

Townsville Port Community Liaison Group

Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday 6 November 2024, 5.00pm – 6.30pm

Venue: Boardroom, Port of Townsville

Chair: Ranee Crosby, CEO, Port of Townsville

Attendees

1	Ranee Crosby	CEO, Port of Townsville (Chair)
2	Matthew Lindsay	Manager Financial Governance and Planning, Port of Townsville
3	Sam Scandlyn	Manager Procurement and Contracts, Port of Townsville
4	Yael Relf	Waterfront Development Lead, Port of Townsville
5	Wayne Riley	Business Development Lead, Port of Townsville
6	Shakira Sellen	Corporate Affairs Advisor, Port of Townsville
7	Gabi Boccalatte	Corporate Affairs Officer, Port of Townsville
8	Adam Smith	Reef Ecologic
9	Leon Kippin	Community Rep
10	Heath Hatfield	Community Rep
11	Sharon Marks	Greening Australia
12	Joe Niven	MICDA Vice President (in place of Aniko Papp/online via Teams)

Apologies

1	Elaine Glen	Manager Climate and Environment, Port of Townsville
2	Jessica Johnston	Corporate Affairs Lead, Port of Townsville
3	Scott Croll	Manager Business Development, Port of Townsville
4	Keith Noble	NQ Dry Tropics Partnership for Healthy Waterways
5	Aniko Papp	MICDA
6	Craig Knight	Community Rep
7	Adam Hinks	Aquascene
8	Emily Blumson	Community Rep
9	Norm Rains	Birdlife Townsville
10	Brenton Creed	Wulgurukaba Traditional Owner

Actions Summary

Actions from this meeting:

ACTION: Share presentations on the Port's Waterfront Development and Community Survey Results and Actions with CLG members.

ACTION: Port to present Outer Harbour Development plan to CLG at a future meeting.

ACTION: Port to present changes to decarbonisation and sustainability standards to CLG at a future meeting.

ACTION: Port to give update on Waterfront Development plan to CLG at a future meeting. Closer to mid-next year, or the later end of next year.

ACTION: Port to invite CLG members to mid-December Channel Upgrade declaration celebration **(TBC)**.

ACTION: Port to invite CLG members to media event on 14 January 2025 for the arrival of the first large-class cruise ship, *Queen Elizabeth*.

Outstanding actions from previous meetings:

ACTION: Arrange an outing on the Osprey once COVID-19 restrictions allow.

ACTION: Port to present 30-year outlook plan to CLG at a future meeting.

ACTION: Provide further information about Wind Farm Projects at a future CLG meeting.

ACTION: Present plans for the next stages of the Port Expansion Project at a future CLG meeting.

ACTION: MAMI members to meet with Port's environment team/AIMS to discuss water quality and coral health partnerships.

1. Welcome/Apologies

Chair Raneë Crosby welcomed members to the CLG's 41st meeting at 4.52pm.

Raneë began by acknowledging the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we are meeting, the Wulgurukaba people, and paid respects to Elders both past and present.

Apologies for the meeting were noted.

Introductions to new Port staff.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The draft minutes of the previous meeting were tabled at the meeting.

All actions have been completed or were addressed during the meeting. Some outstanding actions will be covered as part of the agenda for future meetings when relevant updates are available.

Previous meeting's minutes accepted.

ACTION - Amend Sharon Marks' place of work to Greening Australia

3. Townsville Waterfront Precinct Update, Yael Relf, Waterfront Development Lead

Yael presented on the Port's vision for the Townsville Waterfront, which is intended to be redeveloped over a number of years to create an attractive and comfortable space which will increase community interest and stimulate economic development, as well as bring life and love back to Ross Creek and Townsville's CBD.

The Port owns around 10 hectares of land within the Townsville Waterfront Priority Development Area (PDA) which was established in 2015.

A current area of focus for development is 'Reef Central Precinct' which includes the Great Barrier Reef Aquarium through to a proposed new ferry terminal at The Strand. The Port is working closely with Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority in relation to the aquarium construction.

Another area with works in the short term is remediation works to Ross Creek East Bank, installation of the HMAS Townsville, upgrades to Ross Creek Street's footpaths and landscaping, and upgrades to Quayside Terminal to cater for transport for larger cruise ships.

4. Townsville Waterfront Precinct Q & A

The Group discussed the Waterfront redevelopment proposals, with key points including:

- Coordination and collaboration with key stakeholders and local groups for the aquarium development, including JCU, AIMS and other scientific research and education organisations and citizens of the reef;
- Future planning for the lands between the ferry terminal and the casino, including options for future boat ramps;
- Carparking required to support developments across the waterfront and incentives to encourage sustainable alternative modes of transport;
- Inclusion of input from Traditional Owners in planning for the precinct and projects across the waterfront.

