

6.3. PORT DOUGLAS AQUATIC PRECINCT - REPORT ON ENGAGEMENT FINDINGS

REPORT AUTHOR	Gaye Scott, Community Liaison Officer
MANAGERS	Lisa Golding, Manager People and Community Services Scott Hahne, Manager Project Office Rachel Brophy, Chief Executive Officer
DEPARTMENTS	People and Community Services Project Office

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1) Notes the results of the community engagement regarding the preferred location of a splash park and level of support for a public swimming facility in Port Douglas as per the attached report,**
- 2) Notes that public feedback confirms Jalunbu Park as the preferred location for a splash park,**
- 3) Seeks tenders for the design and then construction of a splash park in Jalunbu Park, and**
- 4) Investigates options for a co-located swimming facility to attract future funding.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Community engagement was conducted from January through to March 2023 to ascertain which of two parks, Jalunbu or Reynolds, the community preferred for the location of a Splash Park.

A secondary purpose of the engagement was to measure the level of support for a public swimming facility in Port Douglas and to ascertain the community's preference for either a 50m lap pool or free form lagoon.

An exceptional response to the online survey resulted in achieving statistically verifiable data as to the community's preferences. The survey attracted 1239 respondents, which is more than double the 400 needed to have confidence that the data is representative of the total population.

The key survey findings were:

- The community prefers Jalunbu Park 44% over Reynolds Park 24%.
- A public swimming facility in Port Douglas is supported by 73% of respondents.
- Almost two thirds of respondents, 61%, prefer a free form lagoon over a 50-metre lap pool.
- Co-locating a future swimming facility with the splash park was supported by 46% of all survey respondents.

BACKGROUND

At its November 2022 meeting, Douglas Shire Council resolved to consult with the community for the location of the Port Douglas Splash Park and Water Precinct, and for the results to be brought back to a Council meeting for the final location to be decided by Council resolution.

COMMENTS

Community engagement occurred between January and March 2023. The purpose of the community engagement was to:

- Capture the views of a wide range of the community.
- Generate statistically verifiable data from the community on their preferred location.
- Measure the level of support for a public swimming facility in Port Douglas, either a 50m lap pool or lagoon, on the basis the community understands the ongoing operational costs and the potential impact on their rates and/or reduction in service in other areas.
- Measure the level of support for whether an additional, future, public swimming facility needed to be co-located with the splash park.

An exceptional response to the online survey resulted in achieving statistically verifiable data as to the community's preferences.

The survey attracted 1,239 responses including 834 people living across Douglas Shire, from Oak Beach through to Cow Bay and 210 absentee ratepayers.

The key survey findings were:

- Jalunbu Park preferred by 541 people [44%] versus Reynolds Park preferred by 298 people [24%]
- The overwhelming reason people gave for preferring Jalunbu Park over Reynolds was proximity to the beach. This was mentioned by almost 70 percent of the 541 people choosing Jalunbu.
- The second most common reason given was proximity to the surf club. The third most common reason was that people simply preferred the site because it was not on the main road into Port Douglas.

Almost three quarters of respondents [73%] said they supported a public swimming facility in Port Douglas.

As expected, support for the swimming facility was higher for those living in Port Douglas and Craiglie [80%], however support was strong right across the shire.

It ranged from a low of 62.5% for people living north of Mossman to Cow Bay, and a high of 85% for those living south of Craiglie through to Oak Beach.

Almost two thirds of respondents, 61%, prefer a free form lagoon over a 50-metre lap pool which is preferred by just 15% of the population.

As to co-location, the findings were less clear cut. Co-locating a future swimming facility with the splash park was supported by 46% of all survey respondents.

Excluding respondents who did not support a swimming facility, 58% said a future swimming facility should be co-located with the splash park.

The community sent a strong message that it wants to see the project progress. There are those who would prefer the “Do Nothing” option and 5% did not support a splash park for Port Douglas. The six most mentioned reasons were:

1. There are higher priorities
2. It is unnecessary as we are surrounded by natural creeks, beaches, have a beautiful swimming pool in Mossman and most homes and resorts have a pool.
3. The ongoing operating and maintenance costs will increase rates.
4. Our shire is different to other destinations and will be spoilt
5. Noise and traffic generated by the splash park will negatively impact on immediate neighbours
6. There is insufficient water. Water restrictions are frequently imposed by Council.

PROPOSAL

That Council:

- 1) Notes the results of the community engagement about the preferred location of a splash park and level of support for a public swimming facility in Port Douglas as per the attached report,
- 2) Notes that public feedback confirms Jalunbu Park as the preferred location for a splash park,
- 3) Seeks tenders for the design and then construction of a splash park in Jalunbu Park, and
- 4) Investigates options for a co-located lagoon to attract future funding.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The Queensland Government, via a Special Purpose Grant administered by the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning has offered Council \$1.5 million ex GST for Splash Parks in Mossman and Port Douglas.

The Department initially advised the project/s would need to be completed before 31 May 2023 however the deadline has been extended to September 2024.

Council has allocated \$500,000 to go towards the Mossman Splash Park which is currently being constructed at the Mossman Swimming Pool.

The balance of \$1 million has been allocated towards building a splash park in Port Douglas.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- Budget:** With rising costs in materials and freight, funds additional to the \$1 million in grant funding, may be required to complete the splash park in Port Douglas. Delays in sourcing materials, and lack of available and suitably qualified contractors in this field may push back delivery dates. There is a risk Council will lose part of the funding if the September 2024 deadline is not achieved.
- Vegetation:** The vegetation located adjacent the southern boundary of Jalunbu Park is mapped as Category C vegetation as regrowth vegetation under the Vegetation Management Act. As the development of the land is identified as an urban purpose in an urban area, the removal of this vegetation is exempt clearing work under Schedule 21 of the Planning Regulation 2017. The remainder of Jalunbu Park is mapped as Category X to which the Vegetation Management Act does not regulate the clearing of vegetation. The removal of other vegetation within the park is regulated by the Planning Scheme. As the development of a Splash Park will be undertaken by Council, operational works associated with excavation and filling and vegetation removal is exempt development under Schedule 6 of the Planning Regulation 2017.
- Land Zoning:** Jalunbu Park is designated as a Reserve for Camping with a sub purpose of Recreation. The Queensland Government has confirmed that a splash park and pool is considered consistent with the purpose of the reserve.
- Native Title:** Because the reserve over Jalunbu Park was created before the start of native title, the Trustee, which is Douglas Shire Council, is therefore entitled to use the reserve for the purpose it was created. Council will be required to give notice to the native title applicants, upon which they could provide comment on the project. For Traditional Owners who were consulted as part of the engagement process, Jalunbu Park was their preferred location because of its proximity to the sea, high foot traffic, easy pedestrian access and existing popularity with children and families.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

- Economic:** Annual maintenance, cleaning, and operating costs for a splash park in Port Douglas are estimated at \$110,000. By creating a unique feature in Jalunbu Park, there is potential to create economic support for surrounding cafés.
- Environmental:** Impact on the adjacent waterway can be avoided however there may be a need to remove one or more of the mature melaleuca trees. An effort needs to be made to accommodate all existing trees in the splash park development.
- Social:** The findings from this, and previous rounds of consultation indicate overwhelming support for splash park in Port Douglas. If the project fails to proceed, many in the community will be disappointed. Families are struggling to find water activities that are safe, fun, and available year-round. Many parents do not like using the beaches, rivers, or creeks due to stingers and crocodiles.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2019-2024 Initiatives:

Theme 1 - Celebrating Our Communities

Douglas Shire Council embraces the diversity of our communities and values the contribution that all people make to the Shire. We recognise that it is a core strength of the region. We acknowledge our past so that it may guide us in the future. We recognise the wrongs done to our Indigenous community and we actively seek to reconcile so that we may all benefit from and enjoy our Shire. We acknowledge early European settlers who forged an agricultural base for our economy, and we welcome all new arrivals as part of our broader community.

Goal 2 - *We will deliver programs and services that protect and enhance the liveability of our beautiful Shire.*

Theme 2 - Fostering Sustainable Economic Growth

A robust economy is at the heart of a thriving community and enables investment in environmental protection. While our remoteness is a key attribute, it also presents challenges for attracting new business and investment. We must also meet the challenges of fierce competition in the tourism sector. Council will partner with industry to build, diversify and promote the Douglas economy. Council will design and deliver infrastructure, strategies and services that support the local economy and businesses.

Goal 1 - *We will build appropriate infrastructure and deliver services that connect and support businesses.*

Theme 4 - Inclusive Engagement, Planning and Partnerships

In delivering for our communities, economy and environment, Douglas Shire will ensure open and transparent engagement and communication. We will develop robust strategic plans and we will partner with our community and key stakeholders.

Goal 1 - *We will implement transparent decision making through inclusive community engagement and communication.*

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Actions:

Continue to develop the Port Douglas Aquatic Precinct - *Generate "shovel ready" documentation to enable State and Federal funding to be obtained.*

COUNCIL'S ROLE

Council can play several roles in certain circumstances, and it is important to be clear about which role is appropriate for a specific purpose or circumstance. The implementation of actions will be a collective effort and Council's involvement will vary from information only through to full responsibility for delivery.

The following areas outline where Council has a clear responsibility to act:

Builder/Owner Council makes a significant investment every year in the infrastructure that underpins the Shire through its capital works program. Council will manage its assets with appropriate frameworks and deliver its projects through robust project management.

CONSULTATION

Internal: Engagement findings discussed at Councillor workshop 30 May 2023.

External: Legal advice re Native Title on Jalunbu Park.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engagement with the community was extensive with messaging across all Douglas Shire Council's digital and print communication channels, including a notice which went to every ratepayer in January 2023.

Officers created a dedicated webpage with fact sheet, details of engagement activities and ability to register to receive information via direct email.

Facebook posts included a link to the website, alerts when survey opened and a reminder a few days before the survey closed as well as the dates, places and times of face-to-face engagement activities and community pops up.

Data and feedback collected has been collated and analysed and results presented in the attached report.

ATTACHMENTS

1. DSC Port Douglas Aquatic Precinct Engagement FINAL [6.3.1 - 44 pages]

Port Douglas Aquatic Precinct

Engagement Report

17 June 2023

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Executive Summary

Community engagement was conducted from January through to March 2023 to ascertain which of two parks, Jalunbu or Reynolds, the community preferred for the location of a Splash Park.

A secondary purpose of the engagement was to measure the level of support for a public swimming facility in Port Douglas and to ascertain the community preference for either a 50m lap pool or free form lagoon.

Engagement activities were widely promoted across all Council's digital and print communication channels resulting in the views of a wide range of people being captured.

An exceptional response to the online survey resulted in achieving statistically verifiable data as to the community's preferences.

The survey attracted 1239 respondents which is more than double the 600 needed to have confidence that the data is representative of the total population.

Respondents included 834 people living throughout across the Shire, from Oak Beach through to Cow Bay as well as 210 absentee ratepayers.

