



TOWNSVILLE REGIONAL RECOVERY ACTION PLAN

A MESSAGE FROM
THE PREMIER
THE HONOURABLE ANNASTACIA PALASZCZUK MP
 AND
THE TREASURER
THE HONOURABLE CAMERON DICK MP



The COVID-19 pandemic has touched everyone and communities in Townsville have not been immune to its effects.

The Townsville Regional Recovery Action Plan builds on our

immediate commitment to keeping the region moving through extra support for businesses, workers and households – from payroll tax waivers to electricity bill relief.

Our recovery approach recognises that Townsville and North Queensland is a diverse region, a gateway to the North West minerals province and a major centre for tourism, agriculture, education, defence and manufacturing.

We are investing in upgrades to the Port of Townsville and the Haughton River Floodplain, along with Burdekin Ayr water infrastructure and stage five of the Townsville Ring Road. These are all future-proofing initiatives, delivering jobs and contributing to the regional economy.

In recognising that our COVID-19 response is a long-term challenge, this plan charts the way forward for delivering on one of our key priorities identified through Queensland’s Economic Recovery Plan – growing our regions.

We know that lasting recovery can only be achieved through genuine, community-based partnerships. That’s why we will continue working with all levels of government and key stakeholders to drive the best outcomes for this region.

Together we will support our key industries and also invest in more industries, more infrastructure and more businesses. This plan backs local jobs and local opportunities.

There will be challenging times ahead as we navigate our way through the pandemic.

One thing is certain, however – the Government stands as a ready partner to the people of Townsville and North Queensland as we work towards better days to come.

The Queensland Government has committed more than \$8 billion to support COVID-19 health and economic recovery initiatives across the State.

\$500M

in **electricity and water** bill relief, with a \$200 rebate for households, and a \$500 rebate for eligible small business and sole traders

\$90M

for **jobs and skills**, including funding for the Back to Work, Skilling Queenslanders for Work and Reef Assist programs

\$400M

land tax relief for property owners which must be passed onto tenants in the form of rent relief

\$267M

building boost to support home owners, ‘tradies’ and construction, including a **\$5,000 regional home building grant**

Support for Townsville region’s small businesses includes:



Up to \$950M

in **payroll tax relief** statewide, supporting **25,300 jobs** in the Townsville region



\$42.4M

in **Job Support Loans** of up to \$250,000 for 283 businesses supporting 3470 jobs



\$8.1M

in **907 Small Business Adaption Grants** of up to \$10,000 in the Townsville region



GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT IN TOWNSVILLE

1 Magnetic Island National Park - Forts Junction Hub upgrade

\$1.9 million in 2020-21 out of a \$2.4 million total spend to upgrade visitor access to the Fort. Part of the Growth Area and Regional Infrastructure Investment Fund.

2 Port of Townsville - Channel Upgrade

\$41.3 million in 2020-21 out of a \$193 million total spend towards the Port of Townsville Channel Upgrade project. Delivered in partnership with the Commonwealth Government.

3 Townsville Regional Industrial Estate

\$200,000 in 2020-21 out of a \$7.197 million total spend for the development of future industrial land at Bohle Plains in Townsville to support jobs generation and economic development.

4 Townsville Northern Access Intersections Upgrade

\$6.6 million in 2020-21 out of a \$98.9 million total spend to improve intersections. This funding does not include \$8.75 million of interim early works that were completed in 2018-19. Part of the Bruce Highway Upgrade Program, delivered in partnership with the Commonwealth Government.

5 Port of Townsville - berths terminal and road upgrades

\$16.1 million in 2020-21 out of a \$53.3 million total spend for Berth 4 cranes and upgrading the cargo terminal and roads at the Port of Townsville.

6 Queensland Country Bank Stadium

\$1.8 million in 2020-21 out of a \$293.5 million total spend to further enhance fan experience at the new 25,000 seat, best practice, purpose built stadium in Townsville.

7 Cowboys Training Facility

\$5 million of a total \$40 million to build the Cowboys Training Facility. Delivered in partnership with the Commonwealth Government.

8 Heatley Secondary College

\$6.2 million in 2020-21 out of a \$10 million total spend for refurbishment of multiple learning spaces and amenities, new covered walkways and new security fencing to the trade training centre.

9 Kirwan Replacement Ambulance Station

\$2 million in 2020-21 out of a \$3.3 million total spend for the construction of a replacement ambulance station at Kirwan.

