

COMMUNITY SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS AND SIGNIFICANT ISSUES REPORT – MONTH ENDING MAY 2010

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Purpose

To review Community Services Department highlights and significant issues for the month ending 31 May 2010.

Background and Discussion

Highlights and Significant Issues for May 2010 are as follows: -

COMMUNITY SERVICES MANAGEMENT

- Festival of Arts Launch held
- Public consultation regarding the future of the City Heart markets undertaken with affected stakeholders.
- Aquatics Study interviews held.
- City Focus and Sarina Sugar Shed Advisory Committees attended.
- Urban Enhancement Project Planning for the CBD commenced.
- Enterprise Risk management and Corporate Projects meetings attended.
- Matsuura Scholarship Students workshop held to discuss appropriate standards of behaviour and cultural expectations in Japan.
- Invest Mackay Study Tour held.
- Visioning sessions held with Community Development and Library teams.
- Greenmount Heritage Fair held.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND LIBRARIES

Management

- Attended Business Breakfast at MECC during ULGA Conference
- Participated in FISH workshop and visioning with Community development staff
- Assisted Museum Coordinator with Greenmount Heritage Fair
- Completed Skills Analysis project with Branch Librarians and staff
- Attended community engagement session regarding the potential removal of Sunday markets to the Bluewater Quay

Community Development

- Members of the Community Development Team participated in a team building session facilitated by Stephen Lundin, founder of the FISH philosophy. Following this session members of the team took the opportunity to review current work practices which will lead to improved delivery of services to the community.
- Community Development Officer attended a meeting in Brisbane with representatives of the Department of Communities, Housing and Homelessness Services.
- A debrief session held in Eungella gave residents the opportunity to inform Councillors and Council Officers of issues affecting the community following cyclone Ului.
- Members of the Community Development team attended a quarterly meeting facilitated by the Department of Communities, the funding agency for a number of Community Development positions. The quarterly meeting provides the Department with the opportunity to inform funded agency of upcoming and relevant issues in relation to funding and governance.
- Co-ordinator Community Development attended the Inaugural Safe Communities Forum hosted by the newly incorporated Safe Communities Queensland. Also attending was Carolyn Coggan, Director of Safe Communities Foundation New Zealand the organisation that designated Mackay as a World Health Organisation Safe Community. An additional three Queensland communities were formally designated at the forum bringing the total number for Queensland to seven.

Libraries

- General

Libraries hosted a special morning tea at various library branches for Friends of Mackay Libraries Inc. during Volunteers Week.



Friends of Sarina Library Back: Troy (Library Coordinator), Sandy & Mark Evans, Anne Stewart, Carol Edwards, Margaret Burnham. Front: Ann Strang and Pam Eaton (Library Assistant). Absent: Sandy Deas.

- Young People's Services

Cr Karen May read *Little White Dogs Can't Jump* by Bruce Whatley at Gordon White Library for National Simultaneous Storytime. Other libraries and schools across Australia read the same story at the same time. The purpose of National Simultaneous Storytime is to promote Australian authors and illustrators and to foster in children a love of reading.

Under 8s Week activities were also held at Gordon White and Mackay City Libraries with 31 participants.

To promote the performance of stage play at MECC about The Gruffalo, a children’s story by Julia Donaldson, was read to the children at their Storytime sessions.



Winners of *Gruffalo* competition

Event	Current year	Previous year
Storytime	1237	1092
Baby Bounce	55	89

- Statistics

Computer Use and Classes	Total
DiscoverIT Classes (participants)	47
Public Computers - Users	2503
Public Computers – Bookings	3216
Public Computers – Express Computers	1075
Public Computers – Paid use (Casual)	783
Public Computers – Wireless (hrs)	332

Information Requests	Total
Online Enquiries	13
Ask a Librarian Queries	11
Reference Queries – Staff	1137
Reference Queries – Phone	1134

Top Website Visits	Total
Total Website Visits	18,602
Website Visits - Home	9558
Website Visits - Catalogue	4584
Website Visits - Locations & Hours	595
Website Visit - Online Resources	545
Website Visits – Ask the Library	273
Website Visits – Heritage Collections	203
Website Visits – Joining & Borrowing	187
Website Visits – Services for Children & Young People	167
Website Visits – Technology & Training	162
Website Visits – General Collections	124