Key Survey Findings:

- Jalunbu Park preferred by 44% versus Reynolds Park preferred by 24%
- Main three reasons for preferring Jalunbu Park were that it was:
 - Close/closer to the beach
 - Close/closer to surf club
 - Not on the main road
- Main two reasons for preferring Reynolds Park are that it offers more room for parking and a larger area for expansion.
- Concerns raised about Jalunbu to consider if a splash park goes ahead in this location include:
 - There is a lack of car parking already and the additional facility will make it worse
 - The mature Melaleuca trees are much loved and efforts need to be made to retain the trees
 - The development needs to avoid encroaching the existing waterway
 - Jalunbu Park is surrounded on two sides by high density living where residents will be affected by the noise pollution from children screaming, albeit in delight.
- A public swimming facility in Port Douglas was supported by 73% of survey respondents.
- 61% of respondents prefer a free form lagoon compared to 15% who prefer a 50m lap pool.
- Co-locating a swimming facility with the splash park was supported by 46% of all survey respondents.

Section One - Introduction

1.1 Background

At its November 2022 meeting, Douglas Shire Council resolved to consult with the community for the location of the Port Douglas Splash Park and Water Precinct, and for the results to be brought back to a Council meeting for the final location to be decided by Council resolution.

Cred Consulting was contracted to undertake the community engagement and this report presents the findings from engagement activities conducted from January through to March 2023.

1.2 Objectives

The purpose of the community engagement was to:

- Capture the views of a wide range of the community.
- Generate statistically verifiable data from the community on their preferred location.
- Establish the splash park elements preferred by community (i.e., what features do they think are important). The potential features presented need to be achievable within a \$1 million capital works budget.
- Seek input from the community into the design/look of the splash park, again, providing options which are achievable within a \$1 million capital works budget to help inform a design brief for the splash park contractors.
- Measure the level of support for a public swimming facility in Port Douglas, either a 50m lap pool or lagoon, on the basis the community understands the ongoing operational costs and the potential impact on their rates and/or reduction in service in other areas.
- Measure the level of support for whether the additional public swimming facility needs to be co-located with the splash park.

1.3 Engagement Activities

Engagement activities were widely promoted across all Douglas Shire Council's digital and print communication channels.

Table 1 – Communication Channels

Media	Time
Facebook Posts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Publication of fact sheet and opportunity to register for updates ahead of survey opening. Refer to <i>Appendix One</i> for Fact Sheet ▪ Post when survey opened and again a few days before survey closed ▪ Publication of dates and times of community pops up ▪ Minute with the Mayor
Rates Notice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Notice of upcoming engagement included in January 2023 rates notice.
Direct Email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 300+ people registered to receive emails. Two emails sent 2 Feb to advise survey open, and reminder sent a few days before survey closed 1 Mar.
Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fact sheet, details of engagement dates and times and
LED Screens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engagement dates, times and survey broadcast throughout February.
Cairns Local News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Details of engagement dates and times and opportunity to register for updates appeared in advertisements in Jan & Feb editions.

Table 2 - Community Engagement Activities

Engagement activity	Comments
Rates Notice Insert	9,500 people reached
Survey – Refer Appendix Two for a copy of the questionnaire	1,239 responses – online and hard copy.
Community pops ups	Due to weather, the Jalunbu Park and Reynolds Park activities relocated to Port Douglas Community Hall. 110 attended across both sessions.
Port Douglas Markets	Stall attracted an estimated 40 visitors
Qualitative interviews	Community groups, tourism section, Traditional owners, immediate neighbours.
Port Douglas State School	Friday 17 February

Table 3 – How did you find out about the Port Douglas Aquatic Precinct survey?

Communication Channel	Number who mentioned	% of 1239 respondents
Social media	516	41.6%
Council's website	174	14.0%
Online news platform	165	13.3%
Someone told me about it (Word of Mouth)	145	11.7%
Flyer in the Rates notice	124	10.0%
Council's fortnightly e-newsletter	62	5.0%
Newspost	49	3.9%
Your Douglas News (lift out in the Cairns Local News)	46	3.7%
Newspaper	36	2.9%
Radio	7	0.6%
Presentation at my school	5	0.4%
Television	3	0.2%
I didn't. I just walked past.	3	0.2%
Other (please specify)	67	5.4%

Section Two – Survey Results

2.1 Sample Characteristics

2.1.1 Age

A total of 1,239 people responded to the survey.

Nearly half the respondents were under 54 years of age and 43% were over 50. Almost 70% were residents of the Douglas Shire.

Table 2. Age of Respondents.

Age	Number	%
Under 18	3	0.2%
18-34	154	12.4%
35-54	449	36.2%
55+	535	43.2%
No Response	98	7.9%
Total	1,239	100%

2.1.2 Usual Place of Residence

Table 3. Where Respondents live

Residence	Number	%
Live in Douglas Shire	854	68.9%
Absentee Ratepayer	210	16.9%
Do not live in Douglas Shire	60	4.8%
No Response	115	9.3%
Total	1,239	100%

Survey respondents came from all over the shire, from Oak Beach through to Cow Bay. There was also 210 respondents who were absentee ratepayers.

Table 5. Alphabetical Listing

Locality	Number	%
Bamboo	5	0.4%
Bonnie Doon	23	1.9%
Cassowary	4	0.3%
Cooya Beach	50	4.0%
Cow Bay	1	0.1%
Craiglie	125	10.1%
Finlayvale	1	0.1%
Forest Creek	5	0.4%
Killaloe	9	0.7%
Miallo	19	1.5%
Mossman	77	6.2%
Mossman Gorge	6	0.5%
Mowbray	44	3.6%
Newell Beach	20	1.6%
Oak Beach	17	1.4%
Port Douglas	391	31.6%
Rocky Point	9	0.7%
Shannonvale	13	1.0%
Stewart Creek Valley	1	0.1%
Upper Daintree	2	0.2%
Wangetti Beach	1	0.1%
Whyanbeel	10	0.8%
Wonga Beach	21	1.7%
Absentee Ratepayers	210	16.9%
Outside Shire	60	4.8%
No Response	115	9.3%
Total	1239	100%

Table 6. Largest to smallest number of respondents

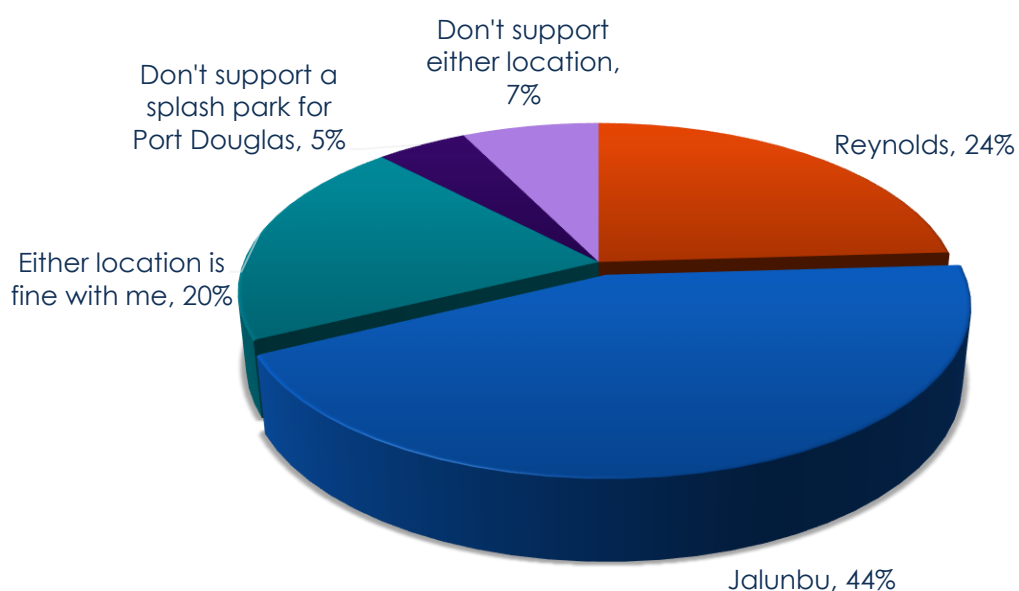
Locality	Number	%
Port Douglas	391	31.6%
Absentee Ratepayers	210	16.9%
Craiglie	125	10.1%
No Response	115	9.3%
Mossman	77	6.2%
Outside Shire	60	4.8%
Cooya Beach	50	4.0%
Mowbray	44	3.6%
Bonnie Doon	23	1.9%
Wonga Beach	21	1.7%
Newell Beach	20	1.6%
Miallo	19	1.5%
Oak Beach	17	1.4%
Shannonvale	13	1.0%
Whyanbeel	10	0.8%
Killaloe	9	0.7%
Rocky Point	9	0.7%
Mossman Gorge	6	0.5%
Forest Creek	5	0.4%
Bamboo	5	0.4%
Cassowary	4	0.3%
Upper Daintree	2	0.2%
Cow Bay	1	0.1%
Finlayvale	1	0.1%
Stewart Creek Valley	1	0.1%
Wangetti Beach	1	0.1%
Total	1239	100%

2.2 Preferred Location

Jalunbu Park was preferred by almost 538 respondents [44%] compared to 24% [298] who preferred Reynolds Park.

Table 7. Which location preferred for a Splash Park.

Location	Number	%
Jalunbu Park	541	43.7%
Reynolds Park	298	24.1%
Either location is fine with me	250	20.2%
I do not support a splash park for Port Douglas	60	4.8%
I do not support either location	90	7.3%
Total	1,239	100%



2.3 Why Jalunbu Park Preferred

The survey asked people why they preferred the location they selected. The overwhelming reason people gave for preferring Jalunbu Park over Reynolds was proximity to the beach. This was mentioned by almost 70 percent of the 541 people choosing Jalunbu.

The second most common reason given was proximity to the surf club. The third most common reason was that people simply preferred the site because it was not on the main road into Port Douglas. There were three main concerns about Davidson Street which were:

- Potentially unsafe for splash park users – children may run onto the road.
- Amenity impacted by noisy traffic; and
- Potential to cause congestion on Davidson Street with slow moving sight-seeing traffic

Table 8. Commonly Mentioned Reasons for Choosing Jalunbu

Reason for Choosing Jalunbu	No. N=541	%
Proximity to Beach	371	68.6%
Surf Club	102	18.9%
Not on Main Road	72	13.3%
Café; food outlets	53	9.8%
Closer to Town	50	9.2%
Toilets	48	8.9%
Nice Location / Atmosphere	27	5.0%
Selected because it is not Reynolds Park	23	4.3%
Life savers close by	22	4.1%
Natural Shade	21	3.9%
Park is Under Used	18	3.3%
Ample Parking	11*	2.0%

- * While 11 respondents cited ample parking as a reason for choosing Jalunbu Park, more respondents said while they preferred Jalunbu, lack of parking was likely to be an issue and would need to be addressed.

Comments from top six reasons are shown in [Appendix Three](#).

2.4 Preferred Location by Age

Looking at the age of survey respondents, the over 55s were slightly less supportive of Jalunbu.

