# **COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL**



2014/15 ANNUAL REPORT – SECTION 1 – SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS











### 2014/15 ANNUAL REPORT - SECTION 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

This Annual Report provides an overview of Coffs Harbour City Council's performance in addressing the *Coffs Harbour 2030* Community Strategic Plan. The Significant Achievements detailed in this report follow the thematic structure of the 2030 Plan. The Annual Report refers to the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015.

The Annual Report is a component of the performance monitoring provisions of the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) legislation. Full details of Council's performance against the 2014-2018 Delivery Program and 2014/15 Operational Plan can be found in six-monthly progress reports in the Corporate Planning and Reporting pages of Council's website: <a href="https://www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au">www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au</a>

In a separate document, Section 2 of the Annual Report includes information that is prescribed by the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. It is considered important for the community to have access to this information so it can better understand how Council has been performing both as a service provider and a community leader.

Also tabled separately, Section 3 of the Annual Report contains Council's Annual Financial Statements, as required by the Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428 (4) (a).

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Coffs Harbour is a major regional city on the Mid North Coast of New South Wales, about midway between Sydney and Brisbane. The traditional home of the Gumbaynggirr people, the city now has a population of approximately 72,000 and encompasses a total area of 1,174 square kilometres of land stretching from Red Rock, south to Bundagen and west past Brooklana and Lowanna.



COVER IMAGE: Coffs Coast Growers Markets - Sam Mihelffy from Me-Healthy Farm



### FOREWORD TO THE 2014/15 ANNUAL REPORT



Councillor Denise Knight, Mayor of Coffs Harbour

Steve McGrath, General Manager

Council begins every financial year with a new Operational Plan, a blueprint in which we commit to a course of action to continue to serve the Coffs Harbour community. In the Annual Report, we look back on the year and account for ourselves; did we do what we said we would do?

For 2014/15, our Annual Report shows another busy year of achievement for Council. Close attention is always paid to the 'big ticket' items in any budget. It is pleasing to be able to report steady progress during the year on such major initiatives as the CBD Masterplan works (\$1.25m), the Jetty4Shores Stage 1 Walkway (\$1.44m), the ongoing Public Amenities Upgrade (\$300,000), the Reclaimed Water (Sewer) Pipeline Stage 2 (\$2m), the Coramba Water Main Renewal (\$2m), and the Moonee to Emerald Beach Water Trunk Mains (\$2.27m).

A closer look reveals a great many other success stories as well. Highlights include playing host to the triumphant NSW Blues' State of Origin training program, successfully hosting the Australian round of the 2014 World Rally Championship, and AFL, Oztag and other elite events helping to mark the 21st birthday of the C.ex Coffs International Stadium. The staging of so many successful fixtures saw Coffs Harbour win the prestigious 2015 IFEA World Festival and Event City Award.

Infrastructure improvements included the installation of a new \$500,000 lighting system at Coffs Coast Sport and Leisure Park, the expansion of Council's optic fibre network, the opening of the Coffs Harbour Skate Plaza at Brelsford Park, the completion of the Spagnolos Road flood detention basin, and a community facility upgrade at Corindi Beach. Council also began work on expanding the harbour boat ramp, progressed the Woolgoolga Town Centre and Beach Reserve Plans of Management, opened the new Regional Museum and completed the Castle Street carpark upgrade. Our Park Beach Holiday Park was again honoured as an industry showpiece, and Council continued to deliver outcomes and provide leadership through a range of environmental, economic and community, arts and cultural programs.

Yes, we have been busy! It's rewarding that the latest survey of Coffs Harbour residents showed an increase in the level of customer satisfaction relating to Council services.

In previous years, Council had laid the groundwork to make the organisation financially sustainable but this process really gained traction in 2014/15. The phasing-in of a three-year special rate variation (SRV) will secure funding for infrastructure maintenance and renewal, enabling Council to meet community expectations about levels of service.

