

Redland City Council

# State Election Priorities 2024



## Acknowledgement of Country

Redland City Council is committed to working with Traditional Custodians, supporting their role as custodians of their traditional lands and helping ensure the future prosperity and cultural enrichment across Redlands Coast.

Council acknowledges the Goenpul, Ngugi and Noonuccal First Nations Peoples of the Quandamooka region and recognises that the Quandamooka People are the Traditional Custodians of much of Redlands Coast. Council also extends its acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians to the Danggan Balun (Five Rivers) claimant group who are currently in the process of Native Title determination for an area that crosses into southern Redlands Coast.

## Let's deliver Redlands Coast's state election priorities

Redland City Council is committed to partnering with all levels of government to deliver for our community. We have identified 10 priorities that will support the health and wellbeing of all community members, boost our local economy and create more jobs, and help our community travel around our beautiful city and surrounding areas safer and faster.

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## What is advocacy?

Advocacy is the strategic process of engaging and influencing key decision-makers to drive meaningful change. It serves as a powerful tool to raise awareness and champion projects, initiatives, and issues that matter to our community. By forging strategic partnerships with government entities, private sector stakeholders, and other relevant organisations, advocacy enables us to effectively represent and address the needs of our community.

### Why are we advocating?

Our advocacy efforts are driven by the need to collaborate with various sectors, including government bodies, agencies, peak organisations, the private sector, and the broader community. The primary goal of our advocacy activities is to align with the vision outlined in our corporate plan, *A Corporate Plan to 2026 and Beyond*, and to support the implementation of key projects and priorities that will benefit our region.

### The problems we are addressing

Our region is projected to grow by an additional 50,000 people by 2046, highlighting the urgent need for critical infrastructure and investment in our community assets. To meet the demands of this growth, our advocacy program is focused on securing essential public transport and road infrastructure.

It is important no community is left behind. Our islands, in particular, are experiencing growth but have historically received limited investment. This has led to significant disadvantages including for our young people who lack access to adequate facilities in times of need. Addressing these issues is a key priority in our advocacy efforts, as we strive to create a more equitable and connected region for all.

### How we selected our priorities

Our advocacy efforts are grounded in a strategic framework to ensure that we address the most critical needs of our community. The priorities are the result of a thorough and deliberate process, guided by five core principles that shape every aspect of our advocacy activity.

**Evidence-based:** we rely on data and research to identify and prioritise the issues that have the most significant impacts on our community. This ensures that our advocacy is informed by evidence and that our efforts are focused on areas where they can achieve the most meaningful outcomes.

**Partnerships first:** collaboration is at the heart of our advocacy approach. We actively seek to build and strengthen partnerships with key stakeholders across government, the private sector, and the community. By working together, we amplify our voice and increase the likelihood of achieving shared goals.

**Shared voice:** advocacy is most powerful when it represents a collective voice. We engage with diverse groups within our community to ensure our priorities reflect a broad consensus. This inclusive approach allows us to advocate for issues that resonate widely and are supported by a strong and united front.

**Outcomes focused:** we set clear objectives and measure our success based on the outcomes we deliver for the community. This results-oriented approach ensures our advocacy efforts lead to real, positive change.

**Always on:** advocacy is an ongoing process, not a one-time effort. We maintain a consistent and proactive presence in the advocacy space, continuously engaging with decision-makers and stakeholders to maintain momentum on key issues while remaining agile within the changing environment.

## Our 10 priorities

### Weinam Creek transport connectivity



Council is advocating for comprehensive funding for a multi-level park 'n' ride within the Weinam Creek PDA. Public transport infrastructure is a Queensland Government responsibility and Council believes improved connectivity between the mainland and Southern Moreton Bay Islands will have multiple benefits.

### Redlands Coast islands



Council is advocating for regional status recognition for Redlands Coast islands in relation to state and federal planning and funding. Council believes a partnered approach is required to address several challenges that face these communities.

### Brisbane Metro network extension



In collaboration with Brisbane City Council, Council will push for the state to deliver a business case and detailed designs for the next stage of the busway extension to Capalaba.

### Housing for vulnerable communities



Council is advocating for an increase in immediate and long-term emergency and crisis accommodation for vulnerable cohorts, in particular for Redlands Coast youth.

