

TOWNSVILLE 2032 LEGACY

ACTION PLAN 2025 – 2028



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Townsville City Council acknowledges the Wulgurukaba of Gurambilbarra and Yunbenun, Bindal, Gugu Badhun and Nywaigi as the Traditional Owners of this land. We pay our respects to their cultures, their ancestors and their Elders, past, present and all future generations.

About this Action Plan

This document is a live plan which will be updated to reflect progression of outcomes or shifts in priorities.

The most up-to-date version of this document will always be available at the Townsville City Council website.





BIG GOALS. BIG DREAMS.

Message from the chair

The Brisbane 2032 Games will be here before we know it – it's up to all of us, as a community, to leverage maximum returns for Townsville from this event.

As the primary location outside of South East Queensland, Townsville should provide the same advantages as living in any capital city. Our community, regardless of sporting level should have the facilities and supporting services to develop all levels of skills.

This region is home to amazing athletes – and our future athletes, who with our support have a genuine opportunity to compete at Brisbane 2032 and beyond.

Across the pillars of Sporting Infrastructure, Events & Tourism and Sporting Development contained within this plan, there is a place for every member of our community.

We have the opportunity to develop modern infrastructure incorporating technology, to showcase our beautiful home on the doorstep of the Great Barrier Reef and do everything possible to support our kids and community achieving their big dreams.

I am extremely proud to be working in partnership with the community and sporting organisations to create a strong legacy outcome for Townsville and together we can achieve Townsville medallists on the 2032 podiums.

CR SUZY BATKOVIC OLY
Three-time Olympic medallist
Chair – Townsville 2032 Legacy

OUR LEGACY

The Games for all Queensland – Brisbane 2032 Olympics and Paralympics, presents a pivotal opportunity for Townsville to showcase our wonderful city and athletes.

Townsville City Council has formed a Townsville 2032 Legacy Working Group, which through a whole of community approach, will maximise the opportunities for the region and broader city in the lead up to, and decades after the Games.

The plan continues with a legacy vision that:

- Creates a highly united, integrated, and liveable city, that is accessible for members of our community.
- Maximises the opportunity for our young people to participate in sport and provide a genuine opportunity to excel and participate in the 2032 Games and beyond.
- Develops new or enhanced infrastructure that is sustainable and resilient.
- Provides opportunities to train and compete on the doorstep of the Great Barrier Reef.



What is Legacy?

Olympic legacy is the result of a vision. It encompasses all the tangible and intangible long-term benefits initiated or accelerated by hosting of the Olympic Games/sport events for people, cities/territories and the Olympic Movement.

(IOC, Legacy Strategic Approach Moving Forward, December 2017)

What is the difference between tangible and intangible legacy?

In the simplest terms tangible legacy can be demonstrated by images, such as new sporting infrastructure or events. Intangible legacy are the outcomes and benefits to the social wellbeing of people or a community.

Townsville has a driven focus on legacy development that provides tangible and intangible long-term benefits in line with the vision across three pillars:

- 1. SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE**
- 2. EVENTS AND TOURISM**
- 3. SPORTING DEVELOPMENT**

The pillars focus on provision of outcomes that support an outstanding Brisbane 2032 and leave an enduring legacy for the region after the Games.

PILLAR 1

SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

This pillar recognises the fundamental role high-quality infrastructure plays in the success of sport, providing the foundation for athletes to perform at their best. Through a long-term low-cost high-quality lens, it ensures that all infrastructure development and modernisation efforts achieve the highest standards of quality and innovation.

New projects will prioritise carbon neutrality, while existing facilities will be renovated or repurposed to support Olympic-standard sports and deliver enduring, world-class amenities for local communities and athletes visiting Townsville. An ongoing focus will be to embed universal design and accessibility in all infrastructure development.

Beyond athletic excellence, this approach fosters inclusivity, encouraging participation across all ages and abilities, and creating vibrant spaces for social engagement.

With a commitment to enhancing biodiversity, promoting greening initiatives, and generating lasting employment opportunities, this pillar ensures that sustainable infrastructure leaves a legacy of excellence for sport and society alike.

