

## Economic Recovery Strategy: Supporting our Regions

The COVID-19 pandemic and the public health response, together with the resultant economic crisis, are reshaping communities and economies around the world.

More than any other state, Queensland unashamedly relies on the strength of its regional cities and towns. Regional economies drive Queensland's prosperity and our regional communities define our state's character. When our regions do well, all of Queensland does well.

Queensland's economic recovery strategy allows for a staged, adaptable approach. The first stage of the Recovery Strategy includes a set of immediate initiatives to get Queenslanders back to work and kick start our economy. In doing so, it will deliver for our tourism regions, our resource regions, our agricultural regions and all regional communities by:

- Maintaining the State infrastructure investment program at \$51.8 billion over the next four years – since 2015 almost 70 per cent of the Palaszczuk Government's entire capital spend has been outside of Greater Brisbane
- \$400 million Accelerated Works Program – to support our regions with a substantial capital and maintenance roads program that will benefit many areas of Queensland
- \$200 million Works for Queensland COVID-19 Recovery Package – to support local jobs and Local Governments with funding for building productive infrastructure
- Expanding the Household Resilience Program by \$11.25 million – to support local industry by improving the resilience of North and Central Queensland homes against natural disasters
- \$50 million to support Queensland's Tourism Industry – to fast track tourism projects and assist our national tourism icons
- \$7 million to support jobs and businesses in our tourism regions by marketing Queensland as the destination of choice for Australian travellers.
- \$14.8 million to continue investigating the CopperString project, which has the potential to unlock future development and employment opportunities for North West Queensland
- \$20 million for additional online training to assist Queenslanders, particularly young people and women who have borne a higher burden through job losses

This is the first stage in Queensland's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional recovery initiatives will be developed with our regions, guided by the ongoing public health response.

To this end, the Queensland Reconstruction Authority is working with councils throughout the state to develop local recovery plans that will consider the health, economic and human and social impacts of COVID-19 and propose workable solutions for long term recovery.

These local recovery plans will inform the development of Regional Recovery Strategies that consider Queensland's diverse economic and social landscape. QRA will work with regional leaders and stakeholders to develop 11 Regional Recovery Strategies that identify key economic and sectoral priorities.

For more information visit [www.covid19.qld.gov.au](http://www.covid19.qld.gov.au)