> STINGER RESISTANT ENCLOSURES (NETS)

Throughout Northern Queensland stinger resistant enclosures (nets) are provided to facilitate a level of safe bathing during the 'stinger season', the high-risk

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period, which coincides with the summer (warmer) months.

Stinger resistant enclosures (nets) aim to limit the potential for contact between the potentially fatal marine stingers (Chironex Box Jellyfish) and humans. The enclosures are not effective against the smaller Irukandji.

While the enclosures offer some degree of protection, lifesavers in North Queensland have an important role to play in the monitoring of the efficiency of the nets, as well as providing community education and emergency care.

> STINGER SUITS

Wearing protective clothing has proven to be very effective as protection from Box Jellyfish stings. Lycra "Stinger Suits" are available to Lifesavers and the community. The suits are an effective protection against a major sting from marine stingers (stings may still occur on exposed areas such as the feet and hands). Stinger Suits are not effective against Irukandji due to the exposure of the hands, feet and head. They are also very effective in preventing sunburn.

If purpose designed stinger suits are not available then long trousers, long sleeve shirts or pantyhose (2 pairs covering top and bottom) are effective options.

> SIGNAGE

Surf Life Saving Queensland and Townsville City Council work together to erect signage during the stinger season ensuring swimmers are made aware of the dangers of swimming outside of the enclosures.

STRAND EPHEMERA >>

Strand Ephemera is Townsville's biennial outdoor sculpture and installation exhibition. Held along the length of The Strand the ten day exhibition showcases the works created by local, national and international artists.

Strand Ephemera usually includes around 50 sculptures and installation artworks.



Jan Hynes, Picnic on the Grass - 2003



Candace Miles, In the Company of Diggers - 2001



Marion Gaemers, Journeys - 2009

TEENRAGER PLAYGROUND >>



Situated next to Strand Park, the Teenrager playground was built with 'activity equipment' for teens designed to assist in balance and hand/eye coordination. It provides the right blend of competitive, challenging and physical activities for the age group that no longer consider themselves kids.

It is somewhere they can mix with people their own age and have fun at the same time.

The Teenrager features different activities such as: Snow Rider, Sky Surfer, Tornado, Rad Roller, Power Plays and Spinners.

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Components of the Teenrager are from Megatoy Play Systems Pty Ltd, 26 Production Street, Bundaberg Qld 4670 (PO Box 4328, Bundaberg Qld 4670). Phone 07 4153 5088

The structure sits on a soft safety surface called 'Softfall' which is designed to provide safety to all users.

Initially the following were the components installed, however the two trick skates have since been removed as they were too dangerous. We have installed another two spinners in their place.

Chin Up	\$1,022.00
Power Play 1	\$1,394.00
Power Play 2	\$1,394.00
Rad Roller	\$2,621.00
Sky Surfer	\$10,057.00
Snow Rider	\$8,444.00
Spinner 1	\$707.00
Spinner 2	\$707.00
Spinner 3	\$707.00
Tornado	\$8,030.00
Trick Skate 1	\$969.00
Trick Skate 2	\$969.00
Total	\$37,021.00

TOILETS >>

There are three (3) blocks of toilets positioned on The Strand. They are located at the Rock Pool, Burke Street Headland near the Picnic Bay Surf Club and at the Water Park. Change rooms/areas are available at each toilet block, with private showers available at the Burke Street toilet block.

VANDALISM >>

Procedures in place with Council ensure that any vandalism occurring along The Strand is reported directly to Council on a daily basis.

If vandalism occurs along the Strand, a Camera Footage Request Form is lodged to retrieve recorded evidence, and then passed onto Police for action.

The average costs to repair vandalism on The Strand is approximately \$60,000.

WATER PARK >>



The Water Park opens Thursday to Monday inclusive. Closed Tuesday and Wednesday for cleaning and maintenance (except Queensland Public Holidays and Queensland State School Holidays when it opens daily)

Operation times -

10am to 5pm Jun, Jul & Aug
10am to 6pm Sep, Oct & Nov
10am to 8pm Dec, Jan, Feb & Mar
10am to 6pm Apr & May

A lifeguard is provided from 10am to closing during weekends, Queensland Public holidays and Queensland State School holidays.

The Water Park is a first in North Queensland and has become one of the main attractions for families with young children. Usage of the Water Park is at its peak during the hotter days, where even the 'not so young' enjoy its refreshing coolness.

This specially designed water based play activity is the first of its type in North Queensland and has led the way in free children's playground entertainment in Australia.

The innovative Water Park features many different activities such as:

- >> water cannons
- >> water guns
- >> water spouts
- >> slides
- >> climbing net
- >> valves releasing water
- >> rain trees; and

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>> tipping water bucket (alternates between emptying 300 litres every 30 seconds during peak times and 600 litres every 50 seconds)

Water from the structure falls onto a soft safety surface called 'Softfall' which is designed to provide safety to all users and has been given its own seaside theme with images of whales and other aquatic animals. This water then runs off into a drain where it is recycled through a filtration plant at the back of the Tobruk Pool.

A spiral of palms winds from the play equipment to the surrounding parkland, providing shade, seating courtesy and a stunning visual display. The canopy of the palms as well as the play equipment is lit at night so the public can enjoy the facility even after the sun has gone down.

This specially designed water based play activity was obtained from a Canadian based company. Details are: White Water, 6700 McMillan Street, RICHMOND B.C., CANADA V6W 1J7
Email: Tbooth@whitewaterwest.com (Tim Boothman)
Phone: 6042731068303

Initial Cost: \$931,000
Maintenance Costs: Approximately \$50,000 per annum
Electricity costs: Approximately \$ per annum

The water playground on The Strand was constructed by MacNorth during the redevelopment of The Strand in 1999.