Townsville has a variety of sporting precincts and facilities located across the city. Enhancements such as lighting and shade will transform the playability of the facilities and reduce the risk from harmful UV exposure.

Through consultation, the Townsville 2032 Legacy Working Group has confirmed opportunities where focussed investment will generate long-term benefits for athletes and the community.



MURRAY SPORTING COMPLEX

OVERVIEW

Murray Sporting Complex comprises of a number of sporting fields and facilities surrounding the Townsville Stadium. Sports include basketball, soccer, hockey, netball, darts, cycling, pony club, cricket, rugby, AFL, skateboarding and BMX.

Townsville Stadium is also utilised by several other sports for larger scale events and tournaments such as badminton and volleyball.



OPPORTUNITIES

- Replacement of synthetic hockey fields to meet Federation of International Hockey (FIH) standards enabling the hockey facility to be capable of hosting elite-level competitions and providing a practice venue for Brisbane 2032.
- Installation of broadcast level lighting, shade and solar panels, allowing for media broadcast capabilities, increased field time, evening games and reduced energy consumption. Fields and facilities within stage one includes hockey, soccer, BMX and skateboarding.
- Event seating expansion to support increased spectator capacity across BMX and skateboarding facilities. Installation of modular seating capable of temporarily expanding spectator capacity for up to 5,000 participants for high profile hockey events.
- Upgraded hockey clubhouse and change rooms, renovated to include modern meeting rooms and media broadcasting capabilities.
- Creation of outdoor 3x3 shaded basketball courts, with lighting to extend time of play.
- Development of multi-use club rooms within the soccer field area and facilities for sharing with adjacent sports and enabling hosting of major events and carnivals, allowing accessibility and inclusiveness.
- Delivery of Queensland's second elite BMX racing track and the only one located in the regions.
- Expansion of BMX facilities to enable rider development, including establishment of an 8m ramp and pro straight.
- Additional skateboarding facilities ranging from beginner to intermediate level, through to Olympic level street and bowl skate components.
- Significantly increased parking for the sporting complex, doubling the amount of centralised car parks and increasing safety by decreasing congestion along roadways.
- Separating pedestrians from roads through creation of a central pathways linking sports and centralised car parks.
- Improving lighting throughout public realm to enable sports to be played safely, longer into the evening.
- Central all-accessible amenities.



TOWNSVILLE ENTERTAINMENT AND CONVENTION CENTRE

OVERVIEW

Home to the Townsville Fire WNBL team, the centre hosts events catering up to 5,000 spectators. The facility is aged and is past of end with technical and accessibility restrictions severely limiting the events that can be hosted at the facility.

Studies have consistently recommended that redevelopment of the existing Townsville Entertainment and Convention Centre in its current location is not feasible and that a new, modern, multipurpose facility should be developed at Dean Street. Predominantly, the Dean Street car park has been identified as the preferred site due to its open land capacity and its location adjacent to the Queensland Country Bank Stadium, the city centre and varied tourism, hospitality and accommodation facilities.



OPPORTUNITIES

- A new 10,000 seat entertainment arena presents a significant legacy opportunity for Townsville.
- Opportunity:
 - Multiple sports users.
 - Hosting of national and international level events.



