



# **SPECIAL COUNCIL**

## **PUBLIC MINUTES**

**MONDAY 14 APRIL 2014 AT 9.06AM**

**Council Members >>**

The Mayor, Councillor Jenny Hill  
Councillor Suzanne Blom  
Councillor Colleen Doyle  
Councillor Gary Eddiehausen APM  
Councillor Pat Ernst  
Councillor Ray Gartrell  
Councillor Jenny Lane  
Councillor Anthony Parsons  
Councillor Trevor Roberts  
Councillor Vern Veitch  
Councillor Les Walker

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## Goals and Strategies of Townsville City Council >>

### Corporate Plan >>

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#### Goal 1 - Economic Sustainability. A robust, diverse and sustainable economy

##### The outcomes we want to achieve:

##### **A robust, prosperous economy which provides opportunities for business and investment.**

- 1.1 Promote investment and assist the development of emergent industries and businesses.
- 1.2 Engage with regional, state and national stakeholders in the creation of a strong and resilient economy.
- 1.3 Increase the city's profile through marketing initiatives, the delivery of festivals and events and support for other community based activities.
- 1.4 Promote the city's distinctive physical character and strong sense of place and identity.

##### **An integrated approach to long term planning which supports a growing city.**

- 1.5 Develop an integrated approach to the long term provision of infrastructure.
- 1.6 Undertake city and regional planning to reflect the aspirations of the community and create an attractive place to live, work and visit.

##### **Infrastructure that meets community needs.**

- 1.7 Provide and maintain timely and sustainable infrastructure.
- 1.8 Provide asset management practices which reflect the community's expectations regarding service levels and its ability to pay.

#### Goal 2 - Environmental Sustainability. Our environment is valued, protected and healthy

##### The outcomes we want to achieve:

##### **Effective management and protection of our natural and built environment through sustainable growth and development.**

- 2.1 Provide strategic and integrated planning and policy development to sustain our environment.
  - 2.2 Effective management, protection and conservation of our natural environment.
  - 2.3 Preserve and protect places of natural and heritage significance.
- ##### **Demonstrated environmental leadership.**
- 2.4 Develop and implement an Integrated Water Management Strategy.
  - 2.5 Develop and implement innovative waste management and recycling strategies.
  - 2.6 Minimise greenhouse gas emissions from council's infrastructure, operations and services through sustainable energy practices.
  - 2.7 Partner with the community and industry stakeholders to develop and promote environmental protection and sustainability initiatives.
  - 2.8 Develop and implement environmental compliance programs and promote community awareness.

##### **Climatic effects on our community, natural and built environment are minimised.**

- 2.9 Mitigate and communicate the risks and effects of climate change.

#### Goal 3 - Social Sustainability - Enhancement of opportunities for social engagement and wellbeing

##### The outcomes we want to achieve:

##### **A safe and healthy community.**

- 3.1 Improve the safety and well-being of the community through the management of public health risks.
- 3.2 Plan for and provide active and healthy lifestyle opportunities.
- 3.3 Coordinate council's response to natural disasters to minimise the effects on the community.

##### **A cohesive and self reliant community.**

- 3.4 Foster the development of the city as a learning community.
- 3.5 Encourage and facilitate the participation and integration of residents into the community.
- 3.6 Strengthen community networks to collaboratively deliver community services.

##### **A community with access to services and facilities.**

- 3.7 Plan for community facilities and services to meet the community's current and future needs.
- 3.8 Provide community services and facilities to meet the needs of the community.
- 3.9 Provide community support services to meet the needs of the community.

##### **A creative community.**

- 3.10 Facilitate and showcase artistic learning and expression through performances, exhibitions, activities and programs.
- 3.11 Support community participation in cultural activities, programs and events.

#### Goal 4 - Responsible Governance - Responsible leadership where decisions are made in a considered and transparent manner

##### The outcomes we want to achieve:

##### **Transparent and accountable local government.**

- 4.1 Develop and implement council's Corporate Governance Framework to ensure strategic planning, compliance with all legislation, policies, Codes of Practice and Standards.
- 4.2 Implement robust risk management strategies.
- 4.3 Encourage community participation and ensure that the community is informed and educated about matters that impact their lives.

##### **A competent, productive and contributing workforce.**

- 4.4 Foster a culture of employee health, safety and well-being.
- 4.5 Implement human resource strategies to become an employer of choice.
- 4.6 Foster diversity, merit and equity, reward and recognition in the workplace.

##### **Excellence in customer service delivery and organisational management.**

- 4.7 Provide responsive and efficient systems to enable the delivery of council services.
- 4.8 Establish and manage long term financial planning to ensure the future sustainability of council.

# MINUTES

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**REPORT            COUNCIL MEETING**

**DATE                Monday 14 April 2014 at 9.06am**

**ITEMS                1**

**PRESENT**        The Mayor, Councillor J Hill  
                         Councillor V Veitch  
                         Councillor S Blom  
                         Councillor C Doyle  
                         Councillor G Eddiehausen APM  
                         Councillor P Ernst  
                         Councillor R Gartrell  
                         Councillor J Lane  
                         Councillor A Parsons  
                         Councillor T Roberts  
                         Councillor L Walker

**Opening of Meeting**

The Chair, Mayor Councillor J Hill opened the meeting at 9.06am.