### Toondah Harbour



With one million passengers and 200,000 vehicles using Toondah Harbour at Cleveland each year, Council is pushing for a detailed plan and funding to upgrade port infrastructure.

### Increased utilisation of state-owned facilities



Council is advocating for a strategic partnership commitment to address critical sporting infrastructure deficits by investing in and unlocking state-owned land and recreation facilities, to build capacity for sporting clubs and organisations to increase participation.

### Wellington Street / Panorama Drive upgrades



Council is advocating for \$80 million in funding to concurrently deliver stages two and three of the road upgrade program.

### Community residence



Council is advocating for revision of the current provisions for "community residence" in the *Planning Regulation 2017* to consider the amenity of existing community and local planning overlays. Current state planning laws are overriding local planning.

### Improved clarity for Native Title process



The aim is to remove uncertainty and provide greater clarity for all to participate in Native Title processes. This includes additional state involvement in determining where Native Title has been extinguished in response to all claims.

### Local health services maintained in line with population growth

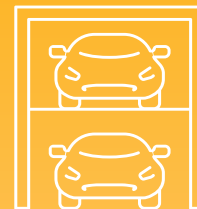


Pushing for a commitment that adequate health services be provided and/or maintained on Redlands Coast in line with population growth.



## PRIORITY ONE

# Weinam Creek transport connectivity



Public transport  
is a Queensland  
Government  
responsibility

## Ask

Redland City Council seeks comprehensive funding from the Queensland Government for a multi-level park 'n' ride facility within the Weinam Creek Priority Development Area (PDA).

## Why is this critical?

Redland Bay Marina is set to be transformed into a vibrant waterfront precinct for all the community to enjoy. As the gateway to the Southern Moreton Bay Islands (SMBI), this project will stimulate tourism to the islands and support broader tourism from south-east Queensland, creating 700 jobs and generating almost \$30 million for the local economy. Construction of a multi-level car park to service visitors to the Marina precinct is expected to commence in 2025.

Current car parking arrangements within the PDA for locals and visitors looking to travel to and from the SMBIs do not meet existing demand. This shortfall is expected to worsen as tourism ramps up and the number of people choosing to live on the islands increases – more than 170 new houses are being built every year on the SMBIs (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2022). Everyone in the community should have the opportunity to conveniently access and use public transport.

## Community benefits

- transport upgrade
- parking to meet current and future demand
- a safer and easier commute for residents and visitors
- improved access to health, employment and education
- improved social and economic outcomes, helping break the cycle of disadvantage
- tourism potential
- supported population growth (as forecast by the Queensland Government).

Council is committed to working in partnership with the Queensland Government to grow the Queensland visitor economy and meet housing targets. Economic growth must align with investment in critical infrastructure that supports transport connectivity.



# Redlands Coast islands



Council recognises the complex challenges facing our island communities and seeks to work in partnership with other levels of government to support standards of living equitable to those throughout the greater south-east Queensland region.

## Ask

Redland City Council seeks a commitment from the Queensland Government to deliver initiatives that will improve liveability and future-proof our island communities from social disadvantage, including:

- regional status recognition for state and federal planning and funding
- commitment to coordinate an interagency working group
- development of an implementation plan and adequate funding to support delivery of the Queensland Government's Gumpi Master Plan
- introduction of Translink smart ticketing for North Stradbroke Island (Minjerribah) and Coochiemudlo Island.