TOWNSVILLE SPORTS PRECINCT

OVERVIEW

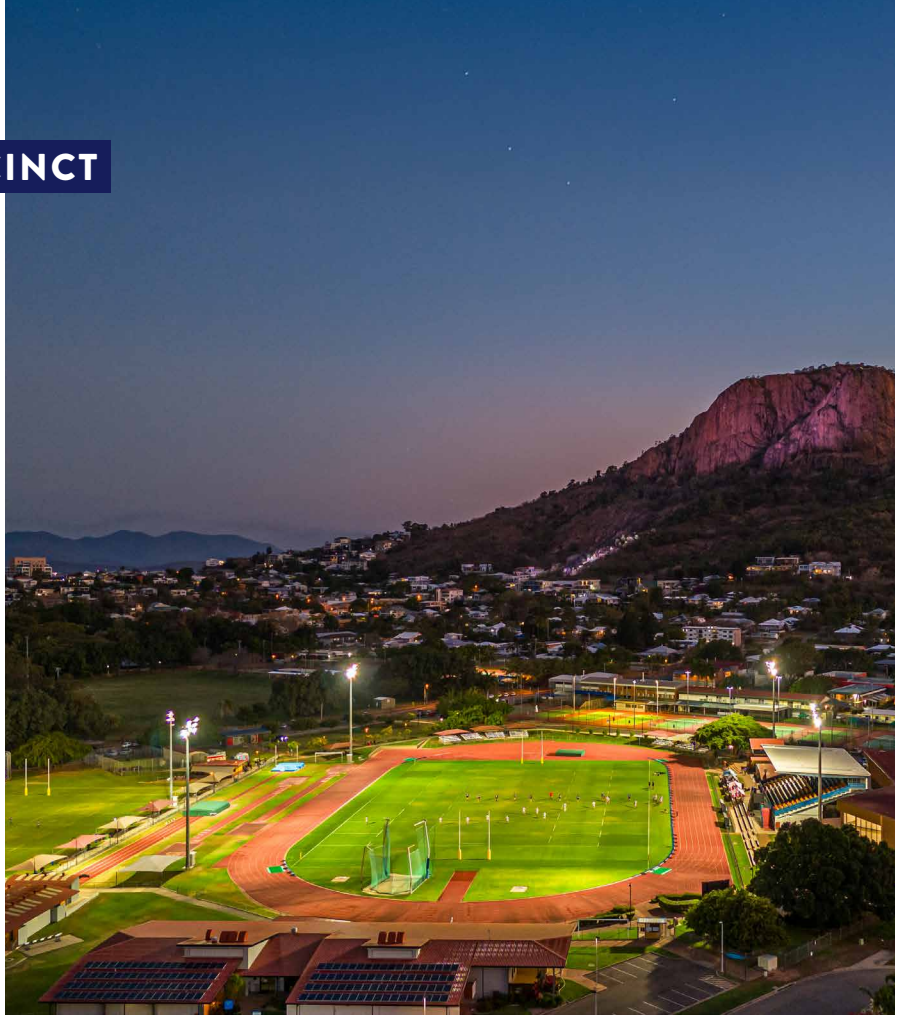
Facilitates Athletics/Para-athletics/
Basketball/Wheelchair basketball.

International Standard Facility:

- 400m World Athletics.
- Class 2 athletics track, long jump, triple jump, hammer, throw, discus, steeple chase, water jumps and pole vault.
- 300m² gym.
- Multiple all-accessible toilets and change rooms.
- Hoist and specialised gym equipment for para-athletes.
- Corporate and broadcasting boxes.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Air conditioning to enable para-athletes to utilise the facility.



RIVERWAY SPORTS PRECINCT

OVERVIEW

The stadium contains a central oval with grandstand and grass mound seating that can hold up to 10,000 spectators.

There is a second oval and cricket practice nets within the precinct as well as grassed areas that cater for events and carnivals.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Upgrades to broadcast standard lighting (1,800 lux) and media facilities including broadcast towers and sight screens;
- Increase patronage at the venue through the establishment of new spectator grandstands and parking reconfiguration with a focus on accessibility needs; and
- Provision of female player and officials change rooms, a permanent ticketing booth and simple outdoor corporate areas.



TOWNSVILLE SAILING CLUB

OVERVIEW

The Townsville Sailing Club was established in 1895 and is currently located on the Strand, adjacent the historical Tobruk Memorial Baths and ANZAC Memorial Park. Townsville holds an international reputation as a leading venue for grand prix sailboat racing and has hosted many national and world championships with competitors and visiting officials proclaiming it as a superb venue with great sailing conditions.



