



Hon Steven Miles MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for State Development, Infrastructure,
Local Government and Planning
Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure

Our ref: MC22/2487

18 AUG 2023

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Councillor Jenny Hill
Mayor
Townsville City Council
mayor@townsville.qld.gov.au

ABN 65 959 415 158

Dear Councillor Hill

I refer to the Townsville City Council's letter of 14 June 2022 advising of the council's decision to make major amendment Package 1 (the proposed amendment) to the *Townsville City Plan 2014*. I am writing to notify you of the outcome of the state interest review in accordance with chapter 2, part 4, section 17.5 of the Minister's Guidelines and Rules (MGR).

As part of the state interest review and in accordance with section 17.2 of the MGR, planning officers of the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (the department) together with officers from other state agencies have assessed the proposed amendment against the *Planning Act 2016*, the *Planning Regulation 2017* and the state interests contained in the *State Planning Policy 2017*, the *North Queensland Regional Plan 2020* and other legislation.

I am pleased to advise that in accordance with section 17.5 of the MGR I am satisfied the proposed amendment, as submitted to the department on 20 February and 8 May 2023, appropriately integrates the relevant state interests, subject to the enclosed conditions and advice.

One of the Ministerial conditions requires the council to complete an evidence-driven housing strategy for the Townsville local government area as housing choice, diversity, affordable living and market confidence remains one of the biggest issues facing Queensland. I understand the council has already committed to undertaking this work and I strongly recommend that it is undertaken as a matter of priority to inform a future amendment of the planning scheme.

The conditions for the proposed amendment must be complied with by the stated timeframes. I note that the council is required to comply with a number of conditions prior to proceeding to public consultation. Public consultation is to be undertaken in accordance with the communications strategy provided to the department on 14 December 2022.

I appreciate the considerable effort that has gone into the proposed amendment to date. I encourage the council to continue to engage with departmental officers both during and after public consultation, to ensure the successful implementation of the proposed amendment.

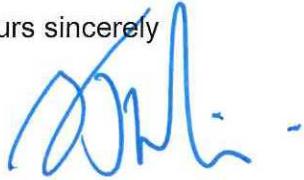
An update is also requested regarding the council's progress in complying with the Ministerial conditions associated with the previous *Lansdown (Woodstock Industrial Precinct) major amendment*, as a response was anticipated at the end of 2022. Further information on this matter is included in the enclosed advice.

As a final point, I would encourage the council to reduce the size and scope of future amendments to the planning scheme to support a more streamlined assessment and approval process. Confirming proposed amendments align with the requirements of the MGR will also streamline the process.

The department is available to support the council for all future amendments. This support includes undertaking preliminary state interest checks and coordination of state agency workshops prior to the formal lodgement of a planning scheme amendment.

If you require any further information regarding this matter, please contact Ms Katharine Wright, Chief of Staff in my office, by email at katharine.wright@ministerial.qld.gov.au or by telephone on (07) 3719 7100.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "MILES".

STEVEN MILES MP
DEPUTY PREMIER
Minister for State Development, Infrastructure,
Local Government and Planning
Minister Assisting the Premier on
Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure

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