The Transformation to Sustainability (T2S) Project continues to unfold, delivering \$1m in savings already through organisational restructuring and operational efficiencies. Credit must go to Council staff for the way they have embraced the challenge, identifying opportunities for positive change to generate real returns for the organisation and the community. T2S remains on track to yield savings of more than \$3m a year by 2017 to support Council services and balance the budget.

Coupled with improved asset management and a new business-style focus, the SRV and T2S strategies give Council new certainty going forward. Independent assessment agrees, reinforcing confidence that Council will be financially sustainable by the 2020 target date set in the NSW Fit for the Future local government reform blueprint.

This Annual Report tells a great story, and every great story is about people. Let's take this opportunity to acknowledge the contribution and commitment of all of our Councillors, staff and volunteers in delivering outcomes and helping to ensure that Coffs Harbour continues to be a fantastic place to live.

# **ELECTED MEMBERS**

Mayor, **Councillor Denise Knight** 







Councillor **Nan Cowling** 

Councillor **Rodney Degens** 











Councillor **Garry Innes** 



Councillor **Keith Rhoades** 

Councillor **Mark Sultana** 









# **ELECTED MEMBERS – ATTENDANCE RECORD**

Councillor Attendances (by portfolio)		Kn	nise ight	Tow	ally vnley	Ar	hn kan	Co	lan wling	De	dney gens	lnı	ary nes	Pa	ob Imer	Rh	Keith noades	Sul	ark tana
Type of event	Held	Atten No.	idance %	Atten No.	dance %	Atten No.	dance %	Atter No.	ndance %	Atte	ndance %	Atten No.	dance %	Atter No.	ndance %	Atte No.	endance %	Atten No.	dance %
Council Meetings	21	20	95%	20	95%	15		21	100%	20	95%	15	71%	21	100%	17	81%	18	86%
Council Briefings	36	30	83%	27	75%	11	31%	34	94%	25	69%	25	69%	30	83%	10	28%	23	64%
Access Advisory Committee	9							7	78%										
Airport Emergency Committee	2	2	100%																
Airport Focus Group	7															5	71%		
Airport Security Committee	1	1	100%																
Australia Day/Special Events Committee	5	4	80%							1	20%								
Coffs Harbour International Sports Stadium Incorporated	3															1	33%	2	67%
Coffs Harbour Local Traffic Committee	3							3	100%										
Coffs Harbour Sports Advisory Committee	10							8	80%									8	80%
Coffs Coast Tourism Association	2													2	100%				
<b>Environmental Working Group Committee</b>	2	2	100%	2	100%							0	0%						
Floodplain Management Advisory Committee	2			2	100%							1	50%						
Governance and Audit Committee	4					1*	33%			1*	100%								
Mid North Coast Bush Fire Management Committee	3			3	100%														
Mid North Coast Group of Councils	3	3	100%																
Multicultural Reference Group	3																	3	100%
Performance Review Panel for the General Manager	5	5	100%	5	100%			5	100%										
Transport Working Group	5									3	60%								
Yandaarra Aboriginal Consultative Committee	4	3	75%			2	50%							4	100%				
Training Sessions	1	1	100%	1	100%	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	1	100%	1	100%	1	100%	0	0%

Note: Reporting period is October 2014 to September 2015 (reporting cycle set by September 2012 Council election)

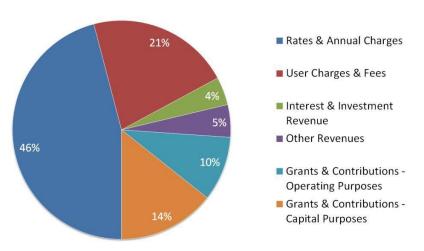
\* Councillor Arkan was Council's G&AC delegate for the first three meetings. Councillor Degens was Council's delegate for the last meeting in the period.