** The Water Park was closed from early July to mid September 2007 to undertake a \$700,000 upgrade of the highly popular facility, including the installation of a new water filtration system, general maintenance and a facelift for the famed bucket. In it's first upgrade in eight years, the filter capacity was increased and new water treatment technology was implemented.*

*** The Water Park was closed from mid October to early November 2010 to undertake a \$300,000 repainting of the structure and resurfacing of the softfall. This was the first time the entire structure had been completely stripped and repainted.*

**** The Water Park be closed after the April school holidays 2012 to undertake an upgrade for a holding*

tank to increase the holding tank from 32,000 to 92,000 litres. The total capacity will then be over 100,000.

WIND ROTOR >> (located next to the Rock Pool)



Not many tourist attractions boast an experiment but, as part of the foreshore, the Strand Wind Rotor adds a touch of science and sustainability to the extraordinary nature of this precinct. The Wind Rotor was launched on 26 November 2004.

The vertical axis stands 8.6 metres from the ground to the top. The twin wind-rotors are 4.5 metres high and sit on top of a 4 metre tower. The wind-rotors are 3.3 metres wide, and the tower section is 600mm in diameter. The Wind Rotor is cyclone rated. At full speed the wind-rotors will turn at 90 revolutions per minute and operate silently. The Ropatec Wind Rotor is designed to convert wind energy into electrical power for the mains grid. A maximum of 6kW of electrical energy on average every day is converted. It is calculated to produce on average 16kWh per day, about enough electricity to power an average Townsville home.

The Strand Wind Project is an educative and tourism sustainability icon for Townsville, both promoting and producing renewable energy. Key elements of the

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project include a 'vertical axis wind turbine' powered by twin wind-rotors, and an interpretative system.

The purpose of the Strand Wind Rotor is to educate the public about wind power, a form of renewable energy. Through the interpretation system, it will be possible for the public to view local weather information and power output from the Wind Rotor. Schools will be able to download wind and power data from the website www.soe.townsville.org/strandwindproject

The Strand Wind Project weather monitoring system has been developed with the assistance of the Townsville State High School Centre of Excellence in Technology Maths and Science Renewable Energy Program. The interpretation system and mains power network connection has been developed in partnership with Ergon Energy.

In order to maximise the educational benefits of the Strand Wind Project, the interpretation system associated with the project includes power and weather information to demonstrate the relationship between wind power and energy output from the wind rotor.

The weather data is provided by a nearby weather station. This information is provided to the public via a Strand Wind Project Website (under development) and an interpretative display post with a LCD monitor display.

Using the wind and sun to produce energy, we can reduce our reliance on coal and help protect the climate.

Townsville is located in North Queensland in a region affected by trade winds. For most of the year, a Southeast breeze blows along the Strand. During the wet season the winds become lighter and more from the North East.

The Wind Rotor was severely damaged when Cyclone Yasi hit on Wednesday 2nd February 2011. Council is awaiting further information from insurance assessors as to possible restoration. The Wind Rotor may be relocated to a different Strand location if restored.

FURTHER DETAILS >>

For further details on any aspect of The Strand, please feel free to contact Parks Services.

Parks Services phone 07 4727 8365 or Email enquiries@townsville.qld.gov.au

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THE STRAND REDEVELOPMENT:

1. INTRODUCTION >>

The Strand foreshore is an important and valued community asset in the Townsville region. When most of the foreshore was destroyed by two cyclone induced events in March 1997 and January 1998, an opportunity was created to review the level of protection provided by the beach and to improve its usage and access.



2. DESCRIPTION >>

The Strand is a 2.2km esplanade along the Townsville foreshore between Kissing Point and the Tobruk Baths/Breakwater Marina.

It fronts a mixture of residential properties, motels, hotels, restaurants and various recreational facilities.

It is one of the most significant features within the Townsville region and offers numerous opportunities for passive and active recreational activities for all age groups and abilities.

Townsville is located on Latitude 19 and enjoys a dry tropical climate. The city lies in a rain shadow from the southeast trade winds and consequently receives most of its rainfall from cyclonic and tropical depressions, which come down from the Gulf of Carpentaria and the northern parts of the Coral Sea. This scenario is potentially high intensity rainfall and erosion associated with severe wave action in spite of some protection from Magnetic Island.

3. HISTORY >>

Historically sand from Ross Creek and Ross River replenished the Strand with the east to west littoral drift that prevails along the coast.

Early Port work commenced in 1877 sought to reduce the infilling of the harbour by sediments.

In the 120 years since the European settlement of Townsville, a variety of infrastructure development works within the Ross River catchment including 3 weirs, the Ross River Dam, 3 dredged channels, removal of river sand for construction purposes, coastal reclamation and protective breakwaters have all contributed to sediment loss on Townsville's beaches.

Large sections of the previous wall along the Strand were reconstructed in 1972 following cyclone Althea. For most of its length, the wall was located immediately beside a narrow footpath abutted the road. It was high enough to obstruct views of the beach for motorists and their passengers.

The construction of the Breakwater Island development some 25 years ago introduced a new man made headland at the eastern end of the beach, and whilst it was noted that accretion was occurring in front of the Tobruk baths, the connection that the new development may be contributing was not made nor was where the material was coming from.

It became evident during the studies that the beach was now not in equilibrium and was reshaping itself to accommodate the new headland, with material moving from the centre of the beach adjacent to the Aquarius towards Kissing Point (the traditional direction) and now back towards the east.