## Why is this critical?

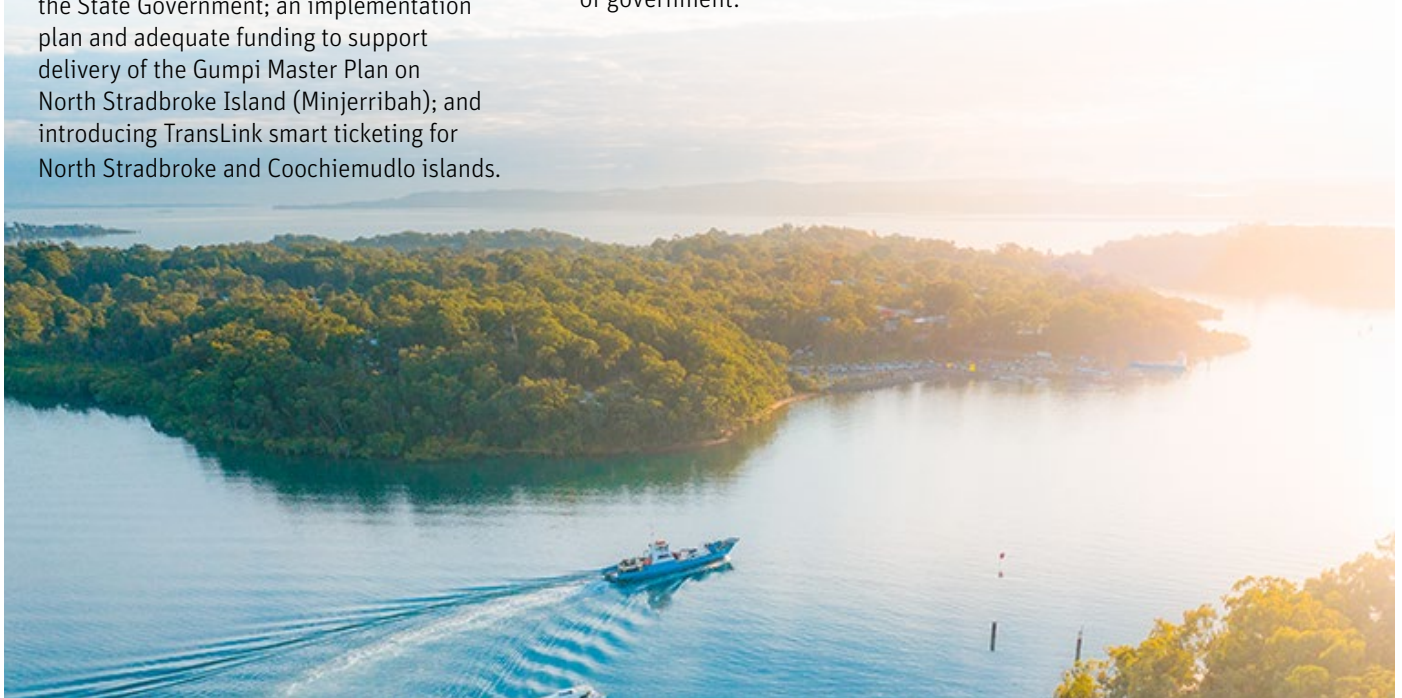
Despite facing regional social challenges – such as high unemployment, low education, and concerning health and aged care outcomes – the islands do not have regional status recognition when it comes to state and federal planning and funding.

Regional status would allow access to further funding that is better aligned with regional challenges and allow for significant planning and infrastructure upgrades.

Council would like to see an interagency working group for the islands coordinated by the State Government; an implementation plan and adequate funding to support delivery of the Gumpi Master Plan on North Stradbroke Island (Minjerribah); and introducing TransLink smart ticketing for North Stradbroke and Coochiemudlo islands.

## Community benefits

- regional status allows access to further funding, better aligned with regional challenges
- regional funding would allow significant planning and infrastructure upgrades
- the Gumpi Master Plan implementation is needed to detail funding and delivery responsibility
- an interagency working group would see pooled resources, information sharing and prioritisation from different levels of government.



## PRIORITY THREE

# Brisbane Metro network extension



### Ask

Redland City Council seeks a commitment from the Queensland Government to:

- continue to collaborate with Redland City Council and Brisbane City Council to deliver a business case and detailed designs for the next stage of the Brisbane Metro route extension to Capalaba
- provide clarity around the future bus interchange facilities at Capalaba, including the ongoing need for future busway tunnel protection provisions and the impact this provision is having upon planning for the Capalaba Town Centre Revitalisation Project.

### Why is this critical?

The Capalaba Town Centre Revitalisation Project will transform land behind Capalaba Central Shopping Centre into a mixed-use urban heart, with exemplar public spaces including a new library, customer service centre, innovative spaces for the arts and community hall. The project will accommodate an employment hub supported by an innovative public realm and a diverse mix of dining, retail and entertainment uses that will create a day/night economy.

The first stage of works are expected to commence in early 2025 with planning underway for the works involving the bus interchange facilities.

This route would service several Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games venues, delivering a true legacy before and after the Games.

### Community benefits

- improved access to public transport
- better connectivity between Redlands and greater Brisbane
- supported population growth
- eased congestion, quicker commutes
- economic, tourism and employment opportunities
- improved liveability
- improved environmental outcomes via alleviated congestion and emissions.