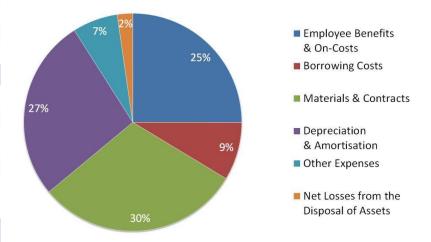
Budget 2015 \$ '000	Income from Continuing Operations	Notes	Actual 2015 \$ '000	Actual 2014 \$ '000
	Revenue:			
79,573	Rates & Annual Charges	3a	81,083	75,971
29,101	User Charges & Fees	3b	37,461	30,878
6,928	Interest & Investment Revenue	3c	7,358	9,449
7,604	Other Revenues	3d	8,486	7,386
16,390	Grants & Contributions provided for Operating Purposes	3e,f	16,898	12,198
15,883	Grants & Contributions provided for Capital Purposes	3e,f	25,322	11,878
155,479	<b>Total Income from Continuing Operations</b>		176,608	147,760
	<b>Expenses from Continuing Operations</b>			
29,334	Employee Benefits & On-Costs	4a	41,159	39,128
14,316	Borrowing Costs	4b	14,228	15,316
65,953	Materials & Contracts	4c	49,819	46,569
48,436	Depreciation & Amortisation	4d	44,517	44,941
6,278	Other Expenses	4e	11,033	11,203
-	Net Losses from the Disposal of Assets	5	3,772	2,830
164,317	Total Expenses from Continuing Operations		164,528	159,987
	Operating Result			
(8,838)	Operating Result from Continuing Operations		12,080	(12,227)
(8,838)	Net Operating Result for the Year		12,080	(12,227)
(8,838)	Net Operating Result attributable to Council		12,080	(12,227)
-	Net Operating Result attributable to Non-controlling Interests		-	-
	Net Operating Result for the year before Grants and			

<sup>\*</sup>See Annual Report Section 3 – Annual Financial Statements

### **Total Income from Continuing Operations \$176.6m**



Total Expenses from Continuing Operations \$164.5m



### LEARNING AND PROSPERING

### INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

Council won global acclaim for its 2014/15 program of major events, securing the IFEA World Festival and Event City Award. The prestigious award recognises our city's success as a drawcard for such fixtures as the Australian round of the 2014 World Rally Championship, the Touch Football World Cup, and the CoastOut Gay and Lesbian, Multicultural Harmony Day and Saltwater Freshwater Festivals.

### **ORIGIN WINNER**

The NSW Blues team and coach Laurie Daley were presented the keys to the city while using Coffs Harbour as the training venue for the NRL 2014 State of Origin. The Blues cited Coffs as their 'magic ingredient' in winning the series.



Laurie Daley receiving the keys to the city

### **WORLD RALLY SUCCESS**

In September, Coffs Harbour successfully hosted the Australian round of the 2014 World Rally Championship and a round of the Australian Off-Road Championship. The events generated an estimated \$13.8M into the local economy and Council will again sponsor the event in 2015.



World Rally Championship

### **CO-WORKING HUB**

Council established a permanent venue at the Coffs Coast Community College for 'Six Degrees', the popular co-working network and collaboration hub for local entrepreneurs, home and solo workers.

The 'Six Degrees' hub is part of Council's response to the Small Business Friendly Councils (SBFC) Program, a state-wide initiative to improve the way councils engage with small business by cutting red tape and supporting emerging enterprise.

### **WORLD RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP**

**Generates \$13.8m economic injection** 

### **C.EX STADIUM MILESTONES**

Celebrations were held in June to mark the 21st birthday of the C.ex Coffs International Stadium. The elite venue has been a success story for Council and Coffs Harbour, bringing world-class sport to the city, attracting thousands of visitors and injecting millions of dollars into the regional economy each year.

In March, 4,000 AFL fans flocked to the C.ex Coffs International Stadium for the 2015 NAB Challenge Match between the Sydney Swans and the Brisbane Lions.



Sydney Swans at the C.ex Stadium





OZTAG continued its love affair with Coffs Harbour, signing up to use the city's sporting facilities for the eleventh straight year for the OZTAG Senior Championships. Council has secured the three-day event for 2015 to 2017, which is estimated to bring about 4,000 people into the region each year.

