

2020 State Election

Strategic Priorities Summary

About Gladstone Regional Council and the Gladstone Region

With a vision to connect, innovate and diversify, Gladstone Regional Council's culture is proudly defined by community connectedness, a drive for innovation and the celebration of diversity. Gladstone Regional Council is committed to working together to balance the region's lifestyle and opportunity for the 62,979 residents which call the region home. Spanning over 10,489 square kilometres the region encompasses a vast landscape, from coastline to country, rural townships to major industry. Council aims to make true connections with the community and our environment which are safe, ethical, responsive, visionary, inclusive, community centric and efficient. Council is continually seeking innovative opportunities that support smart infrastructure decisions and operational excellence. A focus on diversification helps grow the region and expand opportunities.



Gladstone Heavy Vehicle Transport Corridor including Gladstone Port Access Road Stage 2 \$72M - \$454M

Connecting Western Queensland to the Port of Gladstone through road improvements along the Dawson Highway to accommodate the movement of Type 1 heavy vehicles.

BENEFITS

- Improved road safety
- Unlock regional economic benefits

Inland Rail Extension to the Port of Gladstone

Linking the Inland Rail to the Port of Gladstone. This will unlock long-term regional economic benefits and improve road safety while reducing land and sea transport congestion in South East Queensland.

BENEFITS

- Improved road safety
- Unlock regional economic benefits

Gladstone Coal Exporters Sports Complex - Marley Brown Oval \$41M

A key component of the Master Plan for the Gladstone Coal Exporters Sports Complex is the development of a year round multi-purpose sports and events complex with the capacity and facilities to host sporting matches at national, state and local level.

BENEFITS

- Provides the ability to host major events
- Promote economic development

Boyne Tannum Aquatic Recreation Centre (BTARC) \$21M

Analysis of the Aquatic facility supply in the region and from beyond the area, identified significant gaps in facilities and services on offer for the community. This is supported the long held and strong desire of the community for an aquatic recreation centre in the area.

BENEFITS

- Delivery of an important piece of social infrastructure for a regional community and economic development
- Improve community health and Wellbeing outcomes
- Improve community water safety outcomes



Boyne Burnett Inland Rail Trail (BBIRT) \$20.5M

A rail trail is a multi-use recreation trail running on a disused rail corridor (public land) for nonmotorized recreation.

BENEFITS

- The development of a regionally significant attraction establishing a highly recognised rail trail destination fit for cycling, walking and horse-riding, as part of the Queensland Inland Rail Trail network.
- Taking trail users through towns will provide new business opportunities for service providers and improve the regional economy.
- Improvements to community connectivity. The trail will make an actual connection between the towns and villages en route – one that reinforces historic connections and drives economic development.
- Increasing recreational options and improved health and economic outcomes for local people.
- Possible \$6M injection into the local economies per annum in operation

Jumpstart City Heart - Harbour Arbour \$7M

The Jumpstart our City Heart Urban Renewal Strategy was created to guide future development and new social, economic and environmental opportunities for Gladstone's Central Business District (CBD).

BENEFITS

- Re-establishing Goondoon Street as Gladstone's main street by improving economic and development opportunities within the CBD.
- Creating a unique identity for the CBD and achieving a sense of arrival.
- Recognising the city's heritage as an important asset and improving the quality of public spaces and streets.
- Creating a CBD destination that provides entertainment for the entire Gladstone region.
- Investigating alternative transport options for ease of access into and throughout the CBD.
- Converting grey space to green space and improving connectivity to active open spaces.

Round Hill Creek – Channel Access Improvement \$1.5M Capital & \$500K p.a. maintenance

In recent years, the naturally designated channel allowing vessels to navigate Round Hill Creek in Seventeen Seventy has gradually shallowed, due to natural coastal processes which has caused problems at low tides for all vessels. Concerns include safety for Volunteer Marine Rescue (VMR) and recreational vessels at low tide, as well as economic limitations for commercial vessels and tourists visiting the world class tourism destination and the reef.

BENEFITS

- Improving marine vessel accessibility through the Round Hill Creek mouth will lead to increased tourism and commercial opportunities within the Seventeen Seventy and Agnes Water communities.
- The current \$315m annual value of tourism in the region could grow up to \$348m over the next 5 years with better tourism vessel access to the Reef.
- Local fishermen and recreational users of the creek are able to safely and efficiently access a range of locations
- Volunteer Marine Rescue can respond to all marine emergencies, regardless of the tides.

Age Friendly Community Strategy

Gladstone Regional Council acknowledges the opportunities and challenges presented by the ageing of our population. High numbers of our seniors choose to make a sea change out of the region and we lose an important element of our community. The Council wants to work with key agencies in the sector to develop an age friendly community to encourage our seniors to stay in the Gladstone region.

Legislative Recognition of Community interest in Gladstone Area Water Board

Council acknowledges and welcomes bipartisan support for the return of 50% of the Dividend and Tax Equivalent Payments (DTEP) to the community. Council seeks assistance to gain visibility of forecasting of future returns to our community.

Distribution Priority Area (DPA) for General Practitioners

The removal of the Gladstone Region from the Distribution Priority Area (DPA) for General Practitioners effective 25 July 2019 impacts the ability to attract overseas trained doctors.

The number of applications lodged by Australian trained doctors with practices in our Region in the past decade has been low.