Council has identified extending the Eastern Busway to Capalaba as a priority in our Redlands Coast Transport Strategy.

Council's long-term vision extends beyond the initial stage to Capalaba. Future phases will enhance connectivity for our growing region, particularly in the south where communities are rapidly expanding and facilities need to evolve.





## PRIORITY FOUR

# Housing for vulnerable communities



### Ask

Redland City Council seeks commitment from the Queensland Government to increase immediate and long-term emergency and crisis accommodation for vulnerable cohorts, in particular our youth.

### Why is this critical?

The housing crisis being experienced across Australia has severely impacted support and accommodation providers in Redlands Coast. Our city has areas of socio-economic disadvantage that are potentially even more susceptible to housing pressures, including the Southern Moreton Bay Islands, which rank in the bottom four percentile for Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) in Australia. This means that 96 percent of communities in Australia are better off against social and economic indicators.

There is currently no crisis accommodation for young people in Redlands and only one youth housing support service in the city. Too many of our youth are sleeping rough and couch-surfing, and even more are at risk.

### Community benefits

- provision of secure and stable homes for our youth that can support access to basic needs and lead to better career and employment outcomes
- provision of accommodation that enables youth to live independently in the area where their networks and sense of place are located
- expanded crisis accommodation to support vulnerable and at-risk community members in their time of need.

In early 2024 the Queensland Government announced five new youth foyers for Queensland. Youth foyers provide accommodation for young people who are in need of a safe and stable environment to live in as they build their future as adults and who are also committed to engaging in education, training or employment. Staffed by experienced youth support workers 24/7, youth foyers provide security and support to young tenants.

A youth foyer in Redlands Coast would be invaluable for our vulnerable young community members who are ready to step into adult life.



## PRIORITY FIVE

# Toondah Harbour



The port at Toondah Harbour has not received any significant capital investment since the 1970s. An estimated injection of \$200 million is needed to future-proof the terminal and public navigation channel and create capacity for tourism growth.

### Ask

Redland City Council seeks commitment from the Queensland Government to develop a detailed plan and funding to upgrade port infrastructure at Toondah Harbour, along with integrated transport upgrades to optimise access and connectivity.

### Why is this critical?

As the gateway to Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island), Toondah Harbour is an important transport and tourism hub for residents and overnight visitors. Each year, one million passengers and 200,000 vehicles use Toondah Harbour.

The proposed development for Toondah Harbour by Walker Group that now has been withdrawn was set to deliver much needed revitalisation and visitor accommodation. The port has received no capital investment since the 1970s.

### Community benefits

- improved liveability and amenity benefits for the local community
- improved connectivity for locals and visitors
- economic benefits of approximately \$3 billion: tourism, housing, retail opportunities and 500 local jobs
- potential for Redlands to position itself as a tourism destination ahead of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games
- support for North Stradbroke Island's continuing economic transition from sandmining to tourism.





# Increased utilisation of state-owned sporting facilities



## Ask

Redland City Council seeks commitment from the Queensland Government to work in partnership with Council to address critical sporting infrastructure deficits by investing in and activating Queensland Government owned land and recreation facilities, to build capacity for sporting clubs and organisations to increase participation.

## Why is this critical?

Redlands Coast's existing shortfall of land and infrastructure for sport and recreation is set to worsen over the next five to 10 years as housing developments in the south of the city come online and our population sees significant increase. While a potential solution lies in sharing state school facilities, current Queensland Government policy instructs that community access to state school facilities is at the discretion of the school principal at the time.

## Community benefits

- better use of community assets by increasing asset utilisation
- addresses shortfall of sport and recreation land for our growing community
- better outcomes for schools, community clubs and competitions
- better engagement with and access to sport
- improved community wellbeing and social cohesion.

Activating state-owned facilities, such as schools, will help address capacity issues and enable increased participation in sport by alleviating the shortfall of sporting land in our city. This will improve health, liveability and social outcomes.



## PRIORITY SEVEN

# Wellington Street/ Panorama Drive upgrades



### Ask

Redland City Council seeks \$80 million in funding from the Queensland Government to concurrently deliver Stages 2 and 3 of the Wellington Street/Panorama Drive Road upgrade program.