10 Bruce Highway (Townsville to Ingham), Townsville Ring Road

\$10 million in 2020-21 out of a \$230 million total spend to duplicate the Townsville Ring Road to four lanes. Part of the State Infrastructure Fund and the Bruce Highway Upgrade Program, delivered in partnership with the Commonwealth Government.

12 Bruce Highway (Ayr - Townsville), Houghton River Floodplain, construct bridges and approaches

\$96.5 million in 2020-21 out of a \$514.3 million total spend to construct bridges, approaches, upgrade intersections on the Bruce Highway at Giru Horseshoe Lagoon to Palm Creek. Part of the Bruce Highway Upgrade Program, delivered in partnership with the Commonwealth Government.

13 Ayr Water Supply - infrastructure project (stage 2)

\$6 million in 2020-21 out of a \$10 million total spend to install three new bores, a 10 megalitre reservoir, associated pumps and water main to move primary water source from Nelson's Lagoon borefield to south Ayr.

14 Mount Isa Line investment

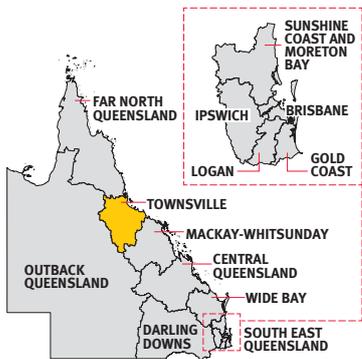
The Queensland Government is investing \$50 million on the Mount Isa Line to bolster freight movement between the Port of Townsville and the North West Minerals province.

15 Charters Towers replacement composite fire and rescue station

\$3.4 million in 2020-21 out of a \$3.5 million total spend to complete replacement of the composite fire and rescue station at Charters Towers.

16 Burdekin Falls Dam improvement and Dam raising project (planning works)

\$17.6 million in 2020-21 out of a \$44.4 million total spend to continue planning works for enhancements to meet future extreme weather events and feasibility assessments investigating the potential of raising the dam.



\$737M in Queensland Government capital investment in Townsville, supported an estimated 2,600 jobs in 2020-21

17 Arts and Cultural Recovery Package

\$15.4 million in 2020-21 out of a \$22.5 million total spend to reactivate cultural and creative spaces and provide jobs for local artists and arts workers bringing communities together and boosting cultural tourism.

18 Haughton Pipeline Stage 2

\$40 million in 2020-21 out of a \$195 million total spend to construct a water pipeline from the Burdekin River near Tom Fenwick Pump Station, connecting with earlier stages of the Haughton Pipeline.

19 Townsville - Health Technology Equipment

\$5.7 million in 2020-21 as part of ongoing funding for the Health Technology Equipment Replacement Program.

20 Townsville Women's Centre

\$1.2 million in 2020-21 out of a \$4.1 million total spend to continue with the construction of a new Women's Centre in Townsville.

Please note: Not all Government expenditure for the region is shown. Dollar amounts may include capital and operating expenditure, though may not represent the entire funding allocated.

SEPTEMBER 2020

KEY

-  Community wellbeing
-  Utilities
-  Health
-  Education
-  Transport and roads
-  Justice and safety
-  Government services
-  Recreation and culture
-  Statewide/region-wide
-  Election commitment

NEW ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR TOWNSVILLE



Support for Big Rocks Weir

The Queensland Government is set to invest up to \$30 million in Big Rocks Weir on the Burdekin River, approximately 26 km north of Charters Towers. The Queensland Government will invest \$3 million to support preconstruction activities to bring the project to an investment ready decision. Subject to a successful detailed business case and finalisation of regulatory approvals, the Queensland Government has committed up to \$27 million towards construction. The Commonwealth Government has committed up to \$30 million for construction on a 50:50 basis. Construction of the weir will support about 172 full-time equivalent positions at its peak.



More upgrades planned for Riverway Drive

The Queensland Government is committing \$19 million towards the duplication of Riverway Drive Stage Two. The \$95 million project will require a commitment from the Australian Government on an 80:20 basis to upgrade Riverway Drive between Allambie Lane and Dunlop Street. The Queensland Government has already delivered the \$43.5 million Riverway Drive duplication project for Stage One. Stage Two will include duplication of a further three kilometre section which incorporates replacement of the major water pipeline. Construction could start in 2022 if the Commonwealth Government commits to the project.



Maritime Testing Facility

The development of an Australian first maritime autonomous systems testing facility in Townsville will enable autonomous marine technologies and unmanned platforms with applications in civil and defence environments to be tested as being safe to operate prior to deployment. This initiative, supported by a Queensland Government investment of \$2 million, will position Townsville as a leader in the field ensuring our seaways remain safe.