ACTION: Share Waterfront Development presentation with CLG members.

5. Port of Townsville Social & Sustainable Procurement, Sam Scandlyn, Manager Procurement and Contracts

The Port actively supports Townsville's economy by sourcing goods, services, and capital works from local suppliers where possible. It's in our best interest to provide opportunities for local suppliers to partner with us.

The Port focuses on two standards of procurement: Sustainable Procurement and Social Procurement.

Sustainable Procurement considers the environmental, economic, and social impacts from purchasing decisions with a focus on value for money and long-term sustainability. At the Port, we align our procurement processes and activities with the Queensland Government's sustainable standard of '30% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030', to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. We are diligent in learning more about our suppliers and what they're actively doing in the sustainability space, before scoring and/or onboarding them.

Social Procurement involves using procurement activities to generate positive social outcomes to support local communities and businesses. Under social procurement we target a 3% addressable spend to align with the Queensland Government Procurement Policy.

When going out to tender, we have a criterion which focuses on eco-friendly and energy efficient products and services with long-lasting lifecycle costs and are sustainable in terms of building designs in order to reduce carbon emissions.

We've attended several procurement events this year, including *Meet the Buyer: NQ Supply Chain*, *NQ First Nations: Connect Tendering and Employment Opportunities*, *Making our Mark, Townsville Industry Breakfast*, *Intract Townsville Office Opening*, and *Making our Mark: Celebrating 10 years*.

Recently the Queensland Government transitioned from QTenders to Vendor Panel. As such, we'll now begin tendering for projects through Vendor Panel. Being a Queensland standard, we're confident our local suppliers will be familiar with this program.

We've also spent a large amount of time meeting with internal Indigenous buyers to understand their needs and to help connect them with larger local businesses.

Sam is participating in a place-based program with Queensland Supplier, Enterprise and Economic Development (Q-Seed). It's a collaborate initiative led by CQ University that is supported by ArcBlue and Smart Precinct North Queensland. The program brings together local procurers and buyers to strategise and prioritise local spending and address the current unemployment issues faced. The Port has signed up to Q-Seed's regional charter and so far, it has complimented the Port's vision for future Procurement.

We're also working on a First Nations Procurement event to be held in 2025 to help promote local indigenous businesses to a few of our biggest buyers. We've engaged 30 Indigenous businesses to date and continue to meet with more.

6. Community Survey Results & Actions, Shakira Sellen, Corporate Affairs Advisor

This year's annual community survey results indicated a higher satisfaction rating, but lower recorded responses compared to 2023. Overall, there seems to be positive sentiment from the community.

The Port observed that there's still a lot of 'I don't know' sentiment around the area, despite engaging the community through more targeted initiatives recently. Encouraged CLG members to let us know of any suggestions to improve our community engagement.

ACTION – Share PowerPoint Presentation with CLG members

7. Round table

The Group discussed a number of matters including:

- Demolition of the old Coast Guard building on Sir Leslie Thiess Drive / Ross Creek due to its deteriorated state and safety risks.
- Future considerations of showcasing the Port's history through the Townsville Waterfront.
- The Port's 1 million trees program and partnerships with business and organisations to achieve this goal.
- Opportunities to trial, or explore methodologies in regenerating, planting, or enhancing Townsville's mangrove areas.
- Recent studies of coral, seagrass, and seaweed in the Port's area (coral is looking good).
- Opportunities for the Port to showcase some of its sustainability initiatives in publications in the future;
- First cruise ship for the season arrived on Sunday - works at Quayside Terminal have been delayed slightly so there weren't any market stalls for the first cruise of the season as public access is restricted to Quayside Terminal while works are underway.
- The Channel Upgrade Project should be complete before the next CLG, and declaration of the new channel depth will happen once the 2024 dredging campaign is complete. We are hoping to have a ribbon cutting event to celebrate the CU project on 14 January 2025, when the first large-class cruise vessel docks – Queen Elizabeth.

ACTION: Port to potentially be involved in Adam Smith's campaign to recognise World Ocean Day on June 8, 2025. Further details to be discussed closer to the date.

8. CLG Review – what would you like to see in 2025?

We invite different Port representatives to present at upcoming CLG meetings.

MATTHEW – It might be worth presenting the recent change in accounting standards at an upcoming CLG. Our standards have advanced significantly. It's an interesting project to be aware of in terms of climate and sustainability.

SHARON – Any updates on landscape changes to the Environmental Park, any possibility of a community nursery.

ACTION: Matthew Lindsay to present on the recent changes in accounting standards at an upcoming CLG.

Meeting closed at 6.29pm

Next CLG Meeting tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, 5 February 2025.