**DRAFT CITY PLAN**

**The Mayor's speech:**

"Today Councillors we meet to discuss and debate the merits and strengths of the proposed planning scheme.

This document has been five years in the making and it is the final phase of amalgamation, the merger of Townsville and Thuringowa planning policies.

This has not been an easy task for staff, Paul Johnston has been a part of this project over the whole period. And to Paul Johnston and Phillipa Maddocks and all the other staff in the City Plan Unit, can I place on public record the thanks of this council for your work. They undertook a wide range of community consultation and received more than 4700 submissions. These submissions ranged from petitions to letters to formal submissions by consultants. But I will talk further about the community view later.

I wish to provide an overview to council of the plan.

The first page of this new planning scheme begins with the Strategic Vision from our Community Plan, which is: Townsville is the Northern Gateway to Queensland. Our well-built city connects people to their community, via an active lifestyle that is enjoyed by all who live and visit. We are leaders of positive environmental action. We are acclaimed for our business entrepreneurship, government enterprise innovation technology and cultural stewardship.

And that is our role today, to now determine how this plan, a plan developed by our staff based on the technical framework as set down by the QPP fits our community.

The Townsville City Plan is a 25 year plan, within its strategic framework it has a strategic intent that includes, providing a range of housing choices for the future, yet it hopes to direct new infill developments that will be 30% of the growth of housing around the major centres of this City.

The CBD is the City's principal centre and the cornerstone of the plan with much of the infill development as it is part of a broader strategy to make our city more compact. Yet this inner urban lifestyle will be supported by green spaces and public places in the City's activity centres.

In conjunction with centres such as Aitkenvale, Hyde Park and Thuringowa Central. These will be our key economic and community hubs. As well transport corridors are identified as part of this plan including bikeways, pedestrian links and public transport linkages.

Ross River Road is the initial focus of these public transport linkages that will connect Thuringowa Central, Aitkenvale and the CBD to the hospital JCU precinct.

But we also need reliable and safe freight transport linkages that underpin our industrial growth. They have been identified as part of this plan.

Our older suburbs will not experience substantial change. Our neighbourhood character will be identified and remain intact with special residential character protected by this plan.

The plan hopes to protect our fragile coastline and our natural assets. Areas such as Rollingstone, Toomulla, Balgal Beach, Toolakea and Saunders Beach, Magnetic Island and Paluma do not expand or accommodate any additional growth.

The plan will designate future greenfield development where the majority of our residential development will occur. However the plan is proposing to reduce the size of residential blocks to 400m<sup>2</sup> a change from the traditional residential block of 600m<sup>2</sup> and allow the dual occupancy on the new block size. While industry may support this change and in fact many request block size of 300m<sup>2</sup> we must decide is this the shape of our city or will it cause problems for future generations, and in many ways is this truly affordable living.

A part of the plan is driven by forecast economic growth, and this growth is anticipated to be in transport storage and logistic industries, manufacturing, the knowledge economy, aviation industries, health, professional services, building and tourism. 50,000 new jobs will be required by 2031.

This plan identifies industrial land that exists in Garbutt and Shaws Road, while new opportunities exist in Townsville Airport, Roseneath and the State Development area. While council has little control on the SDA, the significance of this site is identified in our plan.

These industrial areas must be protected from urban encroachment if we are to have future growth and employment in our region. The problem our community has with industrial areas has been based on planning conflict between the previous two city plans. We believe that the new plan will result in a better outcome in the future.

Underpinning the plan will be community infrastructure and the cost of delivery to the community. The priority infrastructure plans will determine a standard and cost to the provision of these services that best meets community and environment requirements.

Our growing population and the accommodation of at least 45,000 new homes needed in the next 25 years will require employment, sound transport, community and environmental places that will allow a modern lifestyle to exist and thrive.

So does this plan have it right? That is the discussion to be had today.

Our community has certain expectations about lifestyle, about community, about their streets, their suburb, their neighbourhood and their City.

This is a technical plan and now we will discuss and debate the merits of this plan if it meets our community standard for councillors we are here to represent the community. We are here today to apply that standard to this plan.

Councillors, staff received 4743 submissions on the plan of which 1243 were individual letters, some supported the scheme, many call for changes to their particular site, others for protection of such areas as The Strand, growth for the Upper Ross, protection for Magnetic Island yet support for Arcadia development. Density in Aitkenvale and Hyde Park were part of the submissions by the mums and dads of our community.

Do we have the mix right? Is this plan likely to affect the life of our community, their business, their home? Will it improve their community? What could be lost? What could be achieved? Is it all about economic drivers? What is the cost to the community? Is this what our community will want and accept?

Councillors we are here now as the communities' representatives, to ask the question, to apply a community standard to the plan. When we come out of closed session I am sure there will be a number of amendments to the scheme.

I ask councillors to respect the confidentiality of the submitters on matters that will be discussed.

Thank you councillors."