Table 10. Preferred Location by Age

Preferred Location	Total	0-34	35-54	55+
Jalunbu Park	43%	45%	45%	40%
Reynolds Park	24%	25%	22%	25%
Neither	20%	27%	23%	18%
Do not support a splash park	8%	1%	3%	7%
Prefer a different location	5%	2%	7%	10%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

2.5 Preferred Location by Usual Place of Residence

Looking at usual place of residence, visitors were less supportive of Reynolds Park – 15% versus 25% of those who live in the shire. But with a sample size of just 60, no conclusion can really be made about which location would be preferred by visitors.

Table 11. Preferred Location by Usual Place of Residence

Options	Total (n=1239)	Live in the shire (n=854)	Own property here Live elsewhere(n=210)	Live elsewhere (n=60)
Jalunbu Park	43%	43%	41%	43%
Reynolds Park	24%	25%	24%	15%
Neither	20%	20%	22%	30%
Do not support a splash park	8%	5%	6%	4%
Prefer a different location	5%	8%	7%	9%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

2.6 Concerns Raised About the Jalunbu Park Location

While Jalunbu was selected by nearly double the number of respondents than Reynolds Park, an analysis of the engagement findings was done to identify any concerns there may be in the community about the splash park being in this location.

The Port Douglas Surf Life Saving Club indicated a preference for Reynolds Park. From their experience, Jalunbu Park was a place of refuge for people from strong SE winds, and when large events occurred at the beach, activities often flowed over into park. A copy of the club's letter to Council is shown in [Appendix Four](#).

The Douglas Shire Sustainability Group [DSSG] does not support a splash park in either location. Jalunbu Park, DSSG believes, would require a lot of fill, avoidance or change to the waterway and the sacrifice of large Melaleuca trees – part of the remnant littoral forest. DSSG preference was to keep our natural open park spaces as they provide a public health benefit. DSSG's letter to Council is shown in [Appendix Five](#).

Four key concerns about a splash park at Jalunbu Park emerged from the survey.

1. Parking is already an issue in Mowbray Street and Garrick Street during the tourist season. The splash park will exacerbate the issue and make it harder for people to access Four Mile Beach.
2. Survey respondents described Jalunbu Park as a lovely tranquil space, quiet atmosphere, and a place where people came to read, rest, picnic or play. It also has a diversity of wildlife. People wanted to see it retained as is, not spoilt or destroyed by a splash park.
3. The potential loss of the mature Melaleuca trees, which contribute to much of Jalunbu Park's natural charm was of a concern to many who preferred Reynolds Park.
4. Jalunbu Park is surrounded on two sides by high density living where residents will be affected by the noise pollution from children screaming, albeit in delight.

Full comments are shown in [Appendix Six](#).

2.7 Why Reynolds Park Preferred

One quarter of respondents preferred Reynolds Park. There were two main reasons given, these being more room for cars to park, as mentioned above, and that it offered a larger area.

Table 9. Reason Reynolds Park Preferred

Reason	Number = 298	%
Room for cars to park	90	30.2%
Bigger Area	89	29.9%
More Visibility	54	18.1%
Currently Under Used	50	16.8%
Not Jalunbu Park	36	12.1%
Will Fit Pool/ Lagoon	35	11.7%
Less/No Trees To Clear	33	11.1%
Disperses People	23	7.7%
Easier Access	23	7.7%
Improvement to current park	17	5.7%
Close to other sport facilities	15	5.0%
More Central	14	4.7%

2.8 Support for a Swimming Facility in Port Douglas

2.7.1 Preamble to Survey

As an introduction to survey questions about a swimming facility, it was explained that Council was continuing to investigate the community's appetite for an additional public swimming facility, which could potentially be co-located with the splash park.

The questionnaire proposed it would cost around \$15 million to construct a 50 metre pool similar to the public pool Council currently operates in Mossman, or \$25 million for a free form, signature lagoon.

It also explained that while costs to build a swimming facility could potentially be covered by State and/or Federal government grants, ongoing operating and maintenance costs would need to be met by ratepayers and the estimated impact on rates was outlined in the widely distributed Fact Sheet.

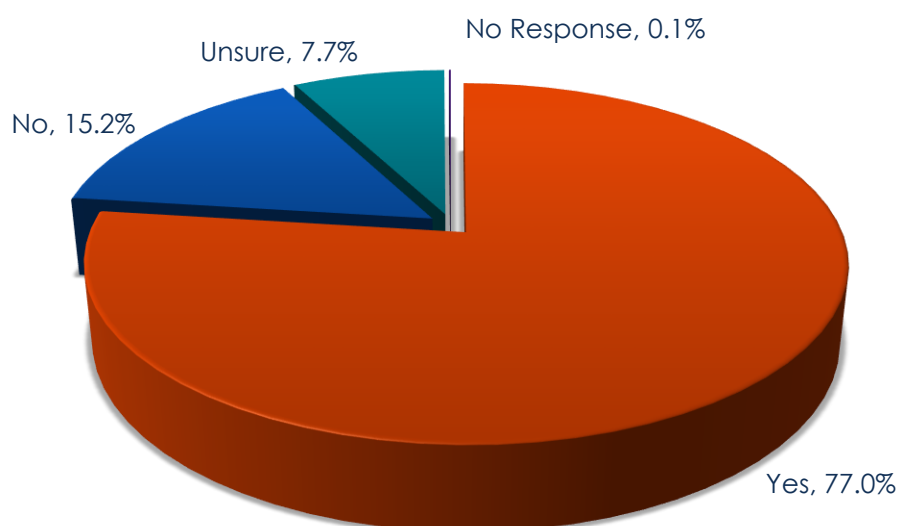
2.7.2 Support For a Public Swimming Facility in Port Douglas

Three quarters of survey respondents said they supported a public swimming facility in Port Douglas.

Table 12. Do You Support a Public Swimming Facility in Port Douglas?

Response	Total Sample		Douglas Shire Only	
	Number	%	Number	%
Yes	901	72.7%	819	77.0%
No	168	13.6%	162	15.2%
Unsure	90	7.3%	82	7.7%
No Response	80	6.5%	1	0.1%
Total	1,239	100%	1,064	100.0%

Douglas Shire Residents and Absentee Ratepayers Only



2.7.3 Support for a Swimming Facility by Usual Place of Residence

When asked do you support a public swimming facility in Port Douglas, the results indicated strong support, regardless of where people lived.

Residents living in Port Douglas, Craiglie and localities south to Wangetti Beach, indicated the strongest support with over 80 percent in these suburbs ticking yes to this question.

Support did drop when looking at respondents living in Mossman and north through to Cow Bay, where over 60 percent said yes to a public swimming facility in Port Douglas.

Table 13. Do You Support a Public Swimming Facility in Port Douglas – Usual Place of Residents

Response	All Respondents	Port Douglas & Craiglie	Mossman & Gorge	Cooya & Bonnie Doon	North to Bloomfield	South to Wangetti	Absentee Ratepayers
Yes	72.7%	80.6%	65.9%	72.6%	62.5%	85.1%	77.1%
No	13.6%	14.0%	23.2%	17.8%	25.0%	6.9%	13.3%
Unsure	7.3%	5.4%	11.0%	9.6%	12.5%	8.0%	9.0%
No Response	6.5%	-	-	-	-	-	0.5%
Number of respondents	1239	516	82	73	96	87	210

2.7.4 Support for a Swimming Facility by Age

Table 14. Do You Support a Public Swimming Facility in Port Douglas – Age

Response	All Respondents	Aged 0-34	Aged 35-54	Aged 55+
Yes	73%	83%	83%	73%
No	14%	9%	10%	19%
Unsure	7%	8%	7%	8%
No Response	6%	-	-	-
Number of Respondents	1239	157	449	535

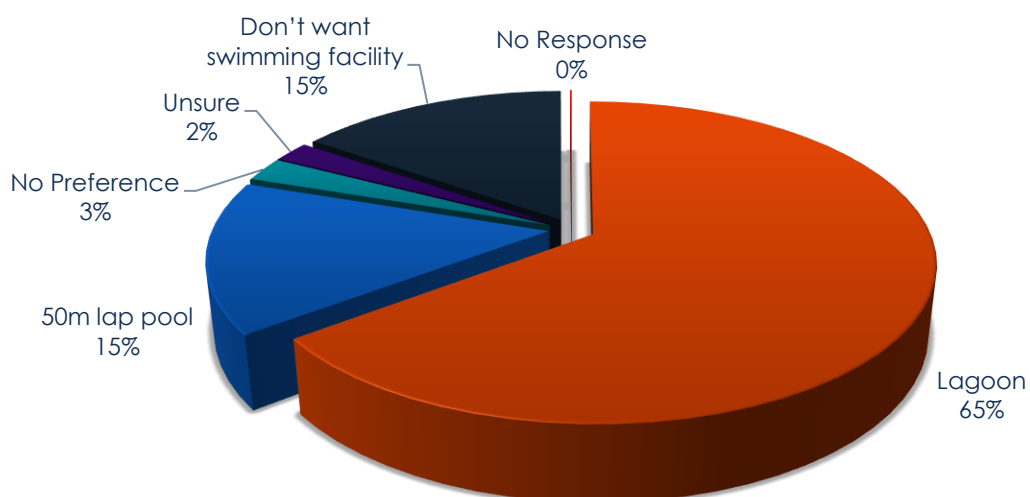
2.9 Type of Swimming Facility

Respondents prefer a free form lagoon to a 50 m lap pool.

Table 15. Type of Swimming Facility Preferred

Response	Total Sample		Douglas Shire Only	
	Number	%	Number	%
Lagoon	758	61.2%	689	64.8%
50m Lap Pool	175	14.1%	164	15.4%
No Preference	29	2.3%	26	2.4%
Unsure	23	1.9%	22	2.1%
No Response	86	6.9%	1	0.1%
Do Not Want A Swimming Facility	168	13.6%	162	15.2%
Total	1,239	100%	1,064	100.0%

Douglas Shire Residents and Absentee Ratepayers Only



2.10 Co-Location with Splash Park

More people thought the future swimming facility should be co-located with the splash park with 46% responding yes to the question versus 16% saying no.

Excluding respondents who did not want a swimming facility, support for co-location increases to almost 60%.

Table 16. Should a future swimming facility be co-located with a Splash Park

Response	All respondents		Ex. Those who don't want swimming facility	
	Number	%	Number	%
Yes	573	46.2%	573	58.2%
No	193	15.6%	193	19.6%
Unsure	63	5.1%	156	15.8%
No Preference	156	12.6%	63	6.4%
Do not want a swimming facility	254	20.5%	n/a	n/a
Total	1239	100%	985	100%

Section Three – Additional Engagement Findings

3.1 Community Urging Council to Do Something


Regardless of which location is selected for the splash park, the community sent a strong message that it wants to see the project progress and all relevant comments are shown in full in [Appendix Seven](#).