Database Visits		Total
Databases - EBO		1418
Databases - Newsbank		6
Databases - EBSCO Host		56
Databases - Thompson Gale		18
Databases - Your Tutor		69
Computer Requests		Total
Computer Support Requests – Mackay City Library		4
Computer Support Requests – Gordon White Library		4

Heritage Collection Room	
Total Users	52
Research Enquiries * up to 1 hr research required	8
Microfilm Reader Bookings	48

- Membership and loan statistics

New members

Library Branch	Previous Year	Current Year
Gordon White Library	151	158
Mackay City Library	242	221
Mirani Library	6	32
Mobile Library	31	25
Sarina Library	34	41
Walkerston Library	34	7

Loans

Library Branch	Previous Year	Current Year
Gordon White Library	27123	28157
Mackay City Library	28782	29188
Mirani Library	2303	2368
Mobile Library	3613	3651
Sarina Library	4591	5246
Walkerston Library	2544	2231

Visitors

Library Branch	Previous Year	Current Year
Gordon White Library	1192	7854
Mackay City Library	12051	12067
Mirani Library	N/A	1586
Mobile Library	N/A	N/A
Sarina Library	3073	3619
Walkerston Library	N/A	N/A

Museums

Pioneer Valley Museum at Mirani

- Mirani Museum Outback Project meeting held on 31 May. Will continue to work towards dismantling and storing the Hamilton Dairy. Will be advertising for volunteers to help with the physical work – builders, cabinet makers etc.
- Labelling workshop held on 19 May. Will commence with replacing old labels over the next few months

Sarina Historical Society and Museum Inc

- New uniforms have been ordered for the volunteers
- Have applied for an RADF Grant to deliver a workshop for the area museums on disaster management. If successful with the application, the workshop will be held in August.
- Members attended the Greenmount heritage Fair selling craft and books
- Museum Development Officer (MDO), Bronwyn Roper, from Rockhampton undertook a significance workshop with members on the old fire engine
- 370 volunteer hours given during the month of May
- 70 people through the premises in May including one bus group of 12.

Greenmount Homestead

- Victoria Park State School visited with 85 Year 4 students
- Mackay Sunrise Rotary Club have committed to refurbishing/renewing the wagon wheel mailbox sign adjacent to the car park
- Another presentation given by Museum Coordinator at Mackay Probus to generate interest in Greenmount Homestead and/or volunteering
- The Greenmount Heritage Fair was held on 30 May surpassing any expectations in regard to attendance and success. It is anticipated almost 8,000 attended over the course of the day. People enjoyed a record number of market stalls, fabulous entertainment, beautiful weather and a great heritage ambience. Plans are already under way for next year.

RECREATION SERVICES

Management / Sport and Recreation

- Sports & Recreation Officer and Manager Recreation Services attended part of the Ooralea Enquiry by Design Workshop (local area planning workshop).
- Further investigation and discussion took place with relevant Councillors and Managers regarding Complete Sports Marketing Pty Ltd's sports decentralisation program.
- Sports & Recreation Officer met with relevant Queensland Health staff to discuss the evaluation and prepare the acquittal of the '10,000 Steps' and 'Active Mackay CBD' projects.
- The Sarina Brewers Park Sport Management Committee is investigating the possibilities of becoming a stand-alone committee and establishing associated branding/committee logos.
- Sports & Recreation Officer, Manager Recreation Services and Council's Grant Officer progressed on the "Sport & Recreation Local Jobs Plan Funding" application. Objective: To obtain external funding for a 2nd Council Sports & Recreation Officer. Application to be submitted mid June 2010.

- Sports & Recreation Officer & Manager Recreation Services inspected the Sarina Brewers Park and South Mackay Sporting precincts. Purpose: To familiarise the new Sports & Recreation Officer with the precincts and become familiar with existing developments.
- Further progress was made regarding the printing and distribution of the Modern Club Management Club Kit. This tool is designed to help volunteer club committees with training, samples and document templates to improve services. The Club Kit is scheduled to be made available from a Council managed sports & recreation workshop early July.
- Sports & Recreation Officer met with the Executive Officer from Queensland Canoeing to discuss developments in the Mackay region as well as potential events for the future.
- Sports & Recreation Officer attended her first Health & Wellbeing Committee meeting.
- Representatives of Council's Planning program, Property program and Manager Recreation Services met to discuss Mackay Rowing Club matters.
- Representatives of Council Property program, Sports & Recreation Officer and Manager Recreation Services met with Committee members of the Mackay Canoe Club.
- Sports & Recreation Officer & Portfolio councillor Health, Sports & Recreation attended a North Queensland Sports Foundation (NQSF) board meeting in Townsville. Council's Sports & Recreation Officer was sworn in as a new board member, replacing the previous Council Sports & Recreation Officer.
- The application details regarding the BHP Billiton's Cannington Mine North Queensland Sports Development Bursary 2010 were released for public submission. The bursary's aim is to financially support junior athletes to further develop their skills.