It is now realised that the centre of the beach has gone down some 3 – 4 metres, it raises the question of responsibility and resourcing. It is Council's belief that its responsibility ceases at the high water mark.

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4. THE FAILURE >>

During cyclone Justin in March 1997, part of the rock wall was undermined by wave action crashing against the wall and falling down, removing sand from around the toe of the rock wall. Once the first base rock fell out, the others followed like dominos.

In 1988 ex cyclone Sid coincided with a period of big tides, which destroyed most of the remaining sections of the wall.



5. DISASTER OR OPPORTUNITY >>

"Every cloud has a silver lining" the saying goes. Council now had an opportunity to do something quite special, an opportunity to:

- >> stop the longshore movement of sand
- >> improve the structural integrity of the beach
- >> stop the passage of urban storm water across the beach and improve its water quality
- >> minimise sand loss and the need for ongoing renourishment
- >> increase the area of the foreshore and improve the facilities for passive and active recreation for all age groups and abilities; and
- >> provide a world class beach front which could become a major destination, enjoyed by locals and tourists and become a major drawcard for Townsville.

6. THE DESIGN TEAM >>

Time was of the essence, as it was essential to make the beach safe for the next summer, Council brought together a team of people with specific expertise in a wide range of specialist fields.

The team was led by Council's Mayor, Tony Mooney and included people with:

- >> Coastal Engineering and Beach Management skills
- >> Civil, electrical, mechanical and environmental engineers
- >> Landscape design and construction
- >> Architects
- >> Land and quantity surveyors
- >> Lighting specialists
- >> Project managers; and
- >> Irrigation specialists

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7. THE CONCEPT >>

The limited time available meant that the development of the final proposal before work commenced could not be achieved.

The first task was to assess the extent of the damage and ascertain whether or not it could be easily repaired, this was found not to be feasible, however an assessment of damage was required for NDRA funding.

Council staff, the landscape architect, and the engineers chosen to undertake the coastal process modelling prepared a design concept. This concept, whilst not complete was reasonably accurate and detailed with the primary aim of taking it to the various Government authorities and the general public.

It addressed the first 5 issues discussed clause 5.

The major changes included the:

- >> introduction of a series of headlands
- >> undergrounding of drainage including the introduction of Gross Pollutant Traps
- >> preservation of view lines
- >> rerouting the roadway around the Strand Park so this park was relocated into the main body of the foreshore; and
- >> maximising opportunities for people to access the beach

The remainder of the design continued over ensuing months as public comment and ideas developed.

Issues such as: -

- >> location of facilities
- >> security and lighting; and
- >> location of recreational areas

This process allowed early sign off for the civil works to commence.

8. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK >>

This proposal required approvals and permits from a number of Government departments these are summarised below:-

> Harbour Acts 1955 - Required Council to ensure safe navigation of coastal waters because the proposal involved work in tidal waters and reclamation from the sea.

> Fisheries Act 1994 - Administered by D.P.I. required Council to obtain a Section 51 approval for the destruction of marine plants during the construction and reclamation.

This became a very difficult issue to resolve. The reclamation area was in excess of 2 hectares and the very limited studies which had been undertaken the presence of sparse seagrasses. A number of underwater studies were required, and whilst the sea grass was sparse, it was also seasonal.

Water turbidity was also a perceived issue, and the likely turbidity caused by the construction was a concern, so works in the intertidal area were required to have silt curtains installed and maintained.

Having virtually no ongoing studies or information on the seagrasses or the impacts of the effects of turbidity prior to the works commencing, the possible impacts became somewhat subjective and as a result the issues were not easily or cheaply resolved.

Council made a contribution of \$50,000 towards seagrass research adjacent to the Strand and finally obtained a permit to continue. The area covered by the permit, at the time, was the largest area ever issued by the Department of Primary Industries.

> Beach Protection Act 1988 - Required Council to obtain a Section 47 approval for works in an Erosion Prone Area as designated by the BPA

> Coastal Protection – Management Act 1995 - This was a new addition to the legislation Council had to deal with.

> Environment Protection Act 1994 - This act and the EPA is where Council had the most dealings, issues covered noise, air and water quality, the development and administration of the EMP for the works. Early discussions with the EPA indicated that they would be prepared to consider accepting an Initial Advice Statement for the works in lieu of an Environmental Impact Statement which could

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take up to 18 months to finalise. Council was pleased to accept this offer and made every attempt to ensure the works went smoothly and in accordance with best practice.

> Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975 - Whilst outside the GBRMP, it is adjacent to it and consequently fell within an area recognised under the World Heritage Properties Conservation Act 1983

- > Integrated Planning Act 1997
The proposal also had to consider:
- >> Queensland Heritage Act 1995
- >> Cultural Record (Landscapes Qld & Qld Estate) Act 1987
- >> Transport Infrastructure Act 1994
- >> Land Act 1994 - the matter of ownership of the land Council had reclaimed from the sea had to be resolved
- >> Native Title Act 1993
- >> World Heritage Properties Conservation Act 1983; and
- >> State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971

9. PROJECT MANAGEMENT >>

Council appointed a Project Management Consultant who became responsible for all of the construction works, staging and timing of the works together with cost and quality control and environmental management.

The emergent provisions of the Local Government Act were used to reduce time frames associated with the tendering process.

The project manager faced a huge undertaking, the Strand park became the works site, and in a busy high profile area, the tasks of:-

- >> mobilising a variety of specialist contractors
- >> sourcing of materials
- >> staging of the works
- >> obtaining the huge fleet of trucks required for the supply of sand, rock and filling
- >> managing work quality and environmental concerns

- >> controlling budgets
- >> responding to citizens concerns and keeping them informed; and
- >> reporting to the design team commenced and continued to the completion of the project.

