

ENGINEERING SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS AND SIGNIFICANT ISSUES REPORT – MONTH ENDING JANUARY 2011

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Purpose

To review Engineering Services Department highlights and significant issues for the month ending January 2011.

Background and Discussion

Highlights and Significant Issues for period are as follows: -

ENGINEERING SERVICES MANAGEMENT

Coordination of project meetings, briefings and reports on the following projects:

- Inspections at Shoal Point
- Met with DTMR and North Qld Bulk Ports to discuss boat parking at Mackay Harbour
- Met with DTMR to discuss Traffic Management Issues in Sydney Street and River Street
- Inspections of flood damage works in Wallingford Road with Cr. Casey
- Attended the DDMG in preparation for Cyclone Yasi
- Attended the State Disaster Management Group Meeting in preparation of Cyclone Yasi

On-going involvement in the following areas:

- Corporate Projects Committee, Management Leadership Forum and Sustainable Futures Committee Meetings
- LGEG and Paget Depot Project Steering Committee
- Safe Plan, Design and Construct Review Meetings and SES matters
- City Focus Advisory Committee and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee

CIVIL PROJECTS (CONSTRUCTION)

Works have been completed on the following projects:

DAY LABOUR

- Crightons Road Depot Access
- Bridge Road drainage widening - Leisure Court to Irving Street
- Bridge Road footpath between - Leisure Court and Irving Street
- Casey Avenue Leisure Court extension
- Fernleigh Avenue / Maple Drive intersection
- Wellington Street Alfred to Shakespeare Street
- New Bus Shelters 9 number



Stockbridge Road

CONTRACTS

- Progress on all projects has been somewhat hindered by the weather this month due to significant rainfall and events such as Tropical Cyclone Anthony and pending Tropical Cyclone Yasi (early February 2011).

Works have been substantially completed on the following projects:

DAY LABOUR

- Illuka Park Drainage works
- Lawson Street River to Victoria Street
- Stockbridge Street reconstruction
- Jenvey Court Footpath



Freshwater Point Boat Ramp

CONTRACTS

- Flood Package 8 – Mackay North 2008
- Brisbane Street Reconstruction
- Flood Package 9 – Mackay North 2, 2008

The following projects are in progress:

DAY LABOUR

- Kinchant Dam reconstruction
- Bontanic Garden carpark
- Middle Creek Road
- Norris Road at Beaconsfield Road
- Freshwater Point Boat Ramp
- Casey Avenue Drainage at Bridge Road
- Klingner Street roadwork
- O'Keefe Road roadwork
- Hodges Street roadwork
- Traffic Facility works at various locations
- Mackay Bucasia Footpath
- Hume Street Footpath

CONTRACTS

- Bluewater Trail Caneland Park
- Flood Package 11 – Midge Point 2008
- Crediton Loop Road
- Roger Road Culverts
- Optic Fibre Communications
- Glenpark Street Signalisation

The following projects are in progress:

- Flood Package 12, 2008
- 2009 Flood Saturation Damage Restoration Package 901
- 2009 Flood Saturation Damage Restoration Package 902
- 2009 Flood Saturation Damage Restoration Package 903
- 2009 Flood Saturation Damage Restoration Package 904
- 2009 Flood Saturation Damage Restoration Package 905
- Mango Avenue Reconstruction



Glenpark Street Signalisation Project – started in January 2011



Mango Avenue Reconstruction

The following projects have been awarded:

CONTRACTS

- 2009 Flood Saturation Damage Restoration Package 906
- Perry Road Reconstruction

The following projects have been put to tender:

CONTRACTS

- 2009 Flood Saturation Damage Restoration Package 907
- Panel of Suppliers - Flood Saturation 2011

CIVIL OPERATIONS (MAINTENANCE)

Maintenance Grading in the following areas:

Formation Grading	Eversleigh Road, Garretts Road, Sarina-Marlborough Road, Borgs Road, Tennis Court Road, Cliftonville Road, Sarina area, Cone Creek Road, Story Road, Campbell Road, Woodwards Road, Waddells Road, Johnson Road, Neills Road, Moothins Road, Treveys Road, Mulherins Road, Arana Drive, McLaughlin Drive.
Temporary Gravel Road Repairs	Howells Road Mullers Road, Sants Road, Barrow Hill Road, Edmonds Road, Rollinson Road.
Shoulder Grading	Cowleys Road, Landsdowne Road.
Pavement Repairs	Owens Creek Loop Road.