### STADIUM MILESTONES

### **C.EX STADIUM IN 2014/15**

- > 51 events
- > 25,900 participants
- 21,200 spectators
- > 97,000 visitor nights generated
- > \$14.8m economic impact

### LIGHTING UPGRADE

Coffs Harbour enhanced its appeal as a venue for major sports with the installation of a new \$500,000 lighting system at Coffs Coast Sport and Leisure Park. Eco-friendly technology will cut greenhouse gas emissions by 40% compared to standard light systems.

### **SMART CITY**

Council's optic fibre cable network continues to grow with the Toormina Library, Council's Lifeguard Service and Rally Australia's new office all brought into the city-wide system in 2014/15. Developed by Council's New Technology Group, the network helps to cut the costs of data transfer and telephone calls.

### LIBRARY

In October, Council formally re-instated the city library as the 'Harry Bailey Memorial Library' in honour of the late Councillor Bailey, long-serving President of the Coffs Harbour Shire Council and Dorrigo Shire Councillor. The name had lapsed when the library premises shifted from Castle Street to Rigby House in 2001.

The library had a busy year of author events and community activities, and won special recognition from Tutoring Australasia for the long-running provision of the successful online student-help service "Yourtutor"



'Your Tutor' presentation

### LOOKING AFTER OUR COMMUNITY

### **NAIDOC WEEK**

In July, the National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week started with the annual Council and Yandaarra Aboriginal Consultative Committee flag-raising ceremony. The 2014 NAIDOC theme was 'Serving Country: Centenary & Beyond', honouring all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and women who have fought in defence of country.

### **REGIONAL GALLERY**

The Regional Gallery had another year of highlights including the Eutick Memorial Still Life Award (EMSLA) festival, the Gallery's signature annual event, the exhibition of the 2014 Archibald Prize collection, and a musical program including a special performance by world-renowned pianist (and Gallery patron) Roger Woodward.



EMSLA Festival

### **MUSEUM RE-OPENS**

The Regional Museum, in the Old Courthouse on Harbour Drive, opened its doors to visitors again for the first time in August. The Museum's themed exhibition spaces take visitors from the area's earliest days right up to the present and local Indigenous culture takes pride of place along with Coffs Harbour's maritime history.



Regional Museum re-opening

### **DESTINATION HONOURS**

For the third year in a row, Park Beach Holiday Park was awarded an Excellence Award for its consistent top-rating reviews on the tourism web service TripAdvisor®. The destination also won the 'Best of the Best' Award for Excellence at the 2014 Caravan and Camping Industry Association of NSW awards and was also named as a finalist in the 2014 NSW Tourism Awards.

### **BUNKER CARTOON GALLERY**

The Bunker Cartoon Gallery's busy program of exhibitions included its two major annual events, the Marnie Yeates Trophy for Nature Photography and the Rotary Cartoon Awards.

Council accepted a proposal for the Rotary Club to take over the running of the Bunker Gallery from 1 July 2015. The agreement transfers ownership of the cartoon collection and is expected to save Council more than \$30,000 in operating costs over three years.

### **GARDENS LIGHT UP**

Coffs Harbour's Botanic Garden glittered with more than flowers in October when hundreds of lanterns were floated on the lake as part of the annual Japanese Lantern Festival. Proceeds from the popular event go towards further development of the Japanese Garden project.



Japanese Lantern Festival

### SUSTAINABLE COUNCIL

Council's will achieve financial sustainability by the 2019/20 target set in the NSW Government's Fit for the Future local government reform blueprint. Ongoing strategies include the Transformation to Sustainability (T2S) Project to make efficiency savings of up to \$3.2m per year, a Special Rate Variation package to help fund infrastructure maintenance and renewal, improved asset management and the pursuit of additional revenue opportunities.

Council provided donations and subsidies of \$136,719

### **HELPING COMMUNITY GROUPS**

During the year, Council provided \$136,719 in donations and rates subsidies to assist local community groups and events. The North Coast Academy of Sport, the Woolgoolga Neighbourhood Centre, Coffs Harbour Agricultural Show and the Coffs Coast Toy Library were among the groups to benefit.