Aquatics Strategy Study

- A significant amount of communication took place during May between relevant Council staff and the project's consultant, in particular in regards to population growth figures.
- Sports & Recreation Officer met with Sarina Surf Lifesaving Club members to discuss their input into the Aquatics Strategy.
- The public consultation period closed on Friday 14 May.
- Manager Recreation Services provided further feedback to the condition audit consultant regarding the draft report. The report is scheduled to be completed early June and will form part of the Aquatics Strategy.

Media / PR

- Previous Sports & Recreation Officer's departure and welcoming of Sports & Recreation Officer.
- Commencement of the next 'leg' of the Bluewater Trail.
- Significant media coverage regarding the Aquatics Strategy, including reminder of public consultation deadline - 14 May.
- Radio interview with Manager Recreation Services regarding the Aquatics Strategy study.
- Media coverage regarding the closing of the Bluewater Lagoon in July for maintenance.
- Local print media published an article regarding the North Queensland Bursary opportunity currently available to talented sports people in the region.

Aquatic Facilities

Bluewater Lagoon

- Representatives of RCP, Woollam Constructions and Manager Recreation Services discussed outstanding defect rectification to be undertaken during winter.
- Woollam Constructions staff repair light dishes (to be reinstalled after the cyclone Ului impact) and erect signage.

- Council Parks & Environment staff removed foliage that has been encumbering SLSQ water supervision.
- A large tree was removed by Council Parks & Environment staff following cyclone (Ului) damage.
- A T-bar was fabricated to be used by lifeguards for emergency shut-down of the water bucket.
- The facility's closure period during winter was adopted by Council. The facility will be closed for annual maintenance from Tuesday 13 July – Sunday 15 August 2010 (inclusive), re-opening to the public on Monday 16 August.
- Manager Recreation Services met several representatives of Workplace Health and Safety Queensland and Council's Human Resources program to discuss the facility's chemical storage area.
- The smoke free environment of the facility was incorporated into the *Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Regulation 1998*.
- Playscape Pty Ltd repaired softfall and replaced play area netting of the interactive waterplay equipment.
- Planning commences regarding maintenance activities scheduled during the shutdown period.

Memorial Pool

The facility was closed for the month of May. The following maintenance activities were successfully completed:

- Painting of concrete pool deck with non-slip product.
- Painting of the office (internal) and parts of Plant Room.
- General servicing of Plant Room (and repairs were necessary).
- Modification of single shower near Plant Room into new bunded hydrochloric acid store.
- Repair of four tower lights.
- Extensive cleaning of male and female amenities, Plant Room and kiosk/administration area.
- Installation of new signage - "no diving" and "shallow water".
- Filter media cleared of flotsam.
- Removal of paint from windows reducing the need for artificial light.
- Repair of strainer housing from Plant Room.
- Float valve serviced by plumbing contractors.
- Hazardous seating removed from male amenities. Timber seating replaced with aluminium seating.
- Replacement of cordless telephone.
- Repainting of walls and exposed beams within male and female amenities.
- Replacement of locks in male and female amenities.
- Servicing of pool heating system.
- MSC re-opened on Tuesday 1 June for the start of the 2010/2011 swimming season.



The redesigned and repainted office area



The new seating and repainted male amenities



The repainted plant room

Pioneer Pool

- Monthly usage: - 19 x school bookings
 - 2 x community group bookings
- New trees and palms were planted to enhance the facility's appearance and shaded areas.