10. PUBLIC CONSULTATION >>

Within the time frame available every effort was made to accommodate public opinion.

The concept plan received general acceptance at an early public meeting. Council appointed PR consultants to assist and a public consultation document was released and comments sought.

122 responses were received, 85 were generally supportive, 8 were unsupportive and 29 did not indicate either way.

The major issues raised were:-

- >> the location of a public toilet adjacent to a school
- >> control of traffic along the Strand
- >> protection of residents views
- >> adequate parking provision
- >> improvement of stormwater drainage
- >> provision of safety lighting
- >> wheelchair access
- >> seating and BBQs
- >> more research (hydrology, engineering, use of local expertise); and
- >> controlling dust from the site.

Considerable consultation also occurred with other stakeholders during the permit and approval process and construction.

Contact details were provided to all residents who may be affected during the construction phase, and periodic newsletters were distributed, providing details of progress and any anticipated difficulties, which may cause inconvenience.

11. DETAILS OF THE WORKS >>

The components of the project are grouped into

- >> civil works
- >> landscaping works
- >> architectural features, lighting and sculptures
- >> recreational facilities; and

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>> buildings.

> Civil works -

The rock revetment wall that was very obvious before the works, was moved seaward, widened and lowered and altered to incorporate 3 major headlands and 1 minor headland.

The headlands created a series of discreet concave beaches where seasonal sand movements are contained between them.

The headlands provide an opportunity for buildings and structures that add to the enjoyment and safety of Strand users.

Underground drains from the urban catchment area between the Strand and Castle Hill outlet through the headlands.

All the rock from the old wall was used in the new structure with additional rock sourced from local quarries.

A geotextile fabric was used between the rock layer and a graded filter stone over the earth fill.

Most of the new wall is not obvious in the new design, it is buried generally where the grass area meets the beach sand.

The Sand is the primary line of defence against wave action, as wave height is proportional to water depth and the selection of the correct grading is essential. The coarser the sand, the steeper the beach will be, thus requiring less sand.

The volume and depth of sand is calculated from modelling the coastal processes. Wave action associated with a storm will move sand from the beach slightly offshore, however provided the sand is contained, it will return gradually under the gentle action of the normal wave/tide regime.

Some 400,000 tonnes of sand was imported to the site from pits along the Houghton and Burdekin Rivers where extraction permits were in place. No sand was found offshore in the vicinity of the beach, and even if deposits had been there, the likelihood of obtaining it

was less than remote when considering the environmental significance of the area.

It is accepted that there will be sand loss from the beach caused by wind and sand escaping around the ends of the beach, and a renourishing program is now in place. It is biannual and carried out during quiet periods.

The Rock Pool at the western end of the Strand was renovated and the existing structure extended seaward to reduce sand loss around Kissing Point to Rowes Bay.

The Pier offers an option to fish, or view Castle Hill and the Strand from a 'remote' location, special attention was given to the design to allow it to be used for fishing by people with disabilities. No vessels are allowed to moor at the jetty.

In the event of a major storm, the deck on the pier will lift off if the tide is high, this was preferred to raising the deck in excess of another meter.

The boulevard along the foreshore with footpaths and beach accesses are constructed in patterned concrete. The width varies to accommodate different uses and densities of pedestrians, cyclists, and roller bladders. Ramps parallel to the wall provide gentle access to the beach for people with disabilities.

Filling for the reclamation was sourced from a railway cutting that was being built at the same time. Some 390,000 tonnes of fill was imported to the foreshore, and the distance the new foreshore was moved seaward varied between 20m and 70m.

12. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT >>

Documentation for The Strand Redevelopment Environmental Management System was prepared for Townsville City Council by Sinclair Knight Merz in consultation with the council, Department of Environment and Heritage, Department of Primary Industries, Townsville Port Authority and Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

An Environmental Management Plan was developed with round table discussions between regulators and

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enforcers. Agreement was reached with and between all levels of Government.

13. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS >>

Before the redevelopment the rock wall was suffering from supporting sand loss due to the construction of Ross River Dam and weirs, the development of the Port, increasing sand extraction; and increased urbanization. The Townsville Port Authority dredge in the order of 48,000 tonnes of sand per year.

Approximately 150,000 tonnes had been lost from the system.

Since the redevelopment it was estimated that sand loss in the early years would be as follows:

>>Year One 6,500m³

>>Year Four 2,250m³

14. IN HINDSIGHT >>

Nobody could have predicted the resounding success of the redevelopment. Use of the foreshore has soared, commercial enterprises and services have been attracted to the foreshore to service the many users.

Since its redevelopment, the Strand has truly become the heart of the city and has created many positive economic and social spin-offs – the degree to which couldn't have been predicted at the time.