As is the case with all projects, there are those who would prefer the “Do Nothing” option and in this survey, 4.8% did not support a splash park for Port Douglas. The six most mentioned reasons were:

1. There are higher priorities, such as affordable public transport, expansion of public library, better road maintenance,
2. It is unnecessary as we are surrounded by natural creeks, beaches, have a beautiful swimming pool in Mossman and nearly all homes and resorts have a pool.
3. The ongoing operating and maintenance costs will increase rates.
4. Our shire is different to other tourist spots and will be spoilt by turning natural spaces into theme parks.
5. Splash Park will negatively impact on the immediate neighbours
6. Water restrictions are already frequent so where will the extra water be sourced.

Comments in full are shown in [Appendix Eight](#).

Appendix One – Fact Sheet



February 2023

Port Douglas Aquatic Precinct Fact Sheet

About the project

Douglas Shire Council (Council) is undertaking community engagement to inform the design of a new splash park in Port Douglas.


The delivery of a splash park by May 2024 is fully funded via funds from a State Government grant and Council's annual capital works budget.

Council is also still investigating the community's appetite for a public swimming facility in Port Douglas as a long-term project.

We are seeking your feedback on:

- The preferred location for a splash park, Jalunbu Park or Reynolds Park, and why
- The look and feel of the splash park, and
- Level of support for a public swimming facility in Port Douglas and whether people want a 50 metre lap pool, or free form lagoon.

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL



How can I get involved?

We want to hear from you! We are hosting online and in-person consultation from 17 February to 3 March 2023. You can:

- Access detailed background reports on our website <https://douglas.qld.gov.au/port-douglas-splash-park/>
- Complete our online survey via the QR code
- Visit us at one of our pop-ups:
 - Come and play – Saturday 18th February, 9am-12pm at Jalunbu Park. Come along for an Ice Cream and some fun family activities and games.
 - Family movie night – Saturday 18th February, from 5pm at Reynolds Park. Bring along a picnic basket and rug for an outdoor screening of the family movie, Moana. We'll have live music and face painting from 5pm. The movie will start as the sun sets.
 - Port Douglas Markets – Sunday 19th February, 8am-1.30pm. Look for our stall at the Sunday markets and come share your feedback and ideas with our team.

What is a splash park?

A splash park is an area fitted with a non-slip surface or safety surface and various nozzles, big water dumpers and other features which can shower, spray, rain, mist or shoot streams of water to create an exciting place for people to play.

The Port Douglas splash park would be unfenced, free entry, open 365 days/year and closed at night.

How did Council decide on the two preferred locations?

An assessment of six locations in Port Douglas was undertaken to assess and narrow down potential sites. This included Rex Smeal Park, Market Park, Dixies Park, Jalunbu Park, Reynolds Park and the Port Douglas Sports Complex.

A range of factors associated with the construction and ongoing use were considered. These included land size, accessibility, impact on the surrounding area and cost.

The assessment shortlisted two locations for the Aquatic Precinct:

- Reynolds Park - this area is large enough to accommodate both a Splash Park and a 50m pool OR a Splash Park and Lagoon
- Jalunbu Park - this area will only accommodate a Splash Park.

A About Jalunbu Park

Jalunbu Park is located on the corner of Garrick and Mowbray Streets, behind the Port Douglas Surf Club. Jalunbu Park is a public open space with some picnic tables, seating, and a few shady trees.

B About Reynolds Park

Reynolds Park is located on Davidson Street and its tennis and basketball courts make it a popular spot for local sports and recreation.



About the two potential sites for the aquatic precinct

Why Reynolds Park was shortlisted:

- Creates a unique feature in a different part of town
- Will bring a bit of life to this area
- Highly visible from Davidson Street
- Walking distance to Macrossan Street
- Landscaping associated with the aquatic precinct will help to improve the aesthetics of the park
- Less than 200m from Four Mile Beach, though access not clear
- Sufficient space to co-locate a splash park and swimming pool.

Things to consider for Reynolds Park:

- Not visible from key areas such as Macrossan Street or Four Mile Beach
- No existing public amenities
- No existing car parking
- No view of the ocean
- Requires significantly more landscaping
- A splash park is consistent with the purpose of this Reserve.

Why Jalunbu Park was shortlisted:

- Creates a unique feature in a different part of town
- It has existing public amenities
- Close to beach area and behind the surf club
- Walking distance to Macrossan Street
- Could provide economic support and boost for surrounding cafes

Things to consider for Jalunbu Park:

- Requires some filling and significant modification of the site
- Will likely require removal of some large melaleuca trees
- No existing car parking
- Not visible from key areas such as Macrossan Street or Four Mile Beach
- No view of the ocean
- A splash park is consistent with the purpose of this Reserve
- The splash park would need to be setback from the creek to the south.

Is there community support for a swimming facility in Port Douglas?

Council has secured funding to deliver a splash park in Port Douglas by May 2024.

While there is no funding available to design and construct any additional facilities, and may not be for several years, we still want to know whether the community supports a swimming facility in Port Douglas.

We have provided an overview of the different options and their estimated costs so you can consider whether you would support allocating a portion of rates revenue to either a 50m lap swimming pool or a lagoon in Port Douglas.

Note a swimming pool or lagoon would not fit within Jalunbu Park. There is enough space in Reynolds Park to co-locate a swimming facility.

	Splash Park (A) either Jalunbu Park or Reynolds Park	50m pool at Reynolds Park	Lagoon at Reynolds Park
Description		It would be fenced, and lifeguards would need to be on duty during opening hours – 6am to 7pm daily, excluding public holidays. Users would pay to use the swimming pool.	Lagoons can vary but are a form of swimming pool typically with deep end, shallow children's play area and can include an informal lap swimming area. It would have landscaped parklands with barbecues and shades areas. It would be unfenced, entry would be free, and it would require lifeguards while open, and when closed at night, would require security guards.
Access all year round	✓	✓	✓
Staged delivery	Target May 2024	When financially viable	When financially viable
Pay to use	Free	Pay to enter	Free
Lifeguards or security on site		✓	✓
Approximate capital cost	\$1.2 million	\$15 million	\$25 million
Annual net maintenance cost	\$110,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000
Approximate impact on rates	0.3%	2.1%	5.3%

* This \$1,000,000 ins based on costs at Mossman Swimming Pool which averages 40-50 visitors per day. The current income of the Mossman Pool is \$200,000 per annum.

Contact us

If you have any questions or require more information about the project or upcoming engagement, please contact our team.

Phone: 4099 9414

Email: gayle.scott@douglas.qld.gov.au

Appendix Two - Questionnaire

Have your say on the future Port Douglas Aquatic Precinct



We are seeking your input to help inform the **development of an aquatic precinct in Port Douglas**.

You are invited to provide your feedback, via a **5-minute survey**, on the following:

- Your preferred location for a splash park, Jalunbu Park or Reynolds Park, and why
- The look and feel of the splash park, and
- Your level of support for a public swimming facility, in addition to the splash park, and whether this facility should be a 50 m lap pool, or free form lagoon.

The new splash park is jointly funded by the Queensland Government and Douglas Shire Council and will be delivered by May 2024. You can find out more about the project and the options being considered in the project fact sheet.

The survey is open until **3 March 2023**.

Where should the Port Douglas Aquatic Precinct be located?

In 2020, Council released a survey to understand whether the community thinks Port Douglas needs a splash park and recreational pool in Port Douglas. 85% of people surveyed think Port Douglas needed a splash park.

Since the survey, several locations in Port Douglas have been assessed by Council and two possible locations have been short-listed:

- Jalunbu Park (A), and
- Reynolds Park (B).

1. Which location would you prefer for a Splash Park in Port Douglas? Please tick one option.

- ☐ Jalunbu Park (behind Port Douglas Life Saving Club) [go to Question 1a]
- ☐ Reynolds Park (Davidson Street) [go to Question 1a]
- ☐ Either location is fine with me [go to Question 2]
- ☐ I do not support a splash park for Port Douglas [go to Question 6]
- ☐ I do not support either location, but I prefer a different location.
Please specify _____ [go to Question 1a]

1a. Why do you prefer this location?

What do you want a Splash Park in Port Douglas to look like?

These images are examples of different kinds of splash parks. Whatever the theme, the facility would be shaded.

2. Which splash park theme do you prefer? Please tick one option.



☐ Nature and natural elements



☐ Urban, colourful and bright



☐ Animals and wildlife



☐ Bespoke and iconic water features

3. Why do you prefer this theme?

4. Below is a list of examples of splash park elements. Please rank your preferred elements from 1 – 6 (1 being your most preferred option, 6 being your least preferred option).



Super soaker bucket



Water umbrella



Water cannons



Water spouts



Spray tunnels



Waterfalls

5. Is there a water element not pictured that you would like to see at the splash park in Port Douglas?

A Council run swimming facility in Port Douglas

Council is also continuing to investigate community appetite for an additional public swimming facility, which could potentially be co-located with the splash park.

It would cost around \$15 million to construct a 50 metre pool similar to the one in Mossman, or \$25 million for a free form, signature lagoon.

While costs to build the facility could potentially be covered by state and/or federal government grants, ongoing operating and maintenance costs, would need to be met by ratepayers. This information is detailed on the fact sheet.

6. Do you support a public swimming facility in Port Douglas?

- ☐ Yes [go to question 7 and 8]
- ☐ Unsure [go to Question 7 and 8]
- ☐ No [go to Question 9]

7. If Council was to consider delivering a second public swimming facility in the shire, what type would you prefer? Please tick one option.

- ☐ 50m lap pool
- ☐ Lagoon
- ☐ Unsure
- ☐ No preference
- ☐ Other, please specify _____

8. Do you think the swimming facility needs to be located together with the splash park?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure
- ☐ No preference

9. Is there anything else you would like to tell us?

About you

11. What is your age?

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18-34
- ☐ 35-54
- ☐ 55+

12. Do you usually live in Douglas Shire?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No, but I own property in the shire
- ☐ No, I usually live elsewhere

13. What suburb do you live in?

14. How did you find out about the Port Douglas Aquatic Precinct Community Engagement?

Appendix Three – Reasons Why Jalunbu Park Preferred

Proximity to Beach

"Close to Four Mile Beach. Will give tourist & locals something to do if beach conditions are not favourable."