- Repair of Soda Ash injector following several blockages.
- Staff commenced grandstand and Club House cleaning activities.
- Chip bark (from cyclone Ului) was spread out on the garden beds by staff.
- Manager Recreation Services visited the centre with WH&S inspectors to inspect the chlorine gas control measures and temporary fencing near the Plant Room.
- The term 2/2010 4-week Learn-to-Swim program was finalised.
- The Orcas training program and Adult Swim for Fitness program continues to attract positive attendance.
- The final lesson of the multicultural swimming program was held on 9 May. A small barbeque and certificate ceremony was held afterwards to congratulate participants on their achievements.
- Programs Coordinator continues to seek quotes for Club House repair/compliance work.
- Surplus lockers were placed in the Learn-to-Swim shed to provide swimming teachers with personal storage space.
- An AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety (TSW) course was held in Mackay on 29 – 30 May.
- Planning work commenced regarding the 2nd Mackay Regional Community Splash-a-thon event. Currently scheduled for 29 January 2011.

Mirani Pool

- The facility is closed for annual maintenance/winter break until September (the start of the 2010/2011 swimming season).
- The previously used chlorine gas pipe work was removed from the Plant Room.
- Stage one and two of signage erection was completed.
- WH&S signage was installed, HAZCHEM and chemical signage in place.

Sarina Pool

- The facility is closed for annual maintenance/winter break until September (the start of the 2010/2011 swimming season).

The following customers have attended the Aquatic Facilities for May 2010:

Bluewater Lagoon*

Type of Customer	Bluewater Lagoon May 2009	Bluewater Lagoon May 2010
Children's Lagoon	1,413	1,053
Middle Lagoon	2,255	2,070
Upper Lagoon	1,363	900
TOTAL IN WATER CUSTOMERS	5,031	4,023
TOTAL PRECINCT (non-swimmers)	6,505	6,192
GRAND TOTAL	11,536	10,215

* Source: Lifeguard Statistics - Monthly Reports May 2010 - Visitations PDF by Surf Lifesaving Queensland (SLSQ)

Memorial Pool**

Type of Customer	Memorial Pool May 2009	Memorial Pool May 2010
Persons 15 years or older	Closed for annual maintenance.	Closed for annual maintenance.
Children from 3 years to persons under 15 years		
Pensioner		
TOTAL		
Multi Visit Pass (persons 15 years or older)		
Total Kiosk Revenue		

** Source: Monthly Reconciliation Spreadsheet (Microsoft Excel)

Pioneer Pool**

Type of Customer	Pioneer Pool May 2009	Pioneer Pool May 2010
Persons 15 years or older	268	385
Children from 3 years to persons under 15 years	84	67
Pensioner	15	14
TOTAL	367	466
Multi Visit Pass (persons 15 years or older)	38	37
Total Kiosk Revenue	\$1,543.20	\$2,038.40

** Source: Monthly Reconciliation Spreadsheet (Microsoft Excel)

Mirani Pool***

Type of Customer	Mirani Pool May 2009	Mirani Pool May 2010
Persons 15 years or older	Closed for annual maintenance.	Closed for annual maintenance.
Children from 3 years to persons under 15 years		
Pensioner		
TOTAL		

*** Source: Information received from Lessee of Mirani Pool

Sarina Pool****

Type of Customer	Sarina Pool May 2009	Sarina Pool May 2010
Persons 15 years or older	Closed for annual maintenance.	Closed for annual maintenance.
Children from 3 years to persons under 15 years		
Pensioner		
TOTAL		

**** Source: Information received from Lessee of Sarina Pool

Revenue Received:**

Type of Customer	Pioneer Pool		Memorial Pool	
	May 2009	May 2010	May 2009	May 2010
Actual Gate	\$2,561.50	\$2,938.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Season Tickets	\$1,215.00	\$810.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$1,545.70	\$2,165.90	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$5,322.20	\$5,913.90	\$0.00	\$0.00
Multi-visit pass sales component of Actual Gate	\$1,140.00	\$1,110.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

** Source: Monthly Reconciliation Spreadsheet (Microsoft Excel)

PROPERTY SERVICES

Management

- Native Title management introduction into the Program's profile.
- Continued involvement in the Paget Depot Project.
- Progression of work associated with the Ness Street Depot Master Plan, Freehold Land review and Council Accommodation Master Plan.
- Office renovation work for 2009/10 is nearing completion with several projects awaiting delivery of furniture.

Property Services

- Paget Depot Project:

Commitments have been extremely demanding with work on the Design Phase nearing completion.

The Paget Depot Design Reveal Day held at Bedford Road Neighbourhood Centre was a positive event and was very well attended with workers and Managers from Bedford Road and Ness Street Depots attending. The positive comments from workers were promising.