### **COMMUNITY CELEBRATION**

Council's 2015 Australia Day celebrations saw 68 people from 18 countries become Australian citizens in a special ceremony at the Regional Botanic Gardens. Thousands of people stayed on at the gardens to enjoy this year's Saltwater Freshwater Festival, celebrating Australia's indigenous culture.



Saltwater Freshwater Festival

The Bayldon Community Centre and Coramba Hall were included in the first 'Festival of Small Halls'

NSW tour. Featuring a program of international and Australian musicians, the festival aims to show off the unique character of community halls.

About 1,000 people took part in Council's 2015 program for Seniors Week (March 14-22) which featured more than 60 events and activities.

### **WOOLGOOLGA TRIBUTE**

In December, Woolgoolga's High Street Sporting Fields were renamed the Clive Joass Memorial Sports Park. A former Coffs Harbour City Councillor, the late Mr Joass was honoured for his long years of service with the Woolgoolga Sports Council.

### **HELLO SAILOR**

In June, Council joined with local RSL sub-branches and Returned and Ex-Services Clubs to officially 'adopt' the Royal Australian Navy's 725 Squadron on behalf of Coffs Harbour, continuing a long tradition of Australian cities and towns adopting Naval Units.



725 Squadron

### **VOLUNTEER THANK YOU**

A special function was held to honour the army of volunteers who help keep the city's community facilities operating, or offer their time and expertise on advisory groups. Coffs Harbour Mayor, Councillor Denise Knight, paid tribute to the countless hours of service volunteers provide to benefit the city.



Volunteer thank you event

### **CUSTOMER SATISFACTION INCREASES**

An August 2014 survey of Coffs Harbour residents showed an increase in the level of customer satisfaction relating to Council services in the last two years.

### **WOOLGOOLGA TRIBUTE**

In December, Woolgoolga's High Street Sporting Fields were renamed the Clive Joass Memorial Sports Park. A former Coffs Harbour City Councillor, the late Mr Joass was honoured for his long years of service with the Woolgoolga Sports Council.

### **MORE LIFEGUARD PATROLS**

Lifeguard patrols at Woolgoolga Beach have been stepped up to full-time for seven months of the year from the start of the September school holidays to the following April.

### LOOKING AFTER OUR ENVIRONMENT

### **ENERGY TARGETS**

In December, Council adopted ambitious energy targets in an Emissions Reduction Plan. Council aims to use 100% renewable energy by 2030 to save money and help the environment. Over the next ten years, Council also aims to halve annual corporate emissions of CO2 gases compared to 2010 levels.

# COUNCIL'S GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Down 4% compared to 2010 (tonnes CO2 equivalent)

### LIVING HISTORY

Council called for community feedback on a draft Community Based Heritage Study identifying around 500 additional locally-significant historic items in the Coffs Harbour area. The draft Study provides a history of the area and identifies those places and items that are characteristic of its specific history.

### LIVING LIGHTLY

Council continues to offer the 'Living Lightly' program, run as a partnership with the Coffs Regional Community Gardens. Free monthly workshops promote initiatives that enable people to live more sustainably. More than 5,000 people participated in sustainability learning programs in 2014/15.

Council has supported the creation of a community garden near the local netball courts in Nightingale Street, Woolgoolga. The Woolgoolga Regional Community Garden Inc received a \$5,000 Southern Phone Grant to commence the project.



Regional Community Gardens

### **COFFS AMBASSADORS TOURS**

During the period, Council's Coffs Ambassadors Tour Guide program celebrated its fifth year of operation. Since the free tours began in 2010, around 2,500 people have learned about Coffs Harbour's headlands, beaches, bushland, gardens, rainforests and wildlife from a team of passionate volunteer guides.



Ambassador Tour

#### **GREEN SCHOOLS**

In March, Council launched the Sustainable Schools Network to help local teachers and parents spread the sustainability message. The Network supports behaviour change projects and provides teachers and parents with professional development opportunities.