- A better location, closer to the beach, closer to the Main Street.
- A small splash park would integrate better into this space, not surrounded by roads, established trees and other facilities nearby, including the beach obviously. It's worth noting that the Shire with support of ratepayers does already fund Mossman pool as well as presumably maintenance and supervision of netted beach swimming area all year round. I'm in two minds about the need for this at all, given there are arguably many more initiatives worthy of time and attention.
- Access to beach area
- Access to restaurants and proximity to beach
- Access to the surf club and beach front.
- As it's closer to the beach and the surf lifesaving club
- Atmosphere is nicer. Close to beach.
- Away from main road which is safer for children. Closer to the beach so easier access to both splash park and beach for children and families.
- Away from road and close to the beach
- Away from the main road, close to the beach, a more pleasant setting
- Away from the main road, closer to the beach and food outlets
- Beach feel
- Because it is closer to the beach and i think this will be better for families with small children
- Because it is closer to the beach, I feel Reynolds is not really in the "precinct" area.
- Because it is nearer to the beach and has logical flow - beach, surf club, aquatic park.
- Because it makes sense to be near the water not in the middle of a tennis/basketball/cricket field.
- Because it's closer to the ocean, surf club & the park is more suitable compared to Reynolds which is on the main road into Town. It's a no brainer to put it at location Jalunbu. Plus, Reynolds is a sports ground!!!!
- Because it's closer access to town/cafes and the beach, which I think would be more inviting.
- Because its closer to the beach front and picnic area, and the places to eat in that area.
- Because on windy days when the south easterlies are blowing, tourists do not realise how windy it is on the beach and Jalunbu is close enough for families to walk to. I think Reynolds Park should be left for the possible expansion of the Tennis Club and Basketball Courts.
- Better access and closer to other water activities
- Better situated to town and other amenities. Makes sense to have it nearby to the beach.
- Both the size of the park and its location would provide a for a 'water play area' that is complementary to the general area, the beach and the surf club.
- Brings a community atmosphere close to the beach.
- By the surf club and close to beach
- cause it's near the ocean
- Close proximity to Four Mile Beach, existing public facilities and food and drink outlets. It makes the most sense.
- Close proximity to town and beach area. In 17 years of living here I've never set foot in that park. Totally underused and dark and dingy.
- Close proximity to where people swim.
- Close to 4 Mile Beach.
- Close to amenities- toilet blocks, cafes and the beach. Not as close to the main road for children running about.
- Close to beach / Close to the Beach [19]
- Close to beach access and amenities
- Close to beach and amenities
- Close to beach and close to cafe/ restaurant.

- Close to beach and esplanade.
- Close to beach and lifeguard station
- Close to beach and lifesavers
- Close to beach and lifesavers which I feel is needed so the beach can be used when the kids have had enough in a safe environment.
- Close to beach and Main Street
- Close to beach and surf club for lunch
- Close to beach and surf club, away from the main road
- Close to beach and surf club. Not as exposed as Reynolds's park.
- Close to beach and sway from main road
- Close to beach easy access
- Close to beach for a family day out! :)
- Close to beach, already has toilets, BBQ amenities etc and underutilised vacant land.
- Close to beach, amenities and increase revenue for businesses. As a Reynolds descendent I would not like to see Reynolds Park renamed or made into another present. Add some shade structures & shade trees for families to utilise the sporting facility, more residents & visitors would use it more frequently.
- Close to beach, amenities, toilet block, cafes
- Close to beach, milk bar and food outlets. More appropriate use of land.
- Close to beach, more central, makes more sense
- Close to beach, Surf Club and away from main road
- CLOSE TO BEACH, SURF LIFE SAVERS CLUB, NOT ON BUSY ROAD
- Close to beach, toilets, food
- Close to beach, you get the best of both splash park and beach
- Close to beaches
- Close to family beach area
- Close to food outlets & beach
- Close to Four Mile Beach. Will give tourist & locals something to do if beach conditions are not favourable.
- Close to Life Savers, close to the beach.
- Close to Life saving club and beach
- Close to lifesaving club and beach with no roads in between for child safety
- Close to ocean, and beach
- Close to public toilets and Beach if weather is not suitable for swimming at beach
- close to sea
- Close to shower and toilet and walking distance to the beach.
- Close to showers and toilets. Also close to beach so would make a great family outing
- Close to Surf Club and beach allow for combined supervision of areas
- Close to Surf Life saving club - use volunteers and staff, lifesavers. Close proximity to beach swimming entrance to move between both for families.
- Close to the beach and cafes restaurants
- Close to the beach and existing amenities restaurants cafe
- Close to the beach and flags. Better access to town and places to eat and drink.
- Close to the beach and more space around to park
- close to the beach and park is not used for other activities.
- Close to the Beach and Surf Club
- Close to the beach and restaurant
- Close to the beach and the Main Street.
- Close to the beach and ties in the beach and lagoon.
- Close to the beach so can get the sea breeze.
- Close to the beach walking distance to town for tourists
- Close to the beach, already has public toilets which could be extended to accommodate changing facilities also.
- Close to the beach, away from the main road
- Close to the beach, it's a fantastic location and Port Douglas NEEDS IT!!!
- Close to the beach, parking options and near the SLSC
- Close to the beach.
- Close to the beach. Close to a lunch option. Close to town

- Close to the beach. Makes sense to be near the surf club rather than delay traffic on Davidson street to enter Reynolds Park
- Close to the beach. Not on main road.
- Close to the beach/surf club
- Close to the ocean
- Close to the ocean, has a better feel about it. Surf club is nearby and the opportunity to link all these and the Esplanade will enhance the waterfront area.
- Close to town and the beach
- Closer to the beach
- Closer for families heading to the patrolled part of surf beach.
- Closer to 4 mile beach and eateries
- Closer to amenities, water, toilet block, beach, cafes.
- Closer to beach / Closer to the beach [14]
- Closer to beach & will not impede through traffic on Port Douglas Rd
- Closer to beach activities and closer to CBD.
- Closer to beach and away from busy road
- Closer to beach and better access/visibility for tourists
- Closer to beach and better integration with existing facilities/spaces. Reynolds Park much better preserved as public green space, and perhaps better suited in longer term for expansion of tennis courts.
- Closer to beach and eateries
- Closer to beach and eating areas
- Closer to beach and existing facilities and the park is under used as it is
- Closer to beach and Life Saving Club
- Closer to beach and Macrossan Street
- Closer to beach and not on the main road into Port Douglas
- Closer to beach and off the main road leading into town so safer for kids as slower traffic
- Closer to beach and restaurants
- Closer to beach and SLSC.
- Closer to beach and surf club
- Closer to beach and The Surfy. It's shaded with the trees and not in direct sunlight compared to the park near the tennis courts.
- Closer to beach and town, and will make for a bigger and better surf club
- closer to beach closer to surf club attract more people
- Closer to beach could make more parking at site B if needed. Even metered to help with costs
- Closer to beach, established services, not on main route into the town, link to Surf Lifesaving Club - would it make sense to consider the "Sports Complex" then if a fee to a pool Council building/staff can be used and again facilities are available - also parking available
- Closer to beach, more trees
- Closer to beach, not fronting main thoroughfare in/out of PD.
- Closer to beach. More accessible
- Closer to cafe and restaurants and beach
- Closer to esplanade
- Closer to existing facilities at the surf club and also the beach
- Closer to life savers and the beach/ water sports. Less intrusive for neighbours
- Closer to Macrossan Street, closer to the beach.
- Closer to main beach
- Closer to Main Street and beach
- closer to ocean
- Closer to ocean
- Closer to public toilets, shade for families and children and accessible via beach and closer to town.
- Closer to shops and beach
- Closer to surf club, and the beach. Other location will cause massive traffic flow problems
- Closer to Surf Lifesaving Club and beach. Therefore, all water based activities are grouped together
- Closer to the beach - better atmosphere for a water park
- Closer to the beach and away from the traffic of Davidson Street
- Closer to the beach and connecting the two elements of water

- Closer to the beach and facilities of the surf club
- Closer to the beach and further away from the main road
- Closer to the beach and netted area
- Closer to the beach and off the main road
- Closer to the beach and other amenities
- Closer to the beach and the Surf Club, where families already spend their time. Also, it is further from the main/busy road.
- Closer to the beach and there's already some toilet and shower facilities.
- Closer to the beach and ties the beach in with lagoon pool. Makes more sense having it closer to the beach than Reynolds Park
- Closer to the beach and where visitors expect a water park to be
- Closer to the beach better environment
- Closer to the beach for beach play
- Closer to the beach public toilets and the surf club for lunch for families
- Closer to the beach so families can enjoy both facilities. Easy access for the life guards to be at either facility. Nicer setting.
- Closer to the beach with toilet facilities already in place
- Closer to the beach, overlooks the beach, close to town. Similar to Airlie Beach
- Closer to the beach, better access away from the main road. Restaurants nearby
- Closer to the beach, cafés and town. Public toilets and showers already insitu.
- Closer to the beach, can incorporate the SLSC.
- Closer to the beach, closer to food venues.
- Closer to the beach, either position would result in parking issues, however.
- closer to the beach, food and beverage options and kids don't have to cross the road so safer
- Closer to the beach, more central
- Closer to the beach, not on a main road
- Closer to the Beach, Restaurants, Accommodation and centre of town.
- Closer to the beach, seems a better visual location (as long as there's enough room)
- Closer to the beach, surf club and main street
- Closer to the beach, the restaurant at the Surf Club, the cafe. More shade trees.
- Closer to the beach, would suit a beachside location
- Closer to the beach. Best of both worlds with a facility at this location
- Closer to the beach. Has change rooms/bath rooms and cafes.
- Closer to the beach...not on a busy road
- Closer to the beach-feel more connected to the water/ocean
- Closer to the beachfront
- Closer to the beachfront and close to toilet block and shower facilities
- Closer to the ocean and at the moment it is a dust bowl.
- Closer to the sea, prettier location
- Closer to the SLSC and beach
- Closer to town and beach
- Closer to town and on the way to and from the beach
- Closer to where tourist are likely to congregate. Reynolds park is too far from the beach, Surf club etc.
- closest to the beach, maybe in conjunction with a new surf club
- Connected to the beach and esplanade
- Connected to the beach, close to town as well. Lots of accommodation close by, the park isn't being used for anything that will be affected
- Connected to the esplanade
- Creates more of a water recreation complex by having the splash park close to the beach. This should minimize the time taken to move between recreational activities. It's also closer to cafes for ease of access to food and drink for everyone.
- Due to its proximity to the beach and surf club, as well as a better known location near town.
- Due to its proximity to the surf club, the beach and the lifesaving area. It seems like it would be a great option for visitors combining the beach and a splash for the kids.
- Easier access for those going to the beach also. The shade of the trees would help with sun protection of those visiting.
- Easier to access and closer to the beach
- Easy walk to and from beach and doesn't seem to be used much now