The Logistics and Management Plan which deals with all facets of the relocation process has been drafted and distributed to stakeholders for input.

The Depot Managers Meeting was successful and positive with a variety of issues discussed and areas which require action agreed upon.

Work is continuing on the Change process for all workers involved in the depot relocation.

- Asbestos Audits for Mirani and Sarina have been completed with Audit Reports and Management Plans being provided.

- Several meetings have been held with the President of MADASSIA to further develop the Property Management relationship. Discussions also included advice on meeting expected facility standards including adjustments to cleaning requirements and advice with Facility Hire and Management issues.
- Community Housing Units:

All units are currently tenanted.

Refurbishment of units requiring attention has been completed.
- Community Hall Terms and Conditions of Hire are being reviewed to ensure Insurance and safety issues are incorporated.

Property Co-ordinations

Leases

- Seaforth Sport and Recreational Hall granting of Access Easements to water tower.
- Andergrove/Bedford Road intersection drainage easement.
- Sewerage pump station easement Utah Crescent, Sarina.
- SunWater Licence Agreement for antennae on Mirani Water Tower.
- Program staff are currently dealing with 19 Leases and 7 Easements

Land Dealings

- Leisure Court reduction in area for allocation to Blue Water Trail and drainage from both Mackay Jnr Tennis and Blue Care Australia
- Program staff are currently dealing with 28 land dealings.

- Capital Projects:

PROJECT	COMMENTS
<p><i>Mackay Admin Building – First Floor Refurbishment and Relocation Stages’</i></p> <p><i>Stage 1 – Chambers</i></p> <p><i>Stage 2 - New Corporate Services area</i></p> <p><i>Stage 3- CEO Offices & Reception area</i></p> <p><i>Stage 4 – IT/Records areas</i></p>	<p>Final furnishings are being arranged.</p> <p>Works completed with permanent relocation of Program staff facilitated.</p> <p>Refurbishment complete with final furnishing requirements remaining.</p> <p>Relocation of staff and records completed with screens to be erected.</p>
<p>Mackay Admin Building – A/C Heater element replacement</p>	<p>Submission from Request for Quotation received and evaluation scheduled for mid June 2010 with a licensed Asbestos Contractor being sourced to assist with Project.</p>
<p>Council Buildings – Security Upgrade & Consolidation</p>	<p>Submission from Request for Quotation received and evaluated with Letter of Acceptance anticipated to be issued mid June 2010.</p>
<p><i>Sarina Cultural Hall –</i></p> <p><i>Part A – Bar Improvements</i></p> <p><i>Part B – Sound system</i></p> <p><i>Part C – Stage Curtains replacement</i></p> <p><i>Part D – Safety glass upgrade</i></p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Pending budget balance</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Contractor Awarded with Project schedule being negotiated.</p>
<p>Andergrove Neighbourhood Centre – Upgrade</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>Andergrove neighbourhood Centre – Drainage</p>	<p>Construction Supervisor from Construction Program assisting with facilitating Project requirements with quotation requests closing mid June 2010.</p>
<p>Mirani Museum – A/C replacement</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>Slade Point Community Hall – Floor & Roof Repairs</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>Greenmount Homestead – 3 phase power/road access</p>	<p>Project anticipated for commencement mid June 2010 through Parks & Environment Program Electricians.</p>
<p>Brewers Park Sporting Complex</p>	<p>Submissions from Request for Quotation received and evaluated with Letter of Acceptance anticipated to be issued mid June 2010.</p>
<p>City Library – A/C replacement</p>	<p>Project schedule finalised with commencement mid June 2010 for a week’s duration.</p>
<p>Holmes Drive CHU – Kitchen/bathroom replacement</p>	<p>Completed</p>

Sarina Sugar Shed

Sales at the Sarina Sugar Shed for May were slightly up on this time last year. This was pleasing to see given that a lot of operators are reporting a decline in visitor numbers. The other area of improvement on this time last year was the café.

Sugar Shed staff and employees attended the BSES Field Day on the 20th and 21st May as part of the Mackay Regional Sugar Festival.

Our trainee has been nominated for the 2010 ARTN Young Regional Tourism Achiever Award.