Grants of up to \$2,000 were awarded to 13 local schools and childcare centres under the 2015 Green Schools Environmental Sustainability Grants program. The grants assist projects that will improve the sustainability of each school or its local environment.

### SUSTAINABLE LIVING FESTIVAL

Coffs Harbour hosted the inaugural Mid-North
Coast Local Food Forum in November to coincide
with the Coffs Coast Sustainable Living Festival.
Other attractions at the week-long festival included
the Botanica Spring Fair, the 'Warped Vegie' cookoff at the Coffs Coast Growers Market, a climate
change public forum, workshops and guided tours.



29,789 tonnes

Down compared to 2013/14



Sustainable Living Festival

### **CUTTING WASTE**

Coffs Harbour's residents are regarded as the top recyclers in NSW, and the city's Materials Recovery and Glass Processing facilities are invaluable assets in waste reduction. Council promoted National Recycling Week in November with tours of the state-of-the-art Coffs Coast Resource Recovery facility at Englands Road.

### HABITAT PROTECTION

Council's draft 'Landscape Corridors of the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area' documents were released for public comment in September. The consultation will guide the eventual development of a new Priority Habitats and Corridors Strategy to help maintain the health of animal and plant habitats.



Coffs Creek Estuary



### **MOVING AROUND**

### **BIKE PLAN**

Following community consultation, Council adopted a Bicycle Plan for Coffs Harbour in March. The Plan outlines how to deliver a connected cycling network, improve cycling support facilities, make cycling safer and encourage greater participation.



South Coffs Cycleway

### CYCLEWAY EXPANSION

Cycling continues to grow as an important alternative form of transport in Coffs Harbour. The annual 'Super Tuesday' cyclist count in September recorded a 15% growth in cyclist numbers on local roads from the previous year.

Major cycleway works undertaken this year included the final section of the link between the

**CYCLIST NUMBERS** 

15% growth from 2013/14

city centre and the Base Hospital/Boambee, along Solitary Island Way at Sandy Beach, and the commencement of stage one of a new shared footpath/cycleway along Red Rock Road from Corindi Primary School to the southern boundary of Yuraygir National Park.



Red Rock cycleway construction

### **AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS**

A new \$11.4m aviation rescue fire station was opened at Coffs Harbour Regional Airport. The station is staffed by 17 specialist fire fighters employed by Airservices Australia.



New aviation fire rescue

**AIRPORT PASSENGER NUMBERS** 

353,778 for 2014/15

### **ROAD SAFETY**

Council continued to assist road safety campaigns throughout the year. These included the provision of the free "Nightrider" bus services to combat drink-driving, painting yellow 'No Stopping' lines along sections of Brunswick Avenue as part of a safer signage trial, and participation in the "Fatality Free Friday" promotion in May.



Police speed campaign

### PLACES FOR LIVING

### SKATER CENTRAL

The long-awaited Skate Plaza at Brelsford Park was officially opened in July 2014. The opening celebrations included demonstrations by expert BMX and skate riders and a free mini music festival featuring local bands. The facility has quickly proved to be a popular attraction, not just for the youth of Coffs Harbour, but as a drawcard for the whole region.



Coffs Harbour Skate Park

### **FLOOD PROTECTION**

The third of Council's four planned floodwater detention basins, the \$2.2m Spagnolos Road basin, was officially opened by Coffs Harbour Mayor, Councillor Denise Knight, in March. The basins help ensure that flood levels in a 100-year event are

significantly lower downstream, helping to protect people and property.

### WOOLGOOLGA CONSULTATION

The Woolgoolga Beach Reserve Draft Plan of Management was released for public consultation. The Draft Plan aims to make Woolgoolga Beach Reserve and Holiday Park more attractive to locals and visitors, open up more public open space and provide better community facilities.

A total of 451 comments and around 5,600 votes were received via the ideas map for the draft Woolgoolga WOW Town Centre Masterplan. The draft Masterplan will be placed on public exhibition and reported to Council in 2015.