OPPORTUNITIES

- Establishment of the Townsville Aquatic Precinct, an integrated aquatic sports facility on Townsville's premier beach, The Strand;
- Onshore event and function spaces to increase event capacity and capability, including ability to host multiple events;
- Dedicated sports equipment storage and maintenance facilities, change rooms and amenities, administration, flexible multi-purpose spaces that can be used for event management or broadcasting, function rooms, and hospitality;
- Integrated commercial and hospitality offerings to cater for event spectators;
- Multiple tenancies at ground level to provide a range of commercial opportunities to maximise activation throughout the day; and
- Improved public realm, seating terrace and pedestrian pathways, providing a strong connection between The Strand and the Precinct.

PALLARENDA RECREATIONAL OUTDOOR SPORTS PRECINCT

OVERVIEW

Pallarenda is the home to many outdoor sports and recreation activities.

Sports include kite surfing, mountain biking, triathlon, golf and cycling. Pallarenda was also the venue for the 2024 Multisport World Championships.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Creation of a coastal sports hub, establishing new sports to Townsville such as coastal rowing and becoming a venue for established sports such as beach volleyball and kite surfing.
- Upgrade to expand mountain biking trails.
- Upgrades to golf course.



LONG TAN POOL

OVERVIEW

The Long Tan Pool comprises a 50m eight-lane pool with shade at both ends and a 25m five-lane indoor pool.

The infrastructure is dated and requires upgrading to meet Olympic standards.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Upgrade of the 50m pool to Olympic standards.
- A second outdoor pool that could cater for diving and water polo.
- Improve shade to provide increased sun safety offerings.



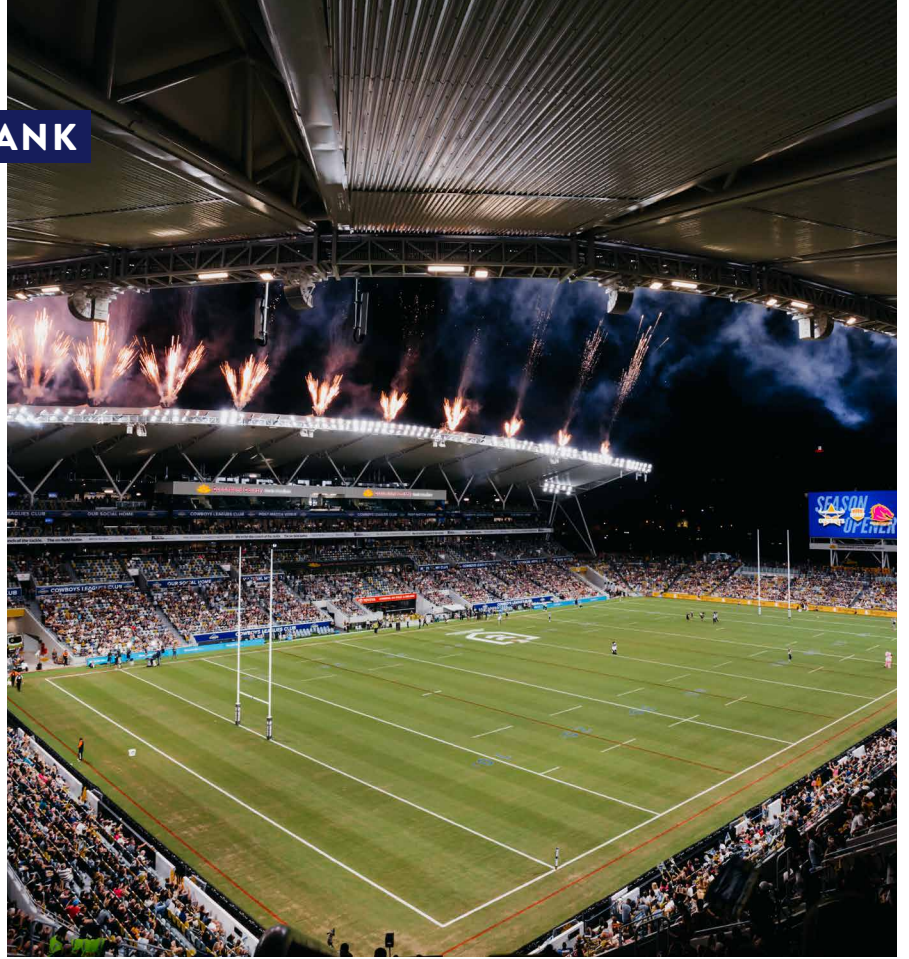
QUEENSLAND COUNTRY BANK STADIUM PRECINCT