Special Works:

Footpath repairs – Peel Street, Wood Street, Brisbane Street, Juliet Street, Victoria Street, George Street, Hinton Street, Howard Street, Paulette Street, Branscome Road, Pugsley Street, Balmoral Court, cleaning in Walkerston and Town areas.

Vegetation Control –

Sign & Guidepost repairs – Calen-Mt Charlton Road.

Culvert & Pipe repairs – Smith Cross Road, Head Menkins Road, Devereux Creek Road, and Monash Way.

Kerb & Channel repairs – Geoffrey Thomas Drive.

Water Board Patching – George Street.

Street and Gutter Collection – Dutton Street, George Street, Holland Street.

Special Works – concrete for rails at Harbour Boat Ramp.

Pothole Patching: Town area, Schmitdkes Road, Howard Street, George Street, Marlborough Street, School zones, Denton Street, Paradise Street, town area roundabouts, Connors Road, Landsdowne Road, Cowleys Road, Boundary Road, Sydney Street, Webster Street, Lamb Street, Wentford Street, Porter Street, Juliet Street, Victoria Street, Boddington Street, Bakers Creek area, Palms Road, Wollingford Road, Eversleigh Road, Sarina area, Armstrong Beach area, Sarina Beach Road, Campwin Beach area, Glenpark Street, Golfinks Road, Sologinkins Road, Farleigh-Habana Road, Malcomson Street, Glenella Road, Hillend Road, Bedford Road, Willetts Road, Kenzey Street, Banksia Street, Beaconsfield Road, Harveys Road, Coles Road, Glenella-Richmond Road, Stockroute Road, Horse & Jockey Road, Meadowlands Road, Ron Searle Drive, Bridge Road, Holts Road, Pioneer Street, Mansfield Drive, Holmes Drive, Blacks Beach Road, Admiral Drive, Glendaragh Road, Schapers Road, Davey Street, Sugarshed Road, Bald Hill Road.

Drainage Maintenance: inlets and outlets Town area.

Mowing & Slashing: All town areas that were not wet, Northern Beaches, Holts Road, Pioneer Street, Glenella-Richmond Road, Habana Road, Farleigh area.

Main Roads RMPC:

Other Bituminous Works / Pothole Patching / Pavement Repairs	Bruce Highway (South), Mackay-Eungella Road, Gargett-Mia Mia Road, Hay Point Road, Sarina-Coast Road, Sarina-Marlborough Road,
Heavy Formation grading / gravel resheeting / other formation works	Bruce Highway (South),
Culvert / Drainage Works	Mackay-Bucasia Road, Gargett-Mia Mia Road.
Tractor Slashing Rural / Urban / Boom Mowing / Clearing Works / Herbicide Spraying / Declared Plant Spraying	Bruce Highway (North), Peak Downs Highway, Mackay-Eungella Road, North Eton, Marian-Hampden Road, Mirani-Mt Ossa Road, Bruce Highway (South), Mackay-Bucasia Road, Mackay-Slade Point Road, Mackay-Bucasia Road, Eimeo Road, Mackay-Eungella Road, Gargett-Mia Mia Road, Eungella Dam Road, Mia Mia Connection Road, Mackay Bypass Road, Marian-Eton Road.
Rest Area Servicing	Bruce Highway (North).
Road Sweeping/Roadside Litter Collection	Bruce Highway (South), Bruce Highway (North), Mackay-Slade Point Road.
Emergency Call Outs	Yakapari-Seaforth Road.
Signs / Guide Post Works	Bruce Highway (South), Peak Downs Highway, Mackay-Habana Road.

Quarry Operations:

Gravel from the following quarries was extracted during January:

Bezzina, Buggybend, Comelli, Hazelwood, Howell, Jensen, Johnson, Larsen, Mezzan, Mt Ossa-Seaforth and Omand Pits.