Nominations have now been forwarded to the Queensland Tourism Industry Council for the 2010 Queensland Tourism Awards for three categories

MACKAY CONVENTION PRECINCT AND EVENTS

Management

- Facilitated consultation with Mackay CBD traders regarding the ongoing operations of the Mackay City Heart Sunday Markets
- With assistance from various internal stakeholders including the Mayor and Councillors hosted the Urban Local Government Association Annual Conference at the MECC, providing a range of offsite events such as the Welcome Reception at Bluewater Quay, affinity packages, and services to delegates. Excellent attention and feedback was received.
- Attended Corporate Projects Meeting, Artspace Foundation Board Meeting and City Focus Advisory Committee Meeting
- Accepted the honorary position of Secretary to Northern and Regional Australia Performing Arts Centres Association (NARPACA), having been nominated by peers for this position.
- Attended opening event for *Twelve Degrees of Latitude* a new exhibition at Artspace.
- Opened *BLUR* a community exhibition funded by RADF at Sarina Art Gallery
- Prepared MECC Performance Plan 2010/11 for endorsement by Council
- Hosted Queensland Master Builder's visit who were judging the Mackay Convention Centre's nomination in this year's Queensland Master Builder Awards.
- Facilitated the move of Captain Adrian's cannon, an important local artefact donated by the family of Captain Adrian to Council from its temporary home at the Army Barracks to its new permanent home at MECC.

Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre

The Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre is reported on in the MECC Performance Report.

Festivals and Events

Mackay Region Festival of Arts 10 - 25 July

Bookings are starting to come in for the Festival shows and the new website is up and running.

Total sponsorship raised is \$80,000 in cash and over \$50,000 in-kind for the 2010 Festival, an excellent achievement in itself, with businesses both large and small proving extremely generous. A number of new sponsors have been gained this year.

On Saturday 29 May 22,800 Festival programs were inserted into the Daily Mercury and delivered throughout the Mackay region.

Rehearsals will be starting for the Opening Night Extravaganza in early July.

Planning has also commenced for the 2011 Festival program.

Coal to Coast Festival - 11 September

Planning for the new one day format for this festival has started. The festival will revolve around three major events.

1. A Rotary organised Car Boot Swap Meet (partly modelled on the Rockhampton event).
2. The Coal Games involving school, community groups and miners.
3. A live entertainment stage with national and local bands.

River 2 Reef Festival 9 October

Sponsorship applications are about to be sent to prospective businesses.

A major fundraising Bike Riding event will start off this day.

Childhood Cancer Support will once again run the Raft Race.

Council staff will manage the Pelican Push Birdman Rally given the difficulties not for profit groups experience in obtaining public liability insurance.

Global Grooves 24 October

The Mackay Indian community are now very excited that their celebration of the Hindu festival of Diwali (festival of light) will coincide with this year's Global Grooves. They will be sponsoring and meeting the costs of a small fireworks display.

Planning is well underway for Maltese band SCORBA to run workshops prior to performing at this year's Global Grooves concert thanks to a grant from the Qld State Governments Dept of Multiculturalism.

The Diego Guerro Quintet (a Flamenco, Afro Cuban Rumba Jazz Band) will be headlining Global Grooves this year. The MECC organised this act to come to Mackay as part of an international tour.

Cr Deidre Comerford will be organising a children's national dress parade and is assisting to bring a Korean dance troupe from Brisbane.

City Centre Markets

As advised through the City Focus Advisory Committee Meeting minutes, after extensive consultation with CBD traders, the City Centre Sunday Markets will be condensed to trade in one city block to create a more vibrant market which allows better traffic flow and increased parking in the Mackay CBD.

A traffic management plan is currently being prepared, and the operation of the markets will be further reviewed in three months time.

Training & Development

Thanks to the Australia Council's *Go See Fund* which meets the cost of air travel and accommodation Festivals & Events staff found it inspiring to attend The Next Wave Festival in Melbourne, 20-22 May. A Staff member from this team will also be attending the Festival of Dreaming at Woodford 11-14 June this trip has also been fully funded.