- Existing infrastructure and more foot traffic for local cafes and close to beach
- Feel it is closer to the beach where people are parking/visiting anyway. It is a lot more aesthetically pleasing spot for tourist and there are already established cafes around that space.
- Fits in with the beach scene, close to surf club. I feel it would not aesthetically fit with Reynolds
- Fits with the surf club and close proximity to the ocean
- For Families it is one trip to an area that will offer both aquatic park and the beach.
- Further away from car traffic, closer to beach and Main Street
- Good access to the beach and Main Street!
- Good frontage to Mowbray Street and will foster a strong coastal connection due to proximity to beach and surf club.
- Great location. If you can't swim at the beach at least you can see it.
- Has a nice feel to it as an extension of the beach. Close to the beach and the surf club.
- Have a park next to the beach will tie in with the whole 'water' element of the park
- I believe this could become a family friendly area where families and friends can meet and enjoy time together. I can imagine families having a swim at the beach and then grabbing a cold drink or coffee from the Surf Club before sitting in a shady spot to watch the children enjoying a play in the Splash Park. I also believe this location offers a better option for building a park that blends better into its environment as opposed to Reynolds Park which in my opinion doesn't offer quite as much in that department. For many young families (which would be the most likely to use this facility) having the beach, Surf Club and Splash Park close together would make much more sense. To go swimming at the beach then having to essentially pack the kids up before moving further down the road could be somewhat bothersome. I would like to note that I am a grandparent and I would love to see this wonderful gift to the community and tourists be located in this amazing part of Port Douglas.
- I feel like it doesn't need to be seen on the main road into town. The street is a little less busy with traffic which I think is better when children are around. It's closer to the beach and surf club which should promote the use of these better than if it was on Davidson Street.
- Is not near the main road and would be nice to have it near the beach
- I like the position better. Option to go to Surf Club etc for a meal afterwards visiting pool etc
- I prefer this location for both a splash park and lagoon style pool. I feel a splash park should feature around or alongside the pool. A whole precinct area including the beach. I prefer this area as people can still enjoy the beach, the sand, the walk, the feel of the ocean while enjoying the new attractions. The new features are back from the beach and not imposing on the natural coastline. This is an already nice location but not used much. I don't think we need anything over the top. Just an oversized tropical style pool, tropical gardens and cute splash play equipment in theme with the reef and rainforest. A little oasis by the beach. Kids can still go and build sandcastles on the beach as usual. We are coastal and I think it's nice to have attractions by the seaside. Furthermore, being near surf club and ideal position as far as surf life savers being already in the vicinity. I have heard people debate against this and bring up car parks. Many people walk to the beach area anyway and it's already busy in the season anyway. Where do they park in busy beach days already?
- I think a water park would suit the ambience of the beach area more so than the inlet area near Reynolds Park. It would also be helpful for parents who have young children who want to play on the beach but who prefer a splash park to the salt water to 'cool off'.
- I think it would enhance the amenity of the current beach area and possibly benefit the beach going public on those days that the beach is unsuited to swimming.
- I think it's handy to everything Lifesavers, beach & Macrossan St
- I think it's more connected to the beach
- I think it's slightly more central and being closer to the beach is good.
- I think these parks work best when they have a visual connection with the sea, plus, it may need lifeguards, so proximity would be useful
- I would prefer Stinger Park but I like that this location is close to the beach and a short walk to restaurants/cafes so people can make it a day
- If you can't swim in the beach, it's close to the beach still a beach feel
- In an ocean precinct... more beautiful.
- In vicinity of beach
- It goes better with an esplanade environment. You can go from the beach to the water park with ease.

- It has better access to the Beach and also the surf club restaurant and Bar
- It has more shade, closer to the beach/ cafes and public toilets.
- It is adjacent to the beach which will work well for families and in no way detracts from the amazing approach to the town. Reynolds Park would be a distraction from the beautiful approach to our town
- It is close to four mile beach, the surf club and Macrossan Street
- It is close to the beach
- It is close to the beach and in proximity to a cafe and also the surfy so food and drink options are close as well as iconic four mile beach
- It is close to the beach. The other one is used for sports.
- It is close to the patrolled beach and food options
- It is closer and possibly in sight of the ocean which is the preferred attraction but the inhabitants of the sea are the reason for the artificial beach
- It is closer to the beach and is not right next to the main road.
- It is closer to the beach and life guards. Reynolds Park is a nice open space on a busy road.
- it is closer to the beach and surf club
- It is closer to the beach for families to enjoy both experiences. I think there are more parking opportunities, and it is complimentary to the existing businesses and holiday homes.
- It is closer to the beach where all the water activities already are. I also do not support clogging up Garrick Street with traffic.
- It is near the Surf Club & the patrolled beach. The other locations are not near swimming beaches.
- It is nicer, closer the beach and town
- It is so close to the beach and the surf club it gives people options and it would look better as it is closer to the actual beach
- It links in seamlessly with its proximity to the beach and nearby facilities - toilets and the Surf Club (and Lighthouse) so will support local businesses too
- It links the beach & water park together, use to live in Townsville & Cairns and it seems to work well in these locations for locals & tourists.
- it make sense. An area that is not being used and close to the beach.
- It makes sense to be closest to the surf club for safe lifeguard abilities.
- It makes sense to keep a swimming precinct near the beach and the surf club
- It needs to be close to town, and to the beaches so tourists can capitalise on all the town has to offer nearby.
- It will be closer to where all the water activities are by the beach. It will also stop traffic etc clogging up Garrick Street.
- It will fit the existing surf club and close proximity to the ocean
- It will make a fabulous precinct having closer to the beach as well as the surf club for additional food options
- It would be easier for young families to navigate from beach area to shady Aquatic Park area. Especially on days that are either too hot/windy to be on beach or the beach is closed for whatever reason. Even just to have a break from full sun.
- It would connect better with the entrance to the beach and there are already some cafes in the precinct that would support the splash pool/lagoon with food and drinks.
- It's a larger area and closer to the beach.
- It's an ideal place next to surf club and beach
- It's close to beach so you can easily go between the two and nice to have surf lifesaving club m/ cafe there as well plus the park doesn't seem to have much use and has lovely trees. It seems like an obvious choice
- It's close to the beach
- It's close to the beach , esplanade . Much more attractive location rather than next to the main road into town .
- It's close to the beach and existing infrastructure
- It's closer to the beach and the Surfy for food and coffees. It's further away from the main street therefore it's safer.
- You've got the beach for sand play and swimming
- It's near 4 mile beach. It is a good spot to swim and enjoy the beach as well during the season
- It's near the beach and not on the main road. Parents can get coffee/food from the Surf Club and I wish someone would open Beaches Cafe again.

- It's perfect as it is close to food and the beach . It would be fabulous if a children's playground could be in the same area as there are NO decent playgrounds in PD proper for visitors or residents
- It's the perfect location being close to the beach.
- It's a natural extension of 4 Mile beach ideally located next to the Lifesaving club
- It's a smaller and more confined space for this sort of development. Closer to the beach and existing facilities (toilets) and many businesses. Safety is also enhanced, as there are less fast moving traffic nearby. Reynolds Park is further away and would most likely require a reduction in speed limit on Davidson St and other streets (to 40km/h) like occurs near schools, given the high number of children attracted to the area, who would be at risk during the operation of the splash park
- Its adjacent to the patrolled section of 4 mile beach
- It's at the end of Macrossan street meaning more and better accessibility for pedestrians, and being closer to the beach it provides a closer and better option for those wanting to do both
- It's close to a swimmable beach. That end of town is quite dead at times and could really do with a boost. I come from Yeppoon and have often visited the Keppel Kracken splash play area and have really liked the concept of it.
- It's close to beach, toilets, the surf club and the cafe
- It's close to Four Mile beach
- It's close to the beach
- It's close to the beach and away from the main road
- It's close to the beach and cafe/restaurants
- It's close to the beach and the surf club facilities such as public toilets. If designed well families, tourists and locals alike could move between the beach, the picnic and barbecue areas on the esplanade and the splash park or lagoon, to enjoy these locations over a day out. People could walk over from Rex Smeal Park via the Flagstaff Hill walk and have a dip in the lagoon.
- It's close to the beach and the town. Public Toilets and showers are already in place.
- It's close to the beach and there is ample parking
- It's close to the beach/stinger net so it'd form part of an 'aqua precinct'. You can just go from one to the other. It's a beautiful relaxing area among the paperbarks and having lived on Garrick St for years I know this park isn't used a lot. Reynolds Park is next to the busy road and wouldn't be as relaxing or enjoyable. I think you'd need to do a lot of landscaping to make this area more desirable and to make people feel comfortable.
- It's closer to the beach
- Its closer to the beach and away from main roads
- It's logical - it's close to the beach and would form a "mini precinct" area of activities for young people also safer and easier to patrol.
- It's more central and better for families. Then you can choose between beach and the splash park. The beach can also contain any crowd spill over. No room at the splash park? Sit on the beach etc.
- it's near the beach and food and park
- It's near the beach and SLSC, toilets already there and children's playground
- It's near the beach with a good atmosphere
- It's nearer the beach, close to the life savers. And nicer surroundings. Away from the main road.
- It's next to the beach.
- It's practically on the beach (like Cairns, Townsville and Airlie) where people soak up the sun and kids play in the sand. It also further away from the busy traffic of Davidson St so will feel more like a recreation area than Reynolds Park.
- Its proximity to the ocean & doesn't take away land already used for other reasons
- It's well shaded, close the beach and park and off the main road.
- Least disruptive, Current amenities, Close to cafes, Closer to beach
- Link to foreshore
- Location and proximity to the beach, as when I take my kids there, I'll be using both
- Location close to the beach and easy access for tourist.
- Logical to be near the beach and surf club
- Makes sense to be closer to the ocean and other facilities. That park doesn't get used for much
- Makes sense to have it close to beach
- Maximises the wow factor being closer to the beach
- More shade closer to beach close to cafes and surf club

- More suited for kids near beach and lifesavers kids can use also.
- More trees, closer to 4mile
- Much more accessible for families wanting a day at the beach & park. Reynolds Park is too near main road.
- Near beach for people to walk, sit and play on.
- Near beach, better to keep in that precinct so some family members can enjoy beach while others can look after kids in splash area
- Near the beach
- near the beach and food supply
- Near the beach and more facilities
- Near the beach is great because when weather conditions do not permit swimming then this an amazing alternative. Kids love it and tourists and locals need it. Bring it on!
- Near the beach, businesses and an existing area that people visit/gather. Reynolds Park is used mainly for sports activities and would be better used for expanding this type of focus.
- Near the surf club, access to toilets, beach and food.
- Near to beach and family friendly facilities
- Near to beach swimming facilities
- Nearer the beach.
- Nearer the beach so more people would use it. Also, Reynolds park is a nice quiet space to relax in.
- Nearer the ocean
- Nearer to beach, shower block, cafe, bar refreshments etc
- Nearer to beach, Surfy restaurant and cafes, public amenities, shady trees
- Needs to be close to the beach .not on a main road
- Next to beach not main road
- Not near main road and closer to beach
- Not stuck out on the main road connects with four mile beach
- ON THE BEACH AND CLOSE TO THE SLSC
- One thing we noticed about PD after travelling Australia for 5 years, was the lack of facilities to utilise the amazing beach and esplanade, compared to almost every other coastal town we had passed through. The town needs a lagoon close to the beach with superior landscaping tying it all together. Council should consider compensation for the lessee of The Surfy and then working closely with the Surf Life Saving Club to renovate and redesign the entire area of the foreshore. The land is worth millions and yet the facilities are tired and under developed.
- Perfect location near the surf club and beach. Away from the main road which is nice as well
- Perfect position close to sea and beach less interference to main street
- Perfect site close to beach does not interfere with main street in Port Douglas
- Proximity to beach
- Proximity to beach and away from Davidson Street
- Proximity to beautiful Four Mile Beach
- Proximity to other water based recreational activities like the beach. More natural shade.
- Proximity to the beach , surf club and Main Street
- Proximity to the beach and to the surf club, for people wishing to move between these three facilities. Keeps additional, inevitably slowing, and inevitable sight-seeing traffic away from Davidson Street; Keeps Reynolds Park as an open space adjacent to the main roadway into Port Douglas centre.
- Proximity to the beach and township
- Proximity to the beach. Life guards near by
- Proximity to town centre and beach
- Right next to the beach, after sunbaking you can swim in the summer
- Safer, away from main road, Shade, Close to businesses that can benefit from splash park nearby, Beach nearby to go for a walk with family
- Sea breezes and views.
- Seems more appropriate being closer to the beach, providing some appealing views
- Seems to be a location that is within the leisure precinct close to the beach and within easy access from Macrossan St.
- Setting the park back from the beach would tie in with the aesthetic of the area.
- Shorter walk from beach on hot days with little kids. Needs enough parking though
- Straight off the beach into a nice splash pool, water activities all in the one area