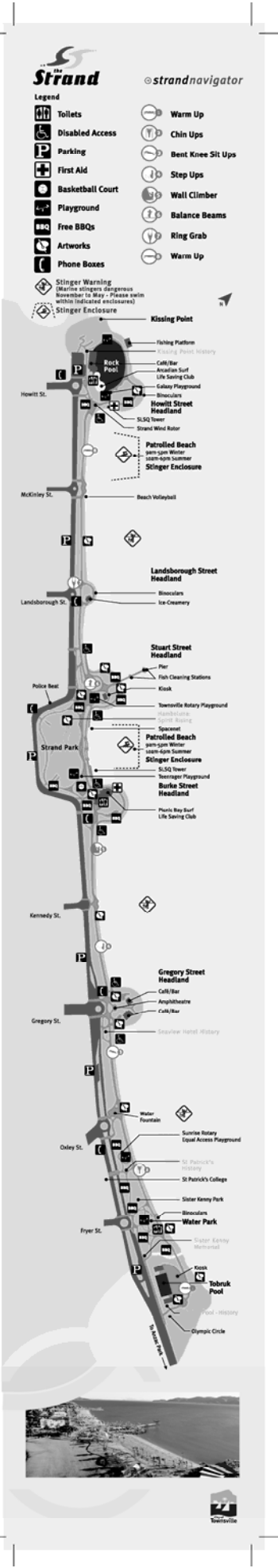
When The Strand was redeveloped, there were no other beachfronts like it in Australia. It was the largest beach & headland creation project of its kind ever developed in Australia.

The Pier and Rock Pool rock walls were damaged when Cyclone Yasi hit on Wednesday 2nd February 2011. Major sand loss and redistribution occurred along the Strand. Works are currently underway from October to December 2011 to rectify this work with funding being covered by NDRRA.

FURTHER DETAILS >>

For further details on any aspect of The Strand, please feel free to contact Parks Services.

Parks Services phone 07 4727 8365 or email enquiries@townsville.qld.gov.au





10 things to do on The Strand



Water Park

- 1 **Cool off in the sea...**
swim in the Rock Pool or stinger resistant enclosures during the November to May stinger season. Swim between the flags at all times.
- 2 **Cool off in the pool...**
at the famous Tobruk Pool where many former Olympic swimming stars trained.
- 3 **Play...**
at the Water Park, Sunrise Rotary Sister Kenny Equal Access playground, Teenager playground, Galaxy playground, Space Net or the Townsville Rotary playground.
- 4 **Fish...**
off The Strand Pier or Rock fishing platform.
- 5 **Enjoy...**
the many cafés, bars and restaurants.
- 6 **Picnic...**
relax with your family at a host of great spots and enjoy the fantastic views to Magnetic Island.
- 7 **Participate...**
in the public activities and events in Strand Park. View the public artwork reflecting the significant heritage of The Strand.
- 8 **Cook...**
on one of the 24 FREE BBQs available on The Strand.
- 9 **Get fit...**
enjoy walking, basketball, beach volleyball, bike riding, and ball sports activities.
- 10 **Challenge yourself...**
on the eight exercise points positioned along The Strand promenade, or sign up with Picnic Bay or Arcadian Surf Life Savers for some real action. There are also three outrigger clubs positioned on The Strand – Townsville, Magnetic Island and Coral Sea. The Townsville Sailing Club operates from the southern end of The Strand.

Your Strand!

Take your time and enjoy the attractions The Strand has to offer. The 2.2 kilometre stretch that comprises Townsville's foreshore is one of the best inner city beachfronts anywhere in Australia and is the winner of multiple awards for the nation's cleanest beach.

Attracting over 1.2 million visitors a year, The Strand is one of Townsville's premier destinations and has redefined recreational facilities for locals and visitors alike.

The Strand is a wide boulevard by the sea with a tremendous heritage and history. From the broad sandy beach, residents and visitors can enjoy views to Magnetic Island and beyond.

It's a great place for swimming and beach activities and boasts the latest in youth recreation facilities and children's playgrounds. It also incorporates a mixture of hotel accommodation, apartments and some of Townsville's finest restaurants and bars. Have a family picnic or buy a coffee or meal whilst soaking up the atmosphere. One thing is for sure, the lure of The Strand will keep you coming back for more.



RIVERWAY PRECINCT INFORMATION KIT

Bringing sport, recreation, culture, entertainment, and the environment together in a place to live, work, and play!

Located in Townsville, Riverway is located at the corner of Ross River Road and Riverway Drive. It is easy to find and get to as well as close to shopping and is well served by public transport.





RIVERWAY LAGOONS

Relax, unwind & enjoy the view

The Riverway lagoon precinct provides an exciting, experience for visitors and is a popular place with local residents. Covering an area in size of more than three Olympic swimming pools, the lagoons are nestled among shady raintrees, with the picturesque Ross River providing a peaceful backdrop.

Designed for more formal uses, the upper lagoon includes an area for swimming laps while hand rails and ramps to facilitate disabled and elderly access.

If you are looking for a little fun and relaxation, then the lower lagoon is the place to be with its less formal feel. The lagoon has a softer shape, and is surrounded by timber decks, a rockery and a sandy beach. It is an ideal place for the kids to build sand castles and play in shallow water while the rest of the family can lounge on the timber decks in the shade.

The two lagoons are linked by cascades that are both a play area with a spa pool, and provide the relaxing sounds and motion of gently moving water.



The sandy beach is ideal for young families.

Conveniently equipped with all the comforts of a kiosk, and restaurant, showers, change rooms and automatic lockers, the lagoons are patrolled by professional lifeguards, making Riverway the ideal place to enjoy the tropical northern weather seven days a week, 365 days a year.



Night time at the lagoons is simply spectacular.

Lifeguard Hours

*April to *September: Monday to Sunday 10am-5pm
 *September to *December: Monday to Thursday: 10am-5pm, Weekends, public & school holidays: 10am-10pm.
 *December – *January: 10am-10pm 7days
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 *start and end of school holidays



Lifeguards make swimming safe all year round.



RIVERWAY ARTS CENTRE

The Riverway Arts Centre links the culture with the natural environment to create new and unique experiences. Whether you catch a performance in the theatre or attend a function in the first-class facilities - you'll love what the Arts Centre has to offer.