OVERVIEW

The Queensland Country Bank Stadium has 25,455 seats and caters for the larger events in Townsville, and is the home to the NRL North Queensland Cowboys team. There is a training field adjacent to the main stadium and Cowboys high performance centre.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Location of a Townsville Arena adjacent to the Stadium would create a sports and entertainment precinct.
- Potential to construct further fields to create a rectangular field hub, which would extend the precinct to host events and major tournaments.



ALL TOWNSVILLE SPORTS CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

OVERVIEW

Outside of the primary precincts there are many smaller facilities, fields and ovals across the city, which with every upgrade would significantly extend time of play and overall safety.

Impacts from harmful UV exposure is of concern in North Queensland, lights would facilitate nighttime use and shade reduce impacts during the day.

Co-location of sports will generate savings through sharing of common areas such as meeting rooms, canteens and amenities. Every new and released facility will have a lens of long-term sustainability applied to enable every club in Townsville to thrive.

OPPORTUNITIES

- Light and Shading Program across all Townsville Sports Facilities to enhance use and protect users from harmful UV exposure.
- Land requirements for new facilities and ability to co-locate.
- Supporting initiatives and funding applications of individual clubs that align with Townsville 2032 legacy outcomes.



PILLAR 2

EVENTS AND TOURISM

This pillar focuses on amplifying Townsville's reputation as a vibrant hub for tourism and events, creating a lasting legacy through the opportunities presented by the 2032 Games.

By hosting national and international events, traditionally exclusive to capital cities, Townsville can showcase its capacity to deliver world-class experiences for athletes and spectators alike.

Townsville is the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef, creating an additional drawcard for visitors from around the world and encouraging them to explore more of Queensland before and after the Games.

As a host venue for international qualifying events, Townsville solidifies its role in supporting global sports. Hosting leading events in Townsville allows our kids to see the sport first-hand and inspire them to become an athlete.

Townsville is in a prime position, with close proximity to the Pacific nations and can maximise its sporting offerings in partnership with Oceania based sports teams and organisations.

Beyond the competition, this pillar celebrates athletes at all levels—from school sports to masters—through recognition, encouragement, and support. It also strengthens the community by expanding the volunteer base, fostering participation, and building excitement that will resonate long after the Games conclude.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Hosting a variety of sports carnivals from local level through to international tournaments, including school-based meets and masters events.
- Drive economic activation in the accommodation, tourism and hospitality industries through sporting events.
- Maximise the unique climate to visit and train, as a city based in the dry tropics between the outback and the Great Barrier Reef.
- Celebrate and promote the rich history of Olympians and Paralympians from Townsville.



PILLAR 3

SPORTING DEVELOPMENT

This pillar focuses on establishing Townsville as a premier northern training hub, fostering excellence in sport through comprehensive and inclusive development initiatives.

By offering acclimatisation experiences and fast-tracking the development of high-quality sporting infrastructure, the region will become a sought-after destination for athletes and organisations in lead up to the 2032 Games.

Development pathways will be created to elevate local athletes to professional status, while efforts to broaden the variety of available sports—including introducing those currently unavailable—will enhance opportunities for athletes of all backgrounds. In conjunction with elite pathways focus will be on developing grassroots parasports participation, seeking to achieve growth opportunities in adaptive sports in North Queensland.

A strong emphasis will be placed on engaging First Nations communities, celebrating their rich cultural heritage, and incorporating cultural considerations into sporting development programs. Townsville will also serve as a base for extended stays by schools and organisations, further enriching the sporting ecosystem.

This approach encourages private investment in sporting development while delivering vital services to support athletes' nutrition, mental health, and overall wellbeing.

Special focus will be placed on advancing women's health and participation in sport, alongside pathway programs designed to teach life skills for transitioning into elite competition.

By supporting the growth of current and future coaches, and ensuring inclusivity for all communities, this pillar generates a legacy of sporting excellence and cultural respect in the region.