Artspace Mackay

- 2,131 people visited Artspace Mackay during May 2010
- 609 people visited the Town Hall during May 2010
- 12,144 visits to Artspace Mackay website during May 2010

Exhibitions:

9 April -23 May	McAleese Gallery	<i>2010 Libris Awards: Australian Artists Books Prize Exhibition</i>
9 April -23 May	Foyer	<i>Assimilated Rhythm No. 4 Bint Trembuckey: Recent works by Deanna Hitti</i>
21 April – 2 May	Mackay Town Hall	<i>A Quirky Perspective by Bob Faulkner</i>
21 April – 2 May	Sarina Art Gallery	<i>Bush to Beach Sarina Art Group</i>
26 May 7 – June	Sarina Art Gallery	<i>Blur community exhibition</i>
28 May – 11 July	McAleese Gallery & Foyer	<i>Twelve Degrees of Latitude: Regional Gallery & University Art Collections in Queensland</i>
From 27 February	Cox Rayner Gallery	<i>The A-Z of Artists Books</i>
28 May – 11 July	Cox Rayner Gallery	<i>Annie Pring Marten</i>

Recycled Library: Altered Books touring exhibition

Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Victoria (12 May – 27 June 2010)

This exhibition received a very good review by Anne Kirker in the nationally distributed art journal Eyeline 71 May – July 2010 pp. 92-93 & the showing in Mornington was featured in an article in The Age newspaper on Friday 14 May 2010.

Mackay Regional Festival of Arts planning

Final arrangements have been made for the forthcoming exhibitions planned to coincide with the 2010 Mackay Regional Festival of Arts. Mr Tony Bond OAM, Assistant Director of the Art Gallery of New South Wales has agreed to open the exhibition *Paolozzi + Kitaj: British Pop Prints from the Art Gallery of NSW Collection* on Friday 16 July and give a floor talk in the exhibition on the following

day. Melbourne artist Robert Jacks and curator Peter Anderson will also travel to Mackay for the exhibition *Working Through/Turning Pages: The Artists Books of Robert Jacks*, which will open in the Foyer Gallery on the same day and will talk on Saturday.

A wide cross-section of the Mackay Regional community has already become involved with the *Mackay Region Guerrilla Knitting Project*. From pre-school children to pensioners, participants are actively knitting patches of wool to be joined together to 'tag' the city during the festival. Spotlight have donated balls of wool and needles for knit-ins planned for various location around the region and Pam Hutley will be conducting workshops at the Town Hall during the festival.

Collection

The following artists books were donated to the collection by the artists after the *2010 Libris Awards: Australian Artists Books Prize Exhibition*

Terry BARRETT	Looking at the overlooked
Patrick JONES/Peter O'MARA	How to do words with things
Ngaio LENZ	Certain people of importance)
Lyn ASHBY	Sisyphus goes home 2007

Public & Education Programs in April

5 May: Capella State High School group tour – 18 x Year 10s
8 May: Kids Art Club, Term 3 – 24 participants
12 May: Mackay State High School group tour - 45 x Yr 10 students
20 May: North Mackay State High School – 40 Year 11s
28 May: *12 Degrees* opening celebration 85 attended
29 May: *12 Degrees* floor talk – 30 attended
29 May: Meet the collection – 35 attended



Artspace Mackay Volunteers were treated to a high tea at the Botanic Gardens to thank them for their dedication

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Management

- Interviews for existing permanent staff position Principal Economic Development Officer
- Announcement of successful applicant Penne Kaddatz – to commence with ED Program from June 1, 2010.
- Attendance at REDC Networking Function – Jan Jarrett – Qld Government Regionalisation Initiatives
- Participation in Residential Densities Workshop – focus on reporting of work to date from consultants undertaking the project work. Council’s work around efficient land use offers sound economic benefits –greater efficiencies for the initial capital infrastructure costs and savings on future operational maintenance costs, with flow-ons benefiting housing affordability and pressures on productive agricultural lands.
- Meeting with REDC CEO Narelle Pearse, to discuss REDC upcoming projects proposals and initiatives
- Meetings and teleconferencing in preparation for Invest Mackay Whitsunday Isaac Conference and Study Tour, with REDC; MAIN; Mackay Sugar; Regional Development Australia; NQBP, BMA, Eureka Fund Management, REIQ and local banking sector representatives and Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal representatives.
- Attendance at Invest Mackay Whitsunday Isaac Conference, and Study Tour
- Attendance at council and NQBP sponsored luncheon with invited guests from major banks, Regional Development Australia Board and investors, to hear keynote speaker Mackay Sugar's Quinton Hildebrand. Quinton spoke about the positive and sustainable future for the Mackay region which is underpinned not only through the resource sector but through local firms such as Mackay Sugar which represents a strong, innovative contributor to the continued success of the region. Council’s continuing work with Mackay Sugar around strategic planning and future land use was lauded.