An impressive range of facilities presents the opportunity for the region to host local, regional, national, and international performances. In addition, the Riverway Arts Centre provides fresh options for the private and corporate events market including weddings, balls, workshops, conferences, exhibitions, and trade shows.

The Centre's welcoming atmosphere, versatile room setups, range of equipment and services, affordable fee structure and dedicated staff make it the perfect venue for all community and commercial events.

Performance Space

The Performance Space is a 500m² contemporary studio style space capable of presenting a wide range of performance styles. Dance, drama and music events are catered for while maintaining the flexibility to also accommodate conferences and seminars, dinners and balls, product launches and exhibitions.



The ample performance space caters for a wide variety of performances and events.

The space has a maximum audience capacity of 450, with 304 of these seats set in a retractable seating arrangement. For banquet style events seating capacity is 250. A range of sound and lighting equipment is able to cater for the multitude of events likely to be staged at the Centre.



The foyer, including bar facilities is available for private function hire.

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Configurations

- Proscenium Arch Theatre with a raked auditorium seating 304 people
Stage size – 10m width x 10m depth
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Flat floor venue accommodating:
450 people standing (concert / cocktail)
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Foyer



Enhanced by unobstructed views of the upper swimming lagoons, the 245m² foyer is an ideal venue for product launches, trade displays, meet and greets. With an impressive 5m glass door opening into the spectacular lagoon environment, the Foyer Bar is the perfect place to mingle with friends for pre-show drinks, offering full bar services for performances and functions.

Meeting Room

With flexible seating arrangements, the meeting room features views of the lagoons, landscaped gardens, and the Ross River. Accommodating up to 80 people, this versatile area can be presented in board room style, u-shape, round tables or lecture style with rows of seating facing a presenter.

A range of audio visual equipment is available for hire on request, and catering is available by arrangement with centre management through the venue's on site caterer.

Terrace

The terrace adjacent to the Riverway Lagoon provides the most spectacular outdoor environment to host a small function or event. This setting captures the breathtaking surrounds of the lagoons, landscaped gardens and Ross River and is perfect for outdoor sit-down dinners or cocktail-style functions for up to 100. The stunning surrounds of Riverway will add a touch of elegance to any function or event that needs that special something.

This area is only available on select days and evenings, and catering is available by arrangement with centre management.



Over looking the lagoons from the C-Bar.

Amphitheatre

The Riverway Amphitheatre is one of the most picturesque outdoor entertainment venues in the region. Nestled among century-old raintrees and

overlooking the Ross River, the amphitheatre provides a peaceful and relaxed atmosphere.

Formed by the grassed sloping roof of the arts centre, the amphitheatre can host community gatherings, festivals, outdoor concerts and other events for up to 1150 people. The large stage area caters for a variety of performances and other uses.



The amphitheatre stage is ideal for live performances with patrons sitting on the grassy mounds in front.

Rehearsal Space

The Rehearsal Room offers 120m² of space for preparing for performances or for breakout space supporting other events in the Arts Centre. The sprung timber floor mirrors that of the performance space, allowing the accurate blocking of movement during the rehearsal period.

The space is suitable for small functions with AV equipment and furniture hire optional. The rehearsal space can accommodate meetings, workshops or be used as an effective breakout area.

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The Workshop is a 40m² space located in the back stage area and is classified as a wet area which makes it ideal for activities such as painting and arts and crafts, set creation, and other "hands on" activities.

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It doesn't get more innovative. You'll drive the competition mad that they didn't think of it first!

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Audio-Visually perfect for any event

Decked out with a full audio-visual system, capable of showing digital, DVD and video presentations projected anywhere in the space, a radio microphone system for audio flexibility, Bose speakers for the highest quality sound and a highly flexible lighting system to create the perfect ambiance, Pinnacles Gallery is set to become the social and cultural hub of the region.

Keep your guests entertained with minimal fuss

A massive calendar of innovative events, performances, tours and workshops also ensures there is always an opportunity to add value to your function by engaging your guests in a unique and unforgettable art experience. Your business or arts organisation can even collaborate with our great team to create an event or performance unlike anything any other venue in the region could make possible.



Pinnacles Gallery always has fascinating new exhibits.

Catering

Finger food and beverages from the venue's on site caterers may be consumed in the Gallery at the discretion of the Gallery Director.



A relaxed setting for a corporate or social event.

Seating

Seating is available to be used in the space for up to 70 guests, configurations to be negotiated with the Gallery Director according to the nature of the exhibition being held.

Ambiance

Fully air-conditioned and humidity controlled, the gallery has its own micro climate.

Additional Space and Equipment

The Gallery also includes access to the workshop providing 70m² of work space and wet area. Additional equipment is easily delivered via the Arts Centre loading bay.

The Arts Centre's PA and lighting equipment is also available.

For more information, contact

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EVENT SUPPORT

Let our friendly staff help you to make your event memorable for all the right reasons.

Security

We take security seriously at Riverway. We know your event requires the best in security services, Riverway's security staff go to great lengths to ensure the highest level of safety for visitors and staff. Our security team are professionals and procedures are continually upgraded. Emergency evacuation plans are in place in all the facilities provided at Riverway.

On-site security is on hand 365 days a year. Our security team keeps the Riverway facilities and grounds safe at all times. The security team works on foot, from vehicles and via CCTV surveillance.

If required, we can provide you with added security staff for your event. Their presence will discourage unruly behaviour in a friendly yet firm manner as well as protect event equipment.