As a location with an enviable climate there are many different sports offered across the city that the community have the opportunity to get involved in, and increasing local participation will be a key outcome.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Partner with local tertiary level institutions to provide local based training and development.
- Becoming the North Australian leader in high performance sport research.
- Support development of local coaches, officials, and volunteers.
- Remove barriers to residents joining local clubs through knowledge sharing and facility upgrades.
- Create targeted employment pathways to recruit, train and employ people with disabilities as coaches, officials, administrators and facilitators.



ACTIONS

PILLAR 1

SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Townsville Arena

- Secure funding for a new Townsville Arena. Ongoing advocacy for funding of \$360 million to facilitate immediate progression of the project, through a joint funding arrangement of \$180 million from the Queensland Government and \$180 million from the Australian Government.

Murray Sporting Complex

- Deliver a long-term masterplan that incorporates improved access, increases parking and pedestrian safety, creation of hubs with shared facilities, broadcasting capabilities, shade and lighting upgrades and improved sports infrastructure, event and tournament hosting capacity.

Townsville Sports Precinct

- Advocate for Queensland Government to install air-conditioning at the facility to enable use by para-athletes.

Riverway Stadium

- Secure funding for lighting and facility upgrades.
- Undertake precinct masterplan to optimise parking and accessibility.

Townsville Aquatic Precinct

- Secure funding to deliver the inclusive aquatic community precinct as a home for numerous water sport organisations, local community groups and members to gather, learn, work, train and compete.
- Integrate the Townsville Aquatic Precinct into a long-term revitalisation plan for The Strand through to Pallarenda.

Pallarenda Outdoor Sports and Recreation Precinct

- Deliver a concept for an outdoor sports and recreation precinct that seeks to co-locate sports.

Long Tan Pool

- Deliver a concept plan and costings for a revitalised aquatic facility with a compliant 50m pool and opportunities to expand sports offerings.

Queensland Country Bank Stadium Precinct

- Investigate interest and opportunities to create a broader sports precinct with a focus on rectangular fields, providing capacity for large tournaments.

Lights, shading and co-location program for Sports Clubs and Organisations Townsville Wide

- Deliver a 10-year rolling lights and shade program across Townsville sports clubs and organisations.
- Investigation immediate co-location of sports clubs and organisations to maximise long term sustainability and functionality of operations.