- The current park is not really used for anything specific, and it will be more proximate to the lifesavers and the beach (some families might want to split between the beach and the park or combine it with a beach walk).
- The location and current park size would be very suitable for a splash park and complementary to the general area, the public beach and the surf club.
- The Port Douglas experience is centred around beautiful 4 mile beach, so with the addition of the Aquatic Precinct it just makes perfect sense that the synergy of the experience radiates out into the water precinct. Even if you can't swim families can still maximise on the beach experience
- The position is better suited being closer to the beach front
- The proximity to the beach. It would complete an aquatic area being close to the surf club and beach.
- This could be such a vibrant area adjacent to the beach, Macrossan street, surf club. It already has a nice feel, cooling breeze, good shade. I really want this for my Children (before they are too old to use it). We would use it all year round, meet friends there, bring visitors there.
- Toilet and shower facilities and cafes available. Near the ocean .
- Proximity to the beach

Close to Surf Club

- Close to the beach and the surf club.
- Close to the surf club it gives people options and it would look better as it is closer to the actual beach
- It's close to the surf club.
- Logical to be near the beach and surf club
- It is close to the beach and in proximity to a cafe and also the surfy so food and drink options are close as well as iconic four mile beach
- It is close to the surf club
- Close to the surf life saving
- Council should consider compensation for the lessee of The Surfy and then working closely with the Surf Life Saving Club to renovate and redesign the entire area of the foreshore. The land is worth millions and yet the facilities are tired and under developed.
- It has better access to the Beach and also the surf club restaurant and Bar
- Close to the Beach and Surf Club
- Its location is close to the Surf lifesaving club, which is ideal for the local community and visitors. Such a facility is great for families especially children and those with special needs.
- Closer to the surf club.
I also think a splash park would work along the area near Rex Smeal Park close to the police station to dissuade vandals as there are existing public toilets, a playground and some very low lying areas which could make a beautiful botanical walk with splash pools.
- Good location for families brings a bit of life down to the surf club and attracts more people to this particular spot.
- CLOSE TO BEACH, SURF LIFE SAVERS CLUB, NOT ON BUSY ROAD
- This could be such a vibrant area adjacent to the beach, Macrossan street, surf club. It already has a nice feel, cooling breeze, good shade. I really want this for my Children (before they are too old to use it). We would use it all year round, meet friends there, bring visitors there.
- Because it is nearer to the beach and has logical flow - beach, surf club, aquatic park.
- It's close to beach so you can easily go between the two and nice to have surf lifesaving club m/ cafe there as well plus the park doesn't seem to have much use and has lovely trees. It seems like an obvious choice
- Close to beach, Surf Club and away from main road
- It's a natural extension of 4 Mile beach ideally located next to the Lifesaving club
- It's near the beach and SLSC,
- Because it's closer to the ocean, surf club & the park is more suitable compared to Reynolds which is on the main road into Town.
- More in line with SLSC
- It makes sense to be closest to the surf club for safe lifeguard abilities.
- It makes sense to have it closer to the SLSC
- Close to the beach, parking options and near the SLSC

- closest to the beach, maybe in conjunction with a new surf club
- Closer to the beach, can incorporate the SLSC.
- Close to the surf club
- Nicer location and handy for the Surf Life Savers to train nippers etc
- The proximity to the beach. It would complete an aquatic area being close to the surf club and beach.
- Close to Surf Lifesaving club - use volunteers and staff, lifesavers. Close proximity to beach swimming entrance to move between both for families.
- Away from Davidson Street traffic, location adjacent to Surf Life Saving Club has potential for added security and safety
- Close to beach and surf club, away from the main road
- As it's closer to the beach and the surf lifesaving club
- Close to the ocean, has a better feel about it. Surf club is nearby and the opportunity to link all these and the Esplanade will enhance the waterfront area. Proximity to the beach and to the surf club, for people wishing to move between these three facilities.
- ON THE BEACH AND CLOSE TO THE SLSC
- Closer to beach and Life Saving Club
- Close to Macrossan and the surf lifesaving club and the swimming flags
- Due to its proximity to the beach and surf club, as well as a better known location near town.
- closer to beach closer to surf club attract more people
- Closer to beach, established services, not on main route into the town, link to Surf Lifesaving Club - would it make sense to consider the "Sports Complex" then if a fee to a pool Council building/staff can be used and again facilities are available - also parking available
- This park is rarely used. More convenient for nippers and all kids
- Closer to the beach, surf club and main street
- Access to the surf club and beach front.
- closer to SLSC
- Out of way, near surfy and beach. Keeps other park free for other uses.
- It's close to be beach, toilets, the surf club and the cafe
- Near the surf club, access to toilets, beach and food.
- Closer to surf club, and the beach. Other location will cause massive traffic flow problems
- By the surf club and close to beach
- Close to the beach/surf club
- Because you will need life guards and surf club have them also better position
- It links in seamlessly with its proximity to the beach and nearby facilities - toilets and the Surf Club (and Lighthouse) so will support local businesses too
- Good frontage to Mowbray Street and will foster a strong coastal connection due to proximity to beach and surf club.
- Close to the beach. Makes sense to be near the surf club rather than delay traffic on Davidson street to enter Reynolds Park
- It's closer to the beach and the Surfy for food and coffees. It's further away from the main street therefore it's safer.
- Closer to beach and surf club
- Fits in with the beach scene, close to surf club. I feel it would not aesthetically fit with Reynolds
- Proximity to surf club
- As near Surf Life Saving Club which is better for safety
- Close to restaurant at the surf club.
- Closer to beach and town, and will make for a bigger and better surf club
- Perfect location near the surf club and beach. Away from the main road which is nice as well
- It makes sense to keep a swimming precinct near the beach and the surf club
- Close to beach and surf club for lunch
- Closer to the beach and the Surf Club, where families already spend their time. Also further from the main/busy road.
- It's an ideal place next to surf club and beach
- It will make a fabulous precinct having closer to the beach as well as the surf club for additional food options
- Closer to the beach and facilities of the surf club
- Closer to the SLSC and beach

- It's closer to the beach and surf club which should promote the use of these better than if it was on Davidson Street.
- it is closer to the beach and surf club
- It's close to the beach and the surf club facilities such as public toilets. If designed well families, tourists and locals alike could move between the beach, the picnic and barbecue areas on the esplanade and the splash park or lagoon, to enjoy these locations over a day out. People could walk over from Rex Smeal Park via the Flagstaff Hill walk and have a dip in the lagoon.
- Due to its proximity to the surf club, the beach and the lifesaving area. It seems like it would be a great option for visitors combining the beach and a splash for the kids.
- Closer to the SLSC
- Closer to Surf Lifesaving Club so all water based activities are grouped together
- I like the position better. Option to go to Surf Club etc for a meal afterwards visiting pool etc near the lifesaving club
- Closer to beach and the Surfy. It's shaded with the trees and not in direct sunlight compared to the park near the tennis courts.
- I believe this could become a family friendly area where families and friends can meet and enjoy time together. I can imagine families having a swim at the beach and then grabbing a cold drink or coffee from the Surf Club before sitting in a shady spot to watch the children enjoying a play in the Splash Park. I also believe this location offers a better option for building a park that blends better into its environment as opposed to Reynolds Park which in my opinion doesn't offer quite as much in that department. For many young families (which would be the most likely to use this facility) having the beach, Surf Club and Splash Park close together would make much more sense. To go swimming at the beach then having to essentially pack the kids up before moving further down the road could be somewhat bothersome. I would like to note that I am a grandparent and I would love to see this wonderful gift to the community and tourists be located in this amazing part of Port Douglas.
- The location and current park size would be very suitable for a splash park and complementary to the general area, the public beach and the surf club.
- Both the size of the park and its location would provide a for a 'water play area' that is complementary to the general area, the beach and the surf club.
- Closer to the beach public toilets and the surf club for lunch for families
- Proximity to the beach , surf club and Main Street
- Close to beach and surf club. Not as exposed as Reynolds's park.
- Fits with the surf club and close proximity to the ocean
- It will fit the existing surf club and close proximity to the ocean
- It's got toilets, it's near the Surfy for good and drink, there's plenty of car parking, you can walk to town, and you've got the beach for sand play and swimming
- Close to lifesaving club and beach with no roads in between for child safety
- Closer to beach and SLSC.
- It is near the Surf Club & the patrolled beach. The other locations are not near swimming beaches.
- Nearer to beach, Surfy restaurant and cafes, public amenities, shady trees
- Close to Life saving club and beach
- Closer to the beach, the restaurant at the Surf Club, the cafe. More shade trees.
- More shade closer to beach close to cafes and surf club
- Closer to the surf club
- proximity to surf club for safety etc.
- Close proximity to Surf Club and natural beachfront setting
- Close to establish facilities, may enhance Surf Club facilities and outdoor options
- Close to Surf Club and beach allow for combined supervision of areas
- Because it's a beautiful spot and people love going there plus you have the Surfy there

Not on Main Road

"Jalunbu Park is still accessible but not on the main road causing possible traffic problems/kids wandering on to the main road etc."

- Not fronting main thoroughfare in/out of PD.
- Away from the main road
- Further away from the busy traffic of Davidson St so will feel more like a recreation area than Reynolds Park.
- Off the main road
- NOT ON BUSY ROAD
- I don't like the idea of a splash park next to the main road
- Away from main road
- Lower impact on road congestion on Davidson Street
- Closer to beach and not on the main road into Port Douglas
- A small splash park would integrate better into this space, not surrounded by roads, established trees and other facilities nearby, including the beach obviously. It's worth noting that the Shire with support of ratepayers does already fund Mossman pool as well as presumably maintenance and supervision of netted beach swimming area all year round. I'm in two minds about the need for this at all, given there are arguably many more initiatives worthy of time and attention.
- Closer to beach & will not impede through traffic on Port Douglas Rd
- Closer to the beach, better access away from the main road. Restaurants nearby
- Because it's closer to the ocean, surf club & the park is more suitable compared to Reynolds which is on the main road into Town.
- Closer to beach and off the main road leading into town so safer for kids as slower traffic
- Does not interfere with main street in port
- It makes sense having life guards there and not next to a busy noisy road
- Perfect position close to sea and beach less interference to main street
- Off main road. Safer for people to access and reduce congestion/parking issues on main thoroughfare
- Away from Davidson Street traffic, location adjacent to Surf Life Saving Club has potential for added security and safety
- Close to beach and surf club, away from the main road
- Keeps additional, inevitably slowing, and inevitable sight-seeing traffic away from Davidson Street.
- Next to beach not main road
- Away from main road.
- More accessible and not on the main road
- Off the main road
- It's still accessible but not on the main road causing possible traffic problems/kids wandering on to the main road etc.
- Closer to beach, established services, not on main route into the town, link to Surf Lifesaving Club - would it make sense to consider the "Sports Complex" then if a fee to a pool Council building/staff can be used and again facilities are available - also parking available
- Close to the beach and ties in the beach and lagoon. The other option puts it on the main road which would create traffic and pedestrian problems.
- Off the main road so safer for children to get to and from
- It is adjacent to the beach which will work well for families and in no way detracts from the amazing approach to the town. Reynolds Park would be a distraction from the beautiful approach to our town
- Closer to surf club, and the beach. Other location will cause massive traffic flow problems
- closer to the beach, food and beverage options and kids don't have to cross the road so safer
- Close to the beach. Makes sense to be near the surf club rather than delay traffic on Davidson street to enter Reynolds Park
- It's close to the beach , esplanade . Much more attractive location rather than next to the main road into town .
- It's further away from the main street therefore it's safer.