Catering

Not only do we provide great venues for your next big event but we also cater for them too. With an extensive menu for finger food, entrée, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner packages. You can choose from the exotic flavours of the Mediterranean to the more familiar, there is something for everyone and we can cater for special dietary requirements. Just speak to our friendly staff and we'll be more than happy to help.



Catering can be specifically designed to suit your needs.

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Riverway has a variety of audio-visual equipment for hire so you don't have to struggle with the logistics of transport. From laptops, internet access projectors and screens to whiteboards and flip charts the friendly staff are more than happy to help you make the impact you need.



We can supply or arrange support equipment.

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Parking at your major event is made easy with 350 parking spaces immediately adjacent and several disabled parks.

Access

The Riverway Arts Centre facilities are available 7 days a week and provide flexible access to suit all event requirements. An Event Coordinator is assigned during the hire period to assist with any client needs.

Loading Dock and Backstage area entry is gained via electronic swipe cards with the number of cards issued strictly controlled.



TONY IRELAND STADIUM

Fields for all sports and events

Get in on the latest sporting action! The fields of the Tony Ireland Stadium are home to the Thuringowa Bulldogs AFL team and Suburban Parks Cricket Club.

It is available to local community groups and schools to play and train for a variety of sporting events at all levels of competition. It will also be used to stage future entertainment events such as concerts and large outdoor exhibitions.



The impressive Riverway Stadium has a capacity of 10,000 people including 1,000 in the grandstand.

Facilities

The Lamont Oval and cricket practice nets will allow several teams to train at the same time. While the world class grandstand will house change rooms, externally accessible amenities and facilities for medical and drug testing. The grandstand also contains a function room with amenities and kitchen as well as meeting rooms.

A first class venue

Feel welcomed by our facilities. Players will feel right at home with facilities for meeting, warm up sessions, change rooms and first aid. Lighting from the towers makes Tony Ireland Stadium ideal for night time play and events.



The Stadium will attract local and international standard games.

Cheer on your Favourite Team Rain or Shine

The 10,000 total capacity stadium will attract high level local, regional, national and international competition. No matter what the weather events can be enjoyed with a cantilevered roof curving in both cross and long sections, rising from just above the spectator berms to provide protection to the 1000 fans seated in the grandstand.



Tony Ireland Stadium.

World Class Playing Field

The stadium's main playing oval meets the standards for an international cricket game or national league AFL match.



Main Oval

The Tony Ireland Stadium Main Competition Oval is a full sized Cricket and AFL playing field (160m x 137m plus 5m safety surround) with a 6 wicket centre block. The field will be fully irrigated and equipped with cricket sight screens, AFL goalposts, lights, and a boundary rope.

Practice Oval

Riverway Oval is 120m by 90m in size and has a high quality grass surface that is fully irrigated and a concrete centre cricket wicket with artificial turf covering. Care of this and the rest of the Riverway site is the responsibility of a dedicated and skilled Grounds Crew.

Cricket Practice Nets

Tony Ireland Stadium boasts world class training facilities including a seven Cricket practice wicket net facility (3 grass and 4 artificial turf). This facility is lighted to enable practice at times to suit training schedules and to avoid the summer heat.

Grandstand Terrace

At the rear of the Grandstand is an area designated for the use by corporate guests for elite sport matches. This area is under cover and will enable VIP treatment of officials, sponsors, and other guests.

Security

Tony Ireland Stadium's Competition Oval is fully fenced and the Townsville City Council has a commitment to safety and security. A contracted security firm with elite event experience from NQ Cowboys rugby league matches at Dairy Farmer's Stadium will provide high quality security services with an emphasis on customer service. CCTV cameras cover the entire Riverway site including the Stadium field, grandstand, and entrance gates.

Food and Beverage

Commercial quality kitchens support both the public concessions at ground level and the private function room at grandstand level. These are available for use by whoever the contracted caterers are that will be responsible for supporting elite sport events at the Stadium.

Scoreboard

Tony Ireland Stadium will feature a multi-line scoreboard able to display a variety of team, player, and match information as well as messages and sponsor recognition.

Function and Meeting Rooms

One of the features of Tony Ireland Stadium is the Function Room with its wall of windows overlooking the Competition Oval. It will enable player and official, as well as VIP and sponsor, dining in comfort.

Other Supporting Amenities and Services

First aid, drug testing, lighting, ticketing, parking, physiotherapy, umpires rooms, and team meeting rooms, are only some of the other support amenities and services available at Tony Ireland Stadium to meet the needs of elite sport events.

For more information, contact

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Located in the heart of Thuringowa on the magnificent Ross River, the Riverway Grounds offer a dynamic combination of social, relaxing and energetic activities for visitors to participate in. With BBQ's, Riverwalks, a Skate Park and century old Rain Trees, there truly is much to explore. Riverway was recognised by the Environmental Protection Agency when the Complex won the Sustainable Industries Award 2007 in the Sustainability in Public Sector or Community Initiatives Award.

Environmental Design

Riverway is designed to fully preserve its historic landscape comprising of Rain Trees which impact on the dynamic parkland waterfront character. For this purpose, the elements – Lagoon, Arts Centre, Stadium, Village and Residential – are shaped such that the historic tree scape is unaffected by development. As part of the planning process, 205 mature trees were surveyed – of which 197 have been retained.



Existing stands of Rain Trees, and other significant species such as the Poplar Gum and Paperbark form the foundation layer of vegetation, allowing them to establish an underlying structure with architectural and landscape elements. The planting regime consists of native species exclusively with emphasis on species of local provenance. The focus is on species which are hardy, withstand periods without rainfall and respond well to the different micro-environmental conditions in Pioneer Park. Safety is also achieved through environmental design, with the addition of security lighting and sight lines.