### Why is this critical?

Stage 1 works on this important road upgrade project are nearing completion. Delivery of Stages 2 and 3 are dependent on external funding opportunities.

### Community benefits

- concurrent delivery of Stages 2 and 3 will see the full project delivered quicker, with fewer impacts to residents and road users, and at a lower cost than delivering the stages separately
- improved access to Redlands Hospital precinct
- improved journey to work times and decreased peak hour congestion
- increased vehicle, cyclist and pedestrian safety
- creation of approximately 140 jobs.

Stage 1 works have benefited from the Australian Government providing \$15 million towards intersection upgrades along the route through the *Infrastructure Investment Program* and the Queensland Government providing \$465,000 through the *Cycle Network Local Government Grants Program 2021-2022*.





# Community residence



## Ask

Redland City Council seeks commitment from the Queensland Government to review the current provisions for 'community residence' in *Planning Regulation 2017* to consider the amenity of existing community and local planning overlays.

## Why is this critical?

State planning laws are overriding local planning laws and design requirements to authorise community housing apartments, multiple dwelling apartment buildings and youth justice facilities in low density residential areas (and other zones) with little or no boundary setbacks or height restrictions, without public consultation. Community members are being negatively impacted, with one case citing loss of

privacy, loss of sunlight, decrease in solar power, impacts on mental health and wellbeing, decrease in property value and loss of enjoyment of own property.

## Community benefits

- mitigation of risks and impacts for existing residents and users of housing facilities
- improved community wellbeing
- improved liveability.

The *Planning Regulation 2017* prescribes a 'community residence' as being exempt from planning approval, not needing to meet local government requirements and not needing to apply with the Queensland development code. Inappropriately placed dwellings are leading to adverse planning and building outcomes impacting the privacy, wellbeing and reasonable expectations of users and neighbouring residents.



# Improved clarity on Native Title process



## Ask

Redland City Council seeks commitment from the Queensland Government to:

- remove uncertainty and provide greater clarity for all to participate in Native Title processes
- provide more involvement in determining where Native Title has been extinguished in response to all claims
- provide confidence that access for all community members, and public works, will be allowed to continue in areas under claim and determination.

## Why is this critical?

Approximately 3,500 parcels of Council-owned land are included in the Quandamooka Coast Native Title claim that is currently being considered.

A Native Title claim process is costly, for both claimants and responders.

## Community benefits

- better understanding of processes and more effective consideration of claims
- reduced legal expenses for both claimants and responders
- reduced negotiation time and better efficiency with lower chances of litigation
- collaborative engagement to support access to and enjoyment of our parks and open spaces
- licence for Council to move forward with land management and delivery of community infrastructure.

Redland City Council acknowledges the important step Native Title plays in our broader reconciliation journey, and advocates for these changes to improve the shared understanding for Native Title holders.

A Native Title claim process can be extensive and expensive. Clarity and certainty around the process would benefit all parties and improve timeliness and efficiency of resources.





# Local health services maintained in line with population growth



## Ask

Redland City Council seeks commitment from the Queensland Government to provide and/or maintain adequate health services in line with population growth.

## Why is this critical?

Redlands Coast's population is set to grow significantly in the coming years, with 25,000 people forecast for the Southern Thornlands Growth Area. Unfortunately, an existing shortfall in health professionals is worsening as our population increases. Concerns around this shortfall are heightened by the fact that 37.2% of our residents are living with a long-term health condition.

Health is a Queensland Government service provision and the current government has announced Stage 2 funding for the Redland Hospital Expansion project. Council would

also like to see the Queensland Government helping to ensure our community has access to a pool of healthcare professionals, to avoid situations like the closure of services such as the Mater Mothers Private Redland maternity ward that closed on 26 May 2024.

## Community benefits

- equitable access to high quality and reliable health services locally
- improved quality of life through excellence in health service provision
- power of choice for public or private services, without the trade-off of locality.

Redland City Council is grateful for the significant funding the current State and Federal Governments have committed to the Redland Hospital Expansion project. Council is eagerly awaiting the delivery of these important facilities and services for the growing Redlands Coast community.

The Redland Hospital Expansion project includes:

- Stage 1, which is currently underway and will deliver a new Intensive Care Unit and additional beds to increase hospital capacity
- Stage 2, which will deliver a new mental health facility.