DriveIT delivering for Townsville

Townsville's motor-racing and driver safety advocate DriveIT NQ is set to receive \$10 million in Queensland Government funding to assist development of the DriveIT NQ motorsport precinct located at the Woodstock (Lansdown) Industrial Estate, 40 kilometres south of Townsville. Subject to the project's economic viability and other conditions, the project will support more than 55 construction jobs and 140-plus on-going jobs. This builds on the Queensland Government's \$5 million commitment to support access to the Lansdown precinct.



Mount Isa Mines Copper Smelter

The Queensland Government is securing almost 1100 jobs associated with the Mount Isa Mines copper smelter. Over 250 jobs in Townsville depend on the smelter with a further 830 jobs in Mount Isa across Mount Isa Mines' and Incitec Pivot's operations. The smelter supports indirect employment for many hundreds more in those regions who either supply other goods and services to the smelter or refinery, or rely on the outputs. Over the next decade there will be growing global demand for copper and other new economy minerals needed for wind turbines, generators and batteries and copper for electric cars.

TOWNSVILLE TRAINING BUSINESS SUPPORTING REGIONAL WORKERS

Thousands of regional Queensland job seekers and workers will continue to be supported in re-training and up-skilling thanks to a COVID-19 Jobs Support Loan from the Queensland Government.

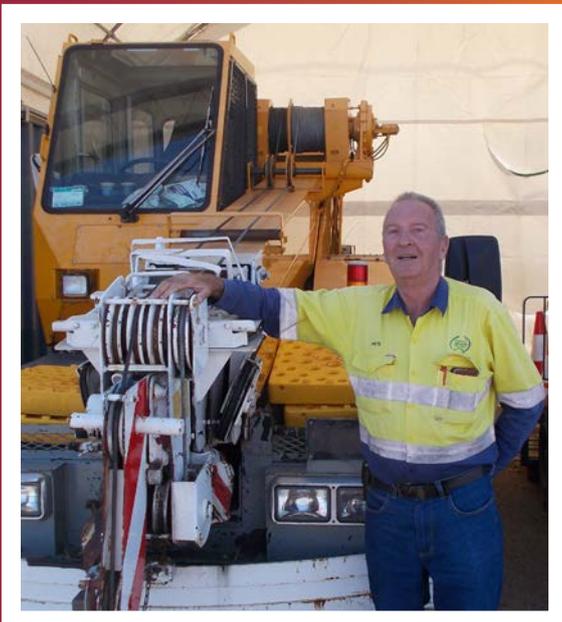
Advanced Industry Training business owners Schae and Lucy O'Dell are responsible for up-skilling job seekers and workers in essential skills like forklift, elevated work platform, heavy machinery, dangerous goods and white card induction training.

The Jobs Support Loan meant Schae and Lucy could continue paying their five staff, support other Townsville businesses, and pay carry-on expenses to ensure training continued during COVID-19 and into the future.

“If we didn’t get the loan our doors would have closed in early May. It’s meant we can maintain our payroll, make super payments and pay normal bills like rent.”

Lucy said there were nine qualifications and more than 300 individual units of training on offer, helping people into all kinds of work opportunities.

“We make sure they have the practical training they need so they can confidently operate machinery safely before we let them out the front door.”



Senior trainer and assessor from Advanced Industry Training, Peter Burroughs

FOURTH-GENERATION BUSINESS IN CHARTERS TOWERS CONTINUES THEIR LEGACY

A fourth-generation family business which has been supporting rural communities and employees since 1926 will be able to continue their legacy in Charters Towers during and after COVID-19 with a Queensland Government COVID-19 Jobs Support Loan.

The Titley brand includes five shops – selling footwear, workwear, sportswear and western clothing – and employs 32 local people.

Owner Tony Titley has been able to continue supporting his staff and the community where possible with the COVID-19 Jobs Support Loan. Mr Titley said the business was well-known in Charters Towers and supported many community events and sports teams but COVID-19 restrictions meant they had to rethink how they operated.

“It’s important we do stay open to let people know we are still here and haven’t given up. If people want stuff, they know they can come and get it,” he said.

“The COVID-19 Jobs Support Loan will keep us trading and keep people employed in our little country town. We have a very different outlook now, it’s good.” Mr Titley said the financial support allowed him to continue supporting staff where possible, which was a vital and long-standing commitment the business had to the entire Charters Towers community.