TECHNICAL SERVICES

- Development and design of projects for saturation damage projects throughout the Council area.
- Development and design of projects within Capital Works Programme.
- Development of draft 20 yr Capital Works Programme making provision for all current projects and proposed development projects.
- Discussion with property owners and utility providers regarding future road construction at Connors Road (Farrelly to Archibald). Land Acquisitions and realignment notices underway.
- Lead role in discussions with Consultants and developers regarding design works, division of costs and infrastructure agreements for Farrelly's Road (Connors to Milton) reconstruction and upgrading
- Lead role in discussions with Consultants, DTMR, residents and Colonial Mutual regarding upgrading of Malcomson/Greenfields & Malcomson/Charles Hodge Intersections. Detail design Greenfields intersection commenced while Malcomson/Charles Hodge mostly completed.
- Consultation and detail design regarding Paradise Street (George to Henman Streets) upgrading
- Consultation and detail design regarding Archibald Street (Connors to Milton) upgrading.
- Consultation and detail design of the HAFF Grant project including Rosewood Drive from Mackay Bucasia road to Chenoweth Drive
- Discussions with Consultant with regard to finalisation of planning study for Paget intersections and future heavy vehicle paths. Concept planning of intersection upgrades complete and detail design commenced
- Detail design of culvert crossing Casey Avenue, concept development and detail design for stadium access, car park and Bluewater Trail extension.
- Lead role in discussions with QT regarding the preparation of detail design for on land facilities for Constant Creek boat ramp design
- Preparation of RRG, Blackspot, SafeST and RLCIP grant subsidy applications.
- Lead role in the preparation of "Safety in Design", Erosion and Sediment Control and Fish passage and Waterway Barrier applications in relation to designs to meet industry standards.
- Attendance at Paget Depot Management Group & Steering Committee meetings and Corporate Projects Meetings, Residential Densities Committee, 2010 Flood Damage design discussions, Contracts Working Group and tenderers briefing for the EOI Minor Concrete works.
- On site residents meetings at Swallow Street.
- Provision of reports to Council on Petition regarding speeding in Danastas and Matterson Avenues and closure of Walkers Road Rail Crossing.

PARKS AND ENVIRONMENT

The Parks & Environment report for the month of January contains information on activities undertaken throughout the month by the staff within the program.

Officers on call attended: 25 after hour's phone calls and 18 after hours call outs.

Administration – January 33 park bookings were recorded only a couple were cancelled due to rain

Customer Requests -Majority of customer requests went to Grass mowing as residents rang in over grown areas. Crews are currently working extra long shifts to reduce the number of requests and re-establish levels of service to grassed areas.

Date	Actioned	Received	Unactioned
January 2011	184	259	257

Horticulture Activities – January – 157537 m2 garden beds serviced; 2.5 hours spent repairing irrigation; 53.5 hours spraying herbicide. Horticulture also arranged the removal of 3 large piles of garden mulch that were being stored without permission in parks through North Mackay

Grass Maintenance Mackay Activities – January – 1,093,833m2 parks mowing, 3001m2 Drains mowed; 434936m2 easements mowed; 135 man hours spent whipper-snipping; 30.5 man-hours spent litter collecting; 3016 toilets cleaned; 1426 BBQs cleaned. Contractors used to slash some very wet parks where conventional mowers were getting bogged.

Valley Activities – January – 209092m2 Parks mowed, 73761m2 Drains mowed, 410350m2 median mowed. 277 hours spent whipper snipping.

Sothern Region Activities – January – 340000m2 mowed, 120 hours spent whipper snipping.



Contractor slashing at Eton Showgrounds



Greenmount front lawn

Natural Environment and Marine Beach Activities - Conservation Volunteers Australia worked for a week at Louisa Creek, undertaking weed control and revegetation maintenance, in conjunction with Sarina Landcare Catchment Management Association, funded by BMA. They also worked for 4 days at Finlayson's Pt (Seaforth) and Ball Bay, working to implement elements of the beach plans, including weed control and maintenance of revegetation. These days were at no cost to council, to make up for volunteer number shortfalls for previously funded weeks.

Evaluated the quotations received for the Midge Point Shoreline Erosion Management Plan. Requests for further information were initiated.