**The Mayor, Councillor J Hill sought assurances from councillors and officers that they had not discussed submissions with third parties or parties not directly involved with the submitters.**

### **Apologies and Leave of Absence**

There were no apologies or leave of absence.

### **Confidential Items**

**It was MOVED by Councillor V Veitch, SECONDED by Councillor P Ernst:**

"that council RESOLVE to close the meeting in accordance with Section 275 (g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

Section 275 (g) any action to be taken by the local government under the Sustainable Planning Act 2009, including deciding applications made to it under that Act."

**CARRIED**

The council discussed the item.

### **Meeting Adjournment**

The Chair, Mayor Councillor J Hill adjourned the meeting from 11.12am to 11.30am and from 1.03pm to 2.00pm and from 3.05pm to 3.20pm.

### **Meeting Recommencement**

The Chair, Mayor Councillor J Hill reopened the meeting at 3.20pm.

All Councillors were present at the recommencement of the meeting.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor L Walker, **SECONDED** by Councillor P Ernst:

"that council RESOLVE to move out of confidential section."

**CARRIED**

## Officers Reports

### 1 **CONFIDENTIAL REPORT Strategic Planning - City Planning Unit - Proceeding with Draft City Plan**

#### **CONFIDENTIAL REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**Authorised by** Director Planning and Development  
**Department** Strategic Planning  
**Date** 31 March 2014

#### **Executive Summary**

Council has considered all properly made submissions following the completion of the public consultation period for the proposed Townsville City Council planning scheme (Draft City Plan).

In response to issues raised in the submissions, the integration of state interests in terms of the new State Planning Policy (December 2013) and the new Queensland Planning Provisions version 3.0 (25 October 2013), changes have been made to the Draft City Plan and associated planning scheme policies. The changes have not resulted in a significantly different version of the Draft City Plan (including planning scheme policies) to the version released for public consultation.

Council is now required to decide how to proceed with the Draft City Plan and associated planning scheme policies (with changes), advise each submitter how council has dealt with their submission and write to the Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning seeking approval to adopt the Draft City Plan and providing written notice of submission matters related to the planning scheme policies.

#### **Officer's Recommendation**

1. That the report/attachment be deemed a confidential document and be treated as such in accordance with Sections 275 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and that the document remain confidential unless council decides otherwise by resolution.
2. That pursuant to Section 117(1), Part 5, Chapter 3 of the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*, council endorse the proposed Townsville City Council planning scheme (Draft City Plan – April 2014 version) and associated planning scheme policies and write to the Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning seeking approval to adopt the Draft City Plan and to provide written notice on submission matters related to the planning scheme policies.
3. That a response be provided to each submitter outlining how council has dealt with their submission.



## **Council Decision**

**It was MOVED by Councillor G Eddiehausen, SECONDED by Councillor P Ernst:**

"that officer's recommendation 1 be adopted."

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**It was MOVED by Councillor C Doyle, SECONDED by Councillor R Gartrell:**

"that the geographical boundaries as listed in the current scheme (City Plan 2005) be maintained to define the proposed mixed use zone on Bowen Road in the new City Plan."

**The motion was LOST.**

**It was MOVED by the Mayor, Councillor J Hill, SECONDED by Councillor P Ernst:**

"that property no 528829 be included in the new City Plan as an emergent community."

**The motion was LOST.**

**It was MOVED by Councillor R Gartrell, SECONDED by Councillor L Walker:**

"that the Aitkenvale area bound by Caroline, Alfred, Anne and Arthur Streets be moved to a medium density precinct to a maximum of three storeys."

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**It was MOVED by The Mayor, Councillor J Hill, SECONDED by Councillor V Veitch:**

"that the schedule (6.10) for parking reflect 1.5 car parks for multiple dwellings in the Principal Centre Area precinct rather than 1.3 as proposed in the draft City Plan."

**CARRIED**

**It was MOVED by The Mayor, Councillor J Hill, SECONDED by Councillor L Walker:**

"that The Strand heights reflected from Howitt Street along the Strand to Leichhardt Street, bounded by Mitchell Street, reflect the current City Plan of 2005 and be incorporated into the new City Plan."

**The motion was LOST.**

**It was MOVED by Councillor L Walker, SECONDED by Councillor V Veitch:**

"that pursuant to Section 117(1), Part 5, Chapter 3 of the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*, council endorse the proposed Townsville City Council planning scheme (Draft City Plan – April 2014 version) and associated planning scheme policies and write to the Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning seeking approval to adopt the Draft City Plan with the amendments carried at this meeting and to provide written notice on submission matters related to the planning scheme policies. "

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**It was MOVED by Councillor Parson SECONDED by Councillor S Blom:**

"that officer's recommendation 3 be adopted."

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**The Chair, Mayor Councillor J Hill, the Chief Executive Officer, Ray Burton and the Chair of Planning and Development Committee, Councillor A Parsons thanked staff and Councillors for their input into the draft City Plan.**

**Close of Meeting**

The Chair, Mayor Councillor J Hill declared the meeting closed at 3.58pm.

**CONFIRMED this**

**day of**

**2014**

**MAYOR**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**