Pollution Control

A Gross Pollutant Trap has been installed. It will treat run-off from as far away as Reading Cinema's to prevent gross pollutants entering Ross River. Grassed swale drains within the car parking areas also help retain and filter to car park run-off.

River Walk

The Riverwalk overlooks the beautiful Ross River which is home to an abundance of animal and plant species including tortoises and numerous bird species, and beautiful flowering native flora and fauna. A three metre wide pathway runs along the river and provides numerous opportunities to enjoy its natural beauty. After taking a stroll, all the family can enjoy the nearby barbecue facilities provided or have a game of footy on the Sports Oval.

Booroona Trail

The Booroona Trail offers the perfect opportunity for people to get closer to their environment with its attractive boardwalks, peaceful seating areas and harmony with the surrounding environment. The walking trail has improved the local river area dramatically and has also helped to foster a sense of community along the Ross River.

Visitors can experience a unique ecosystem with boardwalks, bridges, seating, plants and trees, overall beautification of the area and importantly, conservation and ongoing protection of native species. As part of the project, more than 12,000 local native trees were planted to beautify the area, protect the ground, prevent erosion and promote revegetation.

To further protect the natural environment, the Council removed noxious weeds, and used recycled greenwaste, which came from the landfill sites around the Thuringowa region, as mulch. The project received helping hands through the Queensland Government initiative "Breaking the Unemployment Cycle", the Federal Government under the Green Corps scheme, the Department of Natural Resources and NQ Water (the Townsville/Thuringowa Water Board).





RIVERWAY PRECINCT INFORMATION KIT

Bringing sport, recreation, culture, entertainment, and the environment together in a place to live, work, and play!

Located in Townsville, Riverway is located at the corner of Ross River Road and Riverway Drive. It is easy to find and get to as well as close to shopping and is well served by public transport.





RIVERWAY LAGOONS

Relax, unwind & enjoy the view

The Riverway lagoon precinct provides an exciting, experience for visitors and is a popular place with local residents. Covering an area in size of more than three Olympic swimming pools, the lagoons are nestled among shady raintrees, with the picturesque Ross River providing a peaceful backdrop.

Designed for more formal uses, the upper lagoon includes an area for swimming laps while hand rails and ramps to facilitate disabled and elderly access.

If you are looking for a little fun and relaxation, then the lower lagoon is the place to be with its less formal feel. The lagoon has a softer shape, and is surrounded by timber decks, a rockery and a sandy beach. It is an ideal place for the kids to build sand castles and play in shallow water while the rest of the family can lounge on the timber decks in the shade.

The two lagoons are linked by cascades that are both a play area with a spa pool, and provide the relaxing sounds and motion of gently moving water.



The sandy beach is ideal for young families.

Conveniently equipped with all the comforts of a kiosk, and restaurant, showers, change rooms and automatic lockers, the lagoons are patrolled by professional lifeguards, making Riverway the ideal place to enjoy the tropical northern weather seven days a week, 365 days a year.



Night time at the lagoons is simply spectacular.

Lifeguard Hours

*April to *September: Monday to Sunday 10am-5pm

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The space has a maximum audience capacity of 450, with 304 of these seats set in a retractable seating arrangement. For banquet style events seating capacity is 250. A range of sound and lighting equipment is able to cater for the multitude of events likely to be staged at the Centre.



The foyer, including bar facilities is available for private function hire.

Performance Space Technical Specifications

Configurations

- Proscenium Arch Theatre with a raked auditorium seating 304 people
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Flat floor venue accommodating:
450 people standing (concert / cocktail)
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Foyer



Enhanced by unobstructed views of the upper swimming lagoons, the 245m² foyer is an ideal venue for product launches, trade displays, meet and greets. With an impressive 5m glass door opening into the spectacular lagoon environment, the Foyer Bar is the perfect place to mingle with friends for pre-show drinks, offering full bar services for performances and functions.

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With flexible seating arrangements, the meeting room features views of the lagoons, landscaped gardens, and the Ross River. Accommodating up to 80 people, this versatile area can be presented in board room style, u-shape, round tables or lecture style with rows of seating facing a presenter.

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Over looking the lagoons from the C-Bar.

Amphitheatre

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Seating is available to be used in the space for up to 70 guests, configurations to be negotiated with the Gallery Director according to the nature of the exhibition being held.

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River Walk

The Riverwalk overlooks the beautiful Ross River which is home to an abundance of animal and plant species including tortoises and numerous bird species, and beautiful flowering native flora and fauna. A three metre wide pathway runs along the river and provides numerous opportunities to enjoy its natural beauty. After taking a stroll, all the family can enjoy the nearby barbecue facilities provided or have a game of footy on the Sports Oval.

Booroona Trail

The Booroona Trail offers the perfect opportunity for people to get closer to their environment with its attractive boardwalks, peaceful seating areas and harmony with the surrounding environment. The walking trail has improved the local river area dramatically and has also helped to foster a sense of community along the Ross River.

Visitors can experience a unique ecosystem with boardwalks, bridges, seating, plants and trees, overall beautification of the area and importantly, conservation and ongoing protection of native species. As part of the project, more than 12,000 local native trees were planted to beautify the area, protect the ground, prevent erosion and promote revegetation.

To further protect the natural environment, the Council removed noxious weeds, and used recycled greenwaste, which came from the landfill sites around the Thuringowa region, as mulch. The project received helping hands through the Queensland Government initiative "Breaking the Unemployment Cycle", the Federal Government under the Green Corps scheme, the Department of Natural Resources and NQ Water (the Townsville/Thuringowa Water Board).