PILLAR 2

EVENTS AND TOURISM

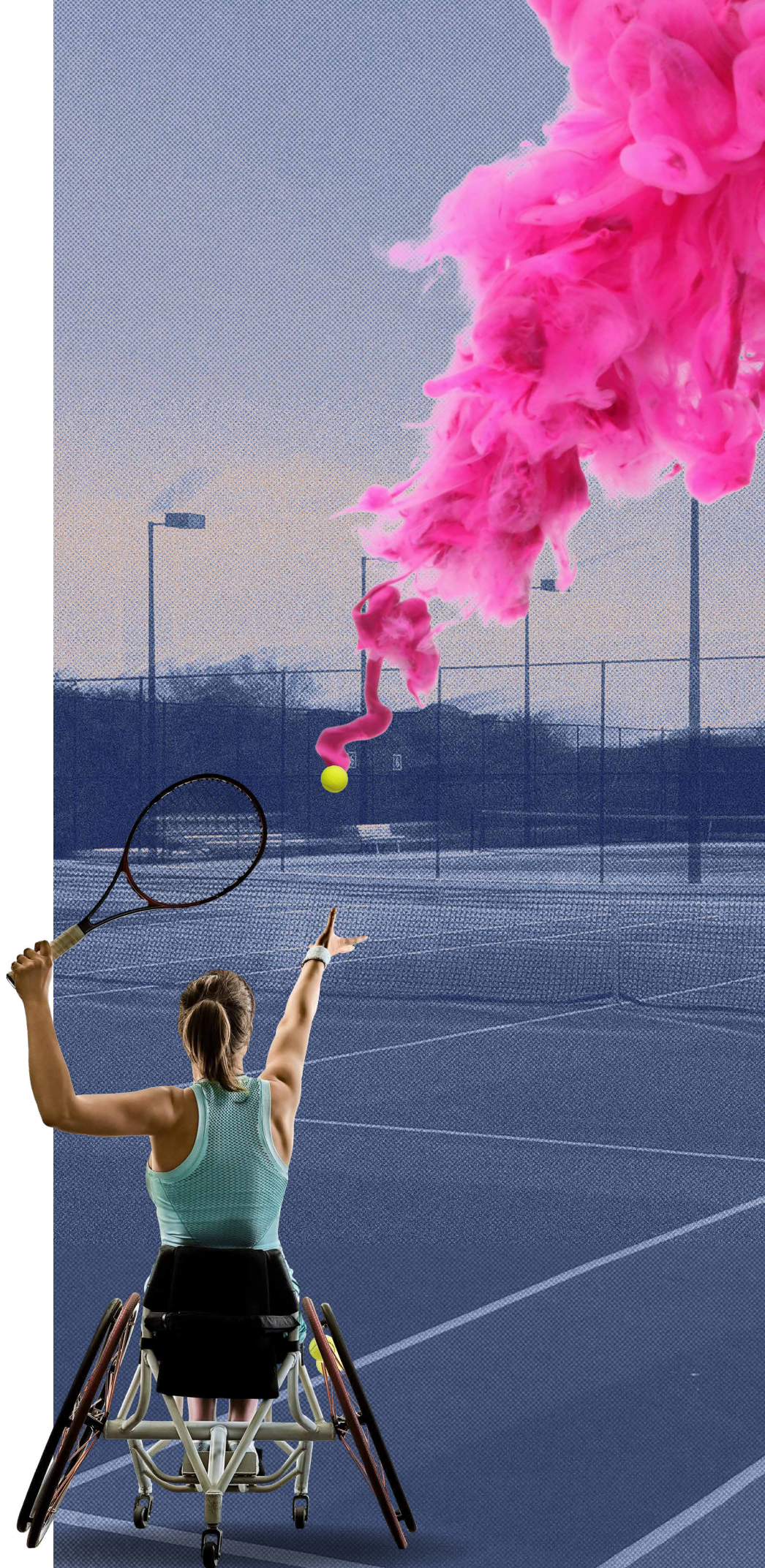
- Deliver a Sporting Events Strategy.
- Deliver an Economic Development Plan to support Sporting Events Strategy and request for an annual Event Attraction Fund.
- Deliver an International/National Advocacy Package to train and compete at the 8th wonder of the world.
- Refurbish details on the Olympic Memorial Walk.
- Ongoing liaison with Brisbane 2032 Games team, incorporating offer of support for relocation of SEQ events during infrastructure reconstruction and refurbishment works.

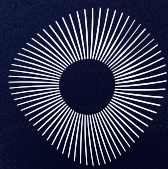


PILLAR 3

SPORTING DEVELOPMENT

- Continue advocacy for establishment of Queensland Academy of Sport branch in Townsville.
- Deliver a Business Case for a North Australia High Performance Sport Research Centre, that provides a focus on mental health, severe climate training, nutrition, health and advancement in sport, physical therapy, Indigenous medicine, life skill pathway programs and coaching development; incorporating partnerships with tertiary institutes.
- In partnership with the Queensland Academy of Sport and tertiary institutions identify opportunities for local based training and development for coaches and officials.
- Advocacy for funding to support for cost for athletes and families to travel, train and compete at sporting events outside of North Queensland.
- Advocacy and awareness program for community to enable everyone to get involved in sport, including working with local clubs and organisations to promote volunteer opportunities, open days or 'come and try' days.





TOWNSVILLE
2032 LEGACY



City of
Townsville

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About the Townsville 2032 Legacy Working Group

Established in 2023, the Townsville 2032 Legacy Working Group has been investigating and progressing opportunities for Townsville from the Brisbane 2032 Games.

Members include representatives from Sporting Wheelies, Oceania Athletics Association, North Queensland Cowboys, Townsville Enterprise and Townsville City Council.