Worked with Pioneer Catchment and Landcare Group (PCL) and Sarina Landcare Catchment

Management Association (SLCMA) on the delivery of the Land for Wildlife Program in the region.

Field staff worked undertaking weed control, tree planting and maintenance work at a range of natural environment and coastal sites, including Blacks Beach Spit, Grasstree Beach and Shoal Point/Bucasia.

The habitat restoration team worked for a week at the Botanic Gardens to assist with staff shortages.

Liaised with Skills Training Mackay regarding the 'Skilling Queenslanders for work program' which involves 5 workers appointed for 16 weeks under the, to work with existing parks and environment teams. This project commenced in late January 2011. Interviews were held with potential candidates and discussions were held with potential supervisors within the parks section. Four people are currently working with the mowing crew as this work is a priority at the present time. Once the grass mowing is under control, participants will be given the opportunity to work with other parks teams to develop their knowledge. One participant will be working in the parks administration section for the duration of the program.

Met with Conservation Volunteers Australia staff to discuss the program of works for 2011 to supply a team of volunteers for 40 days to work in Sandfly Creek Environmental Reserve, undertaking weed control and tree planting works associated with the Management Plan for the site.

Sarina beach crew staff assisted with the clean up after the severe storm which occurred at Campwin Beach in late January. Mackay Beach crew inspected and maintained the swimming enclosures at Seaforth, Bucasia and McEwens Beach.



Conservation Volunteers undertaking weed control work at Louisa Creek

Arboriculture Activities – for January 2011

Sum of Scoping (hours)	Sum of Total Trees Pruned	Sum of Council Trees Removed	Sum of Scheduled Palm Trees defroned/deseeded	Sum of Requests-branch pick up	Sum of Trees Attended in Juvenile stage	Sum of Trees attended for other Council wks	Sum of Requests-minor prune	Sum of Requests-major prune	Sum of Trees Planted in Streetscapes
8.25	365	138	72	6.5	88	1	118	39	21

Cemetery Operations –

Area	Jan-11
Burials Mt Bassett	12
Burials Mt Bassett Ashes	1
Burials - Mackay	0
Burials - Mackay Ashes	0
Burials - Walkerston	6
Burials - Walkerston (Ashes)	0
Burials - Mirani	0
Burials - Marian	0
Burials- Sarina	4
Hand Dig of grave	4

Parks Building Services Activities – January 2011 Electrical staff attended to 16 traffic light lamp replacements, 8 emergency response calls and replaced one damaged traffic light. One general maintenance inspection of all lights was performed and 7 sets of lights were realigned after being turned by wind from cyclone Anthony. Other electrical work completed included 3 depot repairs, three test and tag of sections equipment, 12 monthly RCD test of City Heart Boards, 4 park light repairs, 2 park power repairs, 1 bbq repair, 3 internal building repairs, repairs to power at Seaforth Campground, 5 repairs to pensioner cottages and 1 at a community hall.

Staff completed minor repairs and painted - 2 large shelters at Illawong beach, 5 medium sized shelters at Quota Park, 1 small shelter at Settlers rise, three large and 1 small shelters at Lamberts Beach, 1 large 4 medium and 1 small shelters at Bucasia Esplanade.

4 picnic settings were repaired at various locations, two incidents of vandalism were repaired in public amenities, and 12 toilet doors at various locations had indicator bolts repaired or replaced.

Operational (documented) inspections were conducted on play equipment at 21 locations, there were 66 visual inspections conducted also. 15 repairs/replacements were completed on equipment and a further 28 small repairs/ adjustments. Staff commenced on the removal of shade sails across the region in preparation for Cyclone Anthony and Yasi.

Capital Works staff were involved in included the completion of the Northview Toilet, continuation of works on the Mt Bassett Toilet, Campwin Beach Picnic Shelter, Melba Park Picnic Shelter and St Helens Campground Installation of coin operated showers.

A seat was also installed at Midge Point and a memorial seat at Blacks Beach.



