

Date: Thursday 15 May 2025
Venue: Via Teams
Time: 11:00am

Attendees

- Claudia Brassard
- Gaye Scott
- Robyn Guedes
- Lawrence Mason
- Emma Tunnock
- Jacklyn Kiernan

Apologies

- Abi Ralph
- Merran Blockey

Road Update

Claudia presented the road update, going from north to south.

Cape Tribulation Bloomfield Road

- The contract to repair the ten landslips has been awarded to HEH.
- Cape Tribulation Bloomfield Road sign has arrived and has been installed.
- The contract to repair the concrete road surfaces has been awarded to NCP Civil.
- The contract to repair unsealed sections has been awarded to Durack Civil
- The disaster management team is looking at what early warning systems can be achieved at Woobadda Bridge and Emmagen Creek – but there are no guarantees.

Degarra

- Holding works are currently underway on Banabilla and Evergreen Roads
- The contract for permanent repairs to all three unsealed roads in Degarra has been awarded to Durack Civil.
- Durack Civil is the same contractor who has been awarded the \$9 million contract to deliver landside infrastructure to accommodate a new, wider, dual loading ferry.
- The cameras on Banabilla Road at the causeway over Woobadda Creek will be removed at the end of May.
- The disaster management team is looking at a more permanent solution for the next wet season.

Noah Range Landslip

- Wet weather over last few weeks has slowed works.
- Red Fox the geotechnical contractors have completed their work, paving the way for repairs to commence.
- HEH is aiming to complete work by December 2025 weather permitting.
- The lights have been swapped out to enable traffic controllers at Noah's Range to actively manage traffic flow, eliminating the 2-minute wait.

Noah Creek Bridge

- The new bridge will be built on the same alignment as existing bridge.
- The temporary bypass, suitable for all vehicles, will be built on the same alignment as the current heavy vehicle bypass.
- This will mean that for a period of time, all vehicles travelling past Noah Creek will be limited to 16 tonne or less.
- This will mainly impact construction traffic as tourist vehicles, even the largest of caravans and mobile homes, are well below 9 tonnes and can therefore cross the existing bridge.
- We are still negotiating with QRA on the funding of the bridge.
- The DRFA team is also continuing to work with SARA and environmental agencies to finalise environmental approvals around fish movements and protected plant species.
- The timeline is getting very tight. If not finalised soon, the project may need to be deferred until the 25/26 dry season.

Alexandra Range

Landslips:

- Progress has been hampered by wet weather.
- Contractor has recorded 45 rain days
- There have been challenges encountered at two of the three additional sites.
- Sites 21 and 22 have taken longer than expected.
- This has pushed the completion date out to mid July.
- The DRFA team is however, working with the contractors to have all traffic control removed before the school holidays which start at the end of June.
- Daintree Discovery Centre – contractors met on site this morning.

Fern Gully and Site 2 Stabilisation

- Works completed
- Final site inspections and defects to happen this week
- Then water barriers will be removed

Resealing Works

- Sealing has been completed.
- Line marking is booked for the week of the 26 may and this will complete the work.

Ferry Update

- Ferry tenders will be workshopped with Councillors in June.
- Scheduled to be tabled at a Special Council meeting in July 2025.

McDowall Lane

- Neilly Group has started work on riverbank erosion remediation this week.
- The riverbank will be stabilised by the placement of rock.
- Contractor will use six trucks; each will do 4-6 loads per day - 72 truck movements each day.
- Work to be completed by 9 June 2025.

CREB Track

- Aiming to inspect within a few weeks and open by the end of May 2025.
- Daintree Village is planning a season opening event over the weekend of 7th & 8th June.

Betterment Funding Application

- QRA has been requesting further information about some of the projects and the DRFA team has been responding as quickly as possible.

Disaster Management

- Annette Plowman has been with Council since January 2025.
- \$150,000 was applied for back in February 2024. It has been allocated to Cape Tribulation to improve access.
- Annette will be talking to community members about how best to use the funds and will be visiting Cape Tribulation 4 June.
- David Younger who is a natural disaster and emergency recovery consultant, will be returning to the shire week commencing 23 June.
- David will be revisiting Degarra and other communities. A session will be held in Diwan for Cape Trib, Cow Bay and Forest Creek residents. The schedule is being finalised at the moment.

Carried Forward

- Lawrence advised Cape Tribulation Road is deteriorating badly and residents' vehicles are being damaged. Truck movements are breaking the edges of the road in places. [Civil team advised its budget for pavement repairs had already been allocated for the 24/25 financial year.](#)

LM said he was doing unbudgeted work on his property at the moment, because it needed to be done, and the tourist season is just about to arrive. He can't believe Council is that inflexible. If they've got new money available from the first of July, well, you just move the goal posts a couple of months. If money becomes available in July, and in the busiest possible time of the year, they'll then come and put more stop slow sections on the road when repairs should have been done in May. [GS to pass on comments to Civil team.](#)

- Follow up on the issue of traffic controllers at Noah's Range not actively managing the traffic flow. [LM reported issue has been resolved after he spoke to FNQ Traffic Control.](#)
- Following a machine working at AR1, water is now running directly into the Discovery Centre and under a walkway, which will eventually undermine infrastructure. [Contractors visited the site 15 May 2025. Papillon currently working out how issue can be rectified.](#)
- Provide the maps and details of the betterment fund application projects to RG. [GS to follow up and provide to Robyn.](#)

New Business

RG reported weeds were so overgrown at Pierces Hill that tourists in particular are driving down the middle of the road to avoid the guinea grass and the weeds encroaching from both sides because there's been no spraying done. Some drivers don't move to the side when passing another car because they don't want the weeds to scratch their car. [Council team had sprayed that area Tuesday 13 May.](#)

Next Meeting

- To be advised.