

## Meeting #18

Date: Thursday 19 September 2024

Venue: Via Teams

Time: 10:00am – 10:45am

### Attendees

- Abi Ralph
- Claudia Brassard
- Gabriel Nucifora
- Gaye Scott
- Jacklyn Kiernan
- Lawrence Mason
- Robyn Guedes
- Stephen Sponberg

### Apologies

- Andy Hewetson
- Brett Grainger
- Chris Jones
- Cole Claxton
- Emma Tunnock

## Road Update

Claudia Brassard presented the road update.

### Alexandra Range

Site 1 – completed except for some minor defects

Site 2 – contractor is aiming for completion by end of September

Site 3 – this is the problematic site, and contractors are aiming for completion early October

There were two incidents on the range last week.

- One involved a caravan which crossed double lines and connected with a concrete truck. Council was informed of the incident via a third party which is not the correct procedure. Measures have been taken to improve the incident reporting.
- The second incident was a tree which fell within the traffic queuing zone. Luckily there was no damage to people or vehicles. This incident has triggered a change to our road management procedures with additional components to be inspected. The traffic queuing zones are now included to monitor potential tree failure, and a chain saw has been added to the road manager vehicle.

Traffic management plans are being revised because people are queuing in the middle of the road when stopped at lights. Improved signage, including VMS boards will be installed to remind drivers at the end of one-way section, that it is two-way.

LM – Mentioned there was a big dead tree down the slope at site 2. As a forest manager, Lawrence confirmed trees could fall uphill. [CB noted and will pass onto contractor.](#)

- Tenders for the design and construction of sites 8a,9,10,11 closed 6 September, and the preferred tenderer has been advised. Council is finalising the paperwork.
- Tenders for the design and construction of sites 3b, 4,5,6,7,8 tender closed 11 September. Council is working towards awarding this tender early next week.

### **Cape Tribulation Bloomfield Road**

- A tender package is being prepared for the permanent repairs
- Construction is likely to occur after the 2024/25 wet season.
- CB confirmed the cement and bitumen section of the road, near 2529 will not be repaired until 2025.
- Holding works will continue through the wet season.

#### **Give Way Signs**

- Give way signs will be installed at two locations
  - The road beside and between the pool at the end of (2529 CTBR) and Walker's driveway (2566 CTBR) is a one lane overpass
  - Further up the hill from Luana Hairpin, travelling south towards the little creek across the road, is another signed One Way section.
- Give way signs were considered at Luana Hairpin Bend as was a mirror. The Give Way signs are not practical as travellers cannot see oncoming traffic. Road Narrow signs will be installed instead. A mirror was also ruled out because by the time you can see the reflection it is too late. Call point signs have been installed asking travellers to use Channel 40.

#### **Slippery When Wet**

- LM said road is like a skating rink after rain
- CB agreed recent rain has washed away a layer of gravel – this would need to be addressed by Holding works.

#### **Road Surface 1 kilometre either side of Collins Creek.**

- RG said to traverse this section of road required dropping down to first gear.
- GS clarified location with RG after meeting as being halfway between Donovan and Cowrie Range, just after Melissa Creek travelling South.
- [CB to arrange for road crew to inspect.](#)

### **CREB Track**

- Open Monday 9 September.

### **Noah Range Landslip**

- Tender has been awarded to HEH Civil.
- The prestart meeting occurred Thursday 19 September.
- HEH Civil is aiming to provide necessary documentation by mid next week. This is required prior to handing over Possession of Site.
- Traffic control at the Noah Range currently operated by Council will transfer to HEH Civil once construction commences.

### **Noah Creek Bridge**

- We were expecting the structural report on the bridge last week. It is a week late and Council expects it will be delivered this Tuesday 24 September.
- The bridge will remain in place for this wet season with construction of a new bridge likely to be April/May 2025.

### **Noah Creek Heavy Vehicle Bypass**

- After just 40ml of rain, the Noah Creek Heavy Vehicle Bypass was washed out.
- It is now repaired, and Council is reviewing different options to make it more effective.
- LM - the frequency of the blowouts demonstrates why people are very concerned about a temporary bypass across this creek for months while a bridge is built.
- A separate database for notifications has been created.
- Julian from Cape Trib camping has been added to receive SMS alerts.

### **Unsealed Road Repairs – Daintree River to Cape Tribulation**

- Gulf Civil Pty Ltd has been awarded the \$4,325,344 contract for the repair of the damaged sections of unsealed roads between the Daintree River and Cape Tribulation.
- The scheduled start date is 30 September 2024.

### **Insurance**

- Getting Works Insurance has been an issue for some contractors, and this is delaying work on the other unsealed road package.

### **Ferry Update**

- Council will consider ferry operating models at a Special Council meeting scheduled for 10 AM on Tuesday, 15 October 2024.

### **Wujal Wujal Jump Up**

- As many are aware, the first section of China Camp Road within Wujal Wujal Shire's jurisdiction and has a 5-tonne weight limit.
- Representatives from DSC & WWASC met this week with the aim of progressing repairs. The outcome of the meeting being the collaboration between the two Councils to pool resources to get repair works completed.

### **Speed of Repairs**

- LM said with the approaching wet season – less than three months until 12-month anniversary of Jasper, the community were concerned with the speed (or lack of) progress.
- This was acknowledged.
- HEH Civil who is repairing Noah Range landslip is aiming to make the landslip safe / stable prior to the wet.
- There are a total of 16 sites on Alexandra Range
  - Sites 1, 2 and 3 will be completed before the wet
  - Sites 8a,9,10,11 may be completed before the wet
  - Sites 3b, 4,5,6,7,8 are unlikely to be completed before the wet.

### **Flashing Lights**

- SS had observed vehicles with amber lights being used when outside the construction zone. Lights can be used when moving within the construction zone, but not on public roads.
- [CB noted for follow up.](#)

### **Disaster Planning**

- LM said in preparation for the coming wet season, it would be good for the Local, State and Federal Government agencies to think about the disposal of landslip material – which from experience, can be 100,000m<sup>3</sup>

### **Next Meeting**

- The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 3 October 10am.