Shade Sail Removal for Cyclone Anthony and Yasi

Capital Projects – The following projects are completed



Memorial Seat Blacks Beach



Northview Toilet



Seat Midge Point



Muller Park Playground Child Proof Fence 1

Projects in Construction:



Coral Point Picnic Shelter



Mt Bassett Amenities



Melba Park Shelter

Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens -

Horticultural and Site Works:

New turf trial site prep completed

Mowing 148000m² - 76hrs

Snipping - 8,700 linear metres + 1600m² square metres of drains, banks, etc. - 67.6hrs

Cleaning, including toilets and bin collection – 44hrs

Garden bed maintenance – 67.6hrs

Pruning (trees, shrubs including hedging) - 92hrs

Herbicide Spraying 38hrs

Staffing levels: Running at approximately half staffing level most of the month due to illness or annual leave.

2 staff from the Natural Environment section assisted for 4 days.

Weather Station Data

Rainfall for month 153.8mm

Days of rain (>0.2mm) 17

Av. Temperature for Month (deg C) 26.2

High Wind Speed (knots) 29.6

Avg. Wind Speed (knots) 1.9

Dom. Wind direction ESE

Botanic Gardens Functions and Events:

During January 2011 – the following functions occurred: 2 weddings 1 reception. Due to weather in January we had 3 cancellations. The meeting room was used by 4 community groups and one private business for meetings. The meeting room was being utilised by Maya for school holiday activities so hire numbers were down in January.

Visitor Services Program:

The School Holiday activities in January gave children a variety of interests to pursue, with sessions titled... Wildlife Wonders, Kids Botanic Art and Leaf us to Play.

180 children (18 sessions over 3 weeks) certainly demonstrated the Botanic Gardens contribution to developing youth partnerships and strategies aimed at enhancing the quality of life of young people. These activities for school aged children proved so popular that waiting lists were needed for each session.

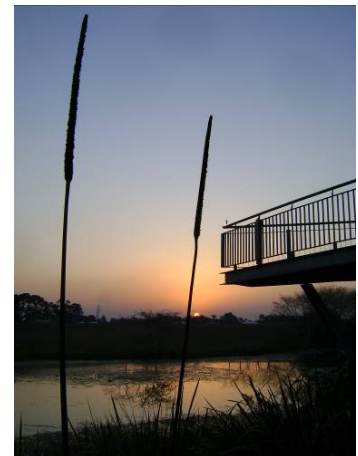
The activities gave children (and accompanying adults) opportunities to learn new information about plants, creatures, habitat and environments as well as provide opportunities to display this new knowledge and interact socially via creative and artistic interpretations (clay work, drawing and water-colours, exhibitions of artworks), leisure activities (games and storytelling) as well as utilizing the Botanic Gardens for exercise, leisure and pleasure (walks with inspirational discoveries).





Volunteers continue to be involved with the Gardens, and January included a planning meeting for the Friends of the Gardens participation in a range of social, educational and practical sessions for the 2011 year including “Weed and Feed”; Planting Bees; Guided walks (information sessions) both within the Gardens and the Mackay district; Presentations; Participation in regular linked community events (eg. Greenmount Heritage Fair); as well as the introduction of a Volunteer Gardening Program titled SMART Gardening aiming to enhance skills and knowledge of Plants, Soils, Mulch etc. and then sharing the same to the broader community. These activities and events not only enhance the life of seniors (the greater population of the volunteers) but also provide opportunities for further participation by individuals and families for the communities benefit.

The Botanic Gardens again provided the community with opportunities to be involved in artistic pursuits with the Lagoons Gallery hosting the Annual Exhibition of the Creative Shots Photo Club. Many visitors viewed this exhibition which also included the opportunity to vote for their favorite image. The exhibition images were all taken in the Botanic Gardens which encouraged lots of clicking of cameras on site, with the results of many local amateur photographers showcasing wonderful images of our fantastic community facility.



Consultation

There has been consultation with Engineering Services Program Managers.

Resource Implications

Nil.

Conclusion

The month of January saw the continuation of adverse weather conditions including the impact of Cyclone Anthony and the need to prepare for Cyclone Yasi. These events had a significant impact upon Council's overall maintenance operations and capital works program. Staff in not only Engineering Services but across Council's entire operations provided significant support to the Community through these events.

Officer's Recommendation

THAT this report be received.