Cr Dave Perkins leads the Invest Mackay Study Tour – pictured with Alan Ruming, Chair MAIN and CEO Group Engineering, on Tour investigating development and investment opportunities at Mackay’s Paget Industrial Area.

Second Photo: Cr Dave Perkins with Hector the Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal (DBCT) Mascot, and DBCT Manager Community Relations Andrew Garratt, who organised and hosted a morning tea reception for the Study Tour participants during their tour visit to Hay Point Viewing Lookout, pictured below.



CQU Vice Chancellor Scott Bowman addresses the Invest Mackay Study Tour, showing plans for expansion at the campus with Mr Paul Zammit Rivercity Homes Managing Director and Cr Dave Perkins pictured L to R.



Cr Karen May, Portfolio Chair Community Services, lead the Panel discussion at the recent REDC Invest Mackay Whitsunday Isaac Conference. Cr May spoke on Population Growth in the region and council initiatives to meet the challenges and opportunities faced by our region which is the fastest growing planning region in the state over the coming decade. Cr May is pictured with RDA CEO Rebecca Andrews.

Second Picture: Cr May attended and co-hosted the Study Tour along with Cr Dave Perkins. Cr May is pictured at Hay Point, speaking with tour delegates.

- Attendance at ULGA Conference and promotional displays
- Attendance at the launch of the Mining Trail, co-opened by Mayor of the Mackay region, Col Meng. The launch introduces the Mining Trail Map and brochure which adds a recreational dimension for drive tourism and leisure – but also additional safe rest stopping areas for travellers in the region.



Pictured l-R :MackayTourism Ltd CEO David Phillips; Isaac Regional Council Mayor Cedric Marshall congratulates Mayor Col Meng on proudly launching The Mining Trail, at Epson on the Peak Downs Highway. This exciting initiative is a dedicated tourism route that promotes leisure visits linking the viewing attractions of Hay Point and Dalrymple Bay to the mining and natural attractions of the wider Mackay -Isaac region.

City Focus Advisory Committee

- Third Council sponsored “IN the City” May Radio and TV Campaign – airs across the region to promote and reinforce the primacy and attraction of Mackay City Centre



- Launch of Council’s free *Explore* Map – distributed free to City Centre and tourist information/accommodation houses throughout the region, as a pocket size guide to City Centre attractions and services for use by locals and visitors. MECC distribute to all visiting conference guests as part of conference information packages.



- City Centre Marketing Campaign and Website development call for public quotations results closes — The Marketing and Website consultancies will offer a standalone City Centre website, complete with business directories plus print advertisements, revamped email updates and new TV and Radio campaigns
- Council commences a three month trial of a free Sunday shuttle bus service from Canelands to the City Centre, to co-incide with the advent of Sunday Trading across the region
- City Centre redevelopment: May 4th Sod Turning Ceremony for commencement of \$210m construction works to extend Caneland Central Shopping centre incorporating • 2 Levels of Specialty Shops • New Food Court & Restaurant Precinct • 2 Level Myer Department Store • IGA Supermarket • 120 New Specialty Stores 24,000m² of New Multilevel Car Parking
- Brief for Urban Enhancement Concepts – Mackay City Centre site visits and briefing to council from consultants Hassell Pty Ltd to assist with development of a brief and identification of potential catalyst projects – identification of cross council base mapping requirements for City Centre being considered under in-house supervision.

Economic Development Materials Publications and Promotions

- Development of trial USB and materials packages for :
 - Invest Mackay Whitsunday Isaac Promotional Booth
 - Invest Mackay Study Tour
 - Promotional Booth at ULGA Conference showcasing economic development and strategic planning materials as well as taste test products from the Sarina Sugar Shed
- Mackay Business Guide preparation underway
- Planning work continues for Transit Orientated Centres investigations, study and strategy – in co-operation with Strategic Planning
- Business Email Networks continue to grow – email updates are sent weekly to members of the Business Networks in Sarina and in the City Centre. Updates communicate council messages including latest statistical and economic information, plus invitations to workshops, and seminars featuring government programs offering assistance to local business.

Consultation

There has been consultation with Community Services Program Managers.

Resource Implications

Nil.

Director's Recommendation

THAT this report be received.