### **JETTY4SHORES PROJECT**

Council made significant progress on the centrepiece of the Jetty4Shores redevelopment, a five-metre wide decorative walkway that will link the Jetty Strip precinct with the historic jetty structure. The walkway will create a spectacular entry statement into the foreshore area with interpretive storyboards, photographs and heritage items. The project is anticipated to be completed by September 2015.

Meanwhile, the community consultation strategy for the Jetty4Shores Project won the top Public Engagement and Community Planning honour at the2014 Planning Institute of Australia NSW Awards for Planning Excellence. The award recognised the strong vision set for the project and its success in securing community consensus and a balanced outcome.



New Jetty Foreshore walkway

### **BOAT RAMP**

Work began in May on the enlargement of the Harbour Boat Ramp, intended to help cut the effects of wave surges. Access to the boat ramp was also improved with road upgrade works along Jordan Esplanade from Camperdown Street to the NSW Public Works compound on Corrambirra Point.

### **COASTAL MANAGEMENT**

A Draft Coastal Hazard Planning Proposal was placed on public exhibition following the adoption in 2013 of a Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP). The CZMP addressed the potential risks to our coastline from coastal erosion and inundation up to the year 2100 and came up with 48 actions to address identified risks of erosion and inundation.

The community was also asked for feedback on a new strategy to help protect the future health and amenity quality of Coffs Creek. With ever-increasing pressure on the waterway and its catchment from population growth, tourism and recreational activities, the draft Estuary Coastal Zone Management Plan seeks to achieve a balance that safeguards its environmental values.

### **CITY CENTRE WORKS**

The City Centre Revitalization Project moved ahead with the commencement of work on a new Park Avenue transport interchange, and new seating, shelter and landscaping in Vernon Street. Concept designs for a revamp of nearby City Square were approved by Council in March. The existing alfresco dining areas of the square are to be enhanced with new mature shade trees, and improved lighting, seating and landscaping.



New Park Avenue transport interchange

### **CASTLE STREET UPGRADE**

New lifts and an amenities block at Castle Street car park were officially opened in June by Coffs Harbour Mayor, Councillor Denise Knight, and Rod McKelvey, the Chair of the CBD Masterplan Committee. The new facilities are part of an overall facelift of Castle Street car park, which also includes a top-floor steel-framed roof, solar panels and structural repairs.

### **CORINDI FACILITIES**

Council gave the green light for a community facility upgrade at Corindi. The reconstruction of an existing tennis court opposite the Corindi General Store will create a new, joint tennis court and half-court basketball space. The \$230,000 project will also include drainage, fencing, shade shelter, seating and landscaping.

### PLANNING FOR GROWTH

The volume of development applications submitted to Council for determination in 2014/2015 eased by 4% compared to the previous year. The total value of applications was also down slightly (by \$2.7m or 1.5%).

### **Development Applications (DAs) Submitted**

	• •					
	2013	3/14	2014/15			
Type of Development	No.	Value (\$)	No.	Value (\$)		
New Dwellings	269	77.9m	273	86.1m		
Dwelling Alterations / Additions	317	16.4m	307	13.1m		
New Multiple Occupancy	14	22.9m	14	42m		
Swimming Pools	56	1.5m	50	1.5m		
Commercial / Industrial / Retail	17	26.7m	15	10.1m		
Commercial / Industrial / Retail Additions / Alteration	42	3.6m	24	4.7		
Other	334	32.4m	323	21.2		
Total	1,049	181.4m	1,006	178.7m		

Significant Development Applications submitted for the period included:

- 47 dwellings and community title subdivision at Stadium Drive, Coffs Harbour
- 24 Unit Multi dwelling housing at 10 Korff Street, Coffs Harbour
- 112 lot subdivision at Fiddaman Road, Emerald Beach
- 99 lot subdivision at Airport Drive, Coffs Harbour
- 72 lot subdivision at Solitary Islands Way, Sandy Beach
- 59 lot subdivision at Lophostemon Drive, Coffs Harbour



COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL Locked Bag 155 COFFS HARBOUR NSW 2450 www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au