- Away from road and close to the beach
- Not as close to the main road for children running about.
- Away from the main road.
- Off the main road.
- Away from main road [2]
- Closer to the beach, not on a main road
- Away from the main road, close to the beach, a more pleasant setting
- Perfect location near the surf club and beach. Away from the main road which is nice as well
- Close to the beach. Not on main road.
- Close to the beach, away from the main road
- Away from main road which is safer for children. Closer to the beach so easier access to both splash park and beach for children and families.
- Jalunbu is further from the main/busy road.
- Not stuck out on the main road connects with four mile beach
- Further away from car traffic, closer to beach and Main Street
- Not near main road and closer to beach
- Its closer to the beach and away from main roads
- Closer to the beach...not on a busy road
- It is closer to the beach and is not right next to the main road.
- Quieter and safer location
- It's off the main road
- Better away from a main road
- Much more accessible for families wanting a day at the beach & park. Reynolds Park is too near main road.
- It's not on the main road
- Proximity to beach and away from Davidson Street
- Closer to the beach and further away from the main road
- It's a smaller and more confined space for this sort of development. Closer to the beach and existing facilities (toilets) and many businesses. Safety is also enhanced, as there are less fast moving traffic nearby. Reynolds Park is further away and would most likely require a reduction in speed limit on Davidson St and other streets (to 40km/h) like occurs near schools, given the high number of children attracted to the area, who would be at risk during the operation of the splash park
- Needs to be close to the beach not on a main road
- Away from the traffic of Davidson Street
- Is not near the main road
- Away from main road
- Safer, away from main road, Shade, Close to businesses that can benefit from splash park nearby, Beach nearby to go for a walk with family
- Close to lifesaving club and beach with no roads in between for child safety
- Reynolds Park is next to the busy road and wouldn't be as relaxing or enjoyable. I think you'd need to do a lot of landscaping to make this area more desirable and to make people feel comfortable.
- It's near the beach and not on the main road.
- It's not on the main road. It's a smaller area, I feel that Reynolds Park is too big an area and would be wasted if changed. It leaves more options in the future for Reynolds Park.
- Away from the main road, closer to the beach and food outlets
- I support Jalunbu Park (likely shadier than Reynolds park and a nicer feel to it - less like swimming next to a main road, which is very uninspiring),

Close to Restaurants, Cafés and the Surfy

"There are already some cafés in the precinct that would support the splash pool/lagoon with food and drinks."

- Close to, milk bar and food outlets. More appropriate use of land.
- Restaurants nearby
- It's near food and park
- Closer to beach and eateries
- Close to the beach and restaurant
- Access to restaurants and proximity to beach
- Close to food outlets & beach
- Closer to beach and eating areas
- Close to beach, toilets, food
- closer to the beach, food and beverage options and kids don't have to cross the road so safer
- Close to the beach and cafes restaurants
- Good parking options close to beach and hospitality venues who will all benefit
- It's closer to the beach and the Surfy for food and coffees.
- Closer to cafe and restaurants and beach
- Close to amenities- toilet blocks, cafes and the beach.
- Closer to 4 mile beach and eateries
- It's close to the beach and cafe/restaurants
- Amenities and cafes close by
- It's also close to the beach and the restaurant at the surf club.
- Proximity to food. And shade.
- A short walk to restaurants/cafes so people can make it a day
- Because it has the surf club cafe / restaurant next to it and this will make it the same as muddies in Cairns whereas Reynolds park has no food and drink facilities.
- It will make a fabulous precinct ... as well as the surf club for additional food options
- Close to the beach and flags. Better access to town and places to eat and drink.
- Nearer to beach, shower block, cafe, bar refreshments etc
- Close to the beach. Close to a lunch option. Close to town
- It has more shade, closer to the beach/ cafes and public toilets.
- Close to beach, amenities, toilet block, cafes
- Closer to amenities, water, toilet block, beach, cafes.
- Closer to the Beach, Restaurants, accommodation and centre of town.
- Closer to the beach. Has change rooms/bath rooms and cafes.
- Close to food and drink outlets. It makes the most sense.
- Least disruptive, Current amenities, Close to cafés
- Closer to the beach, cafés and town.
- It's also closer to cafes for ease of access to food and drink for everyone.
- Close to beach and close to cafe/ restaurant.
- It would connect better with the entrance to the beach and there are already some cafés in the precinct that would support the splash pool/lagoon with food and drinks.
- Existing infrastructure and more foot traffic for local cafes and close to beach
- Closer to beach and restaurants
- Parents can get coffee/food from the Surf Club. I wish someone would open Beaches Cafe.
- More shade closer to beach close to cafes and surf club
- there are already established cafes around that space.
- Close to the beach and existing amenities restaurants cafe
- Because its closer to the beach front and picnic area, and the places to eat in that area.
- It is close to the patrolled beach and food options
- Closer to cafes and restaurants, like cairns esplanade parking can be situated on Reynolds Park behind the tennis courts off road with a pedestrian crossing to water park.
- Closer to food outlets
- It's perfect as it is close to food and the beach . It would be fabulous if a children's playground could be in the same area as there are NO decent playgrounds in PD proper for visitors or residents

Closer to Town

"I think it's a more central location to the shopping precinct. Parents do the shopping on foot and then reward kids with a visit to the nearby splash park, which is a short walk."

- It's close to town.
- Closer to town
- It is close to Macrossan Street
- Close to tourist area
- Closer to town
- Closer to Main Street
- Because it's closer access to town/cafes.
- Closer to Macrossan Street
- closer to facilities and the town for families
- This could be such a vibrant area adjacent to the beach, Macrossan street, surf club.
- Great connection to town and a hotspot for tourists
- Close to the beach and the Main Street.
- Good access to the beach and Main Street!
- Close to beach, more central, makes more sense
- Close proximity to town.
- Closer to town
- It needs to be close to town, so tourists can capitalise on all the town has to offer nearby.
- Closer to the Main Street.
- Proximity to the beach and township
- Close to Macrossan Street
- Due to its proximity to the beach and surf club, as well as a better known location near town.
- It is nicer, closer to town
- Proximity to town centre and beach
- Close to beach and Main Street
- Closer to the beach, surf club and main street
- It's a lot closer to town, easier to walk to.
- Closer to beach activities and closer to CBD.
- Close to town and the beach
- Either is nice but partner feels it is better here as close to town
- I think it's a more central location to the shopping precinct (i.e. parents do the shopping on foot and then reward kids with a visit to the nearby splash park, which is a short walk).
- Closer to beach and town, and will make for a bigger and better surf club
- Close to the beach walking distance to town for tourists
- Further away from car traffic, closer to beach and Main Street
- It is the closest spot to the main street and just near the surf patrol on the beach
- Close to the beach and flags. Better access to town and places to eat and drink.
- Closer to town, easy to walk to from Macrossan street or the Esplanade. This allows for locals and tourists easier access and ability to do multiple things in one area
- Close to the beach. Close to a lunch option. Close to town
- I think it's handy to everything Lifesavers, beach & Macrossan St
- Closer to town.
- Closer centre of town.
- Closer to the beach, town.
- Closer to Macrossan Street
- Closer to shops
- It's close to the town.
- Proximity to Main Street
- Closer to Macrossan Street, closer to the beach.
- near the town, esplanade and cafes
- You can walk to town, and you've got the beach for sand play and swimming
- Better situated to town and other amenities. Makes sense to have it nearby to the beach.
- Seems to be a location that is within the leisure precinct close to the beach and within easy access from Macrossan St.

Existing Toilets

"There are also toilets already in place."

- Location, close to amenities, allows Reynolds to continue being utilised by circus etc.
- Already has public toilets which could be extended to accommodate changing facilities also.
- A small splash park would integrate better into this space, not surrounded by roads, established trees and other facilities nearby, including the beach obviously. It's worth noting the Shire with support of ratepayers does already fund Mossman pool as well as presumably maintenance and supervision of netted beach swimming area all year round. I'm in two minds about the need for this at all, given there are arguably many more initiatives worthy of time and attention.
- It's near the beach and SLSC, toilets already there and children's playground
- Public Toilet facilities are there already... area is only used for cars wasted space
- It's close to the beach and existing infrastructure
- Close to toilets
- Close to beach and amenities
- Closer to the beach and other amenities
- Close to beach access and amenities
- Close to beach, toilets, food
- Near the beach and more facilities
- Closer to the beachfront and close to toilet block and shower facilities
- It's close to be beach, toilets, the surf club and the cafe
- Near the surf club, access to toilets, beach and food.
- I think it's a better location with existing toilets.
- Close to beach, already has toilets, BBQ amenities etc and underutilised vacant land.
- It links in seamlessly with its proximity to the beach and nearby facilities - toilets and the Surf Club (and Lighthouse) so will support local businesses too
- Close to amenities- toilet blocks, cafes and the beach.
- Nicer location good for local business. Amenities available
- Amenities and cafes close by
- Toilet facilities already in place.
- Close to public toilets and beach if weather is not suitable for swimming at beach
- Closer to the beach with toilet facilities already in place
- There's already some toilet and shower facilities. Good for surrounding businesses.
- Nearer to beach, shower block, cafe, bar refreshments etc
- It has more shade, closer to the beach/ cafes and public toilets.
- Close to beach, amenities, toilet block, cafes
- It's close to the beach and the surf club facilities such as public toilets. If designed well families, tourists and locals alike could move between the beach, the picnic and barbecue areas on the esplanade and the splash park or lagoon, to enjoy these locations over a day out. People could walk over from Rex Smeal Park via the Flagstaff Hill walk and have a dip in the lagoon.
- Close to beach, amenities and increase revenue for businesses.
- Closer to public toilets, shade for families and children. Accessible via beach & closer to town.
- Closer to amenities, water, toilet block, beach, cafes.
- Closer to the beach and existing facilities (toilets) and many businesses.
- Closer to the beach. Has change rooms/bath rooms and cafes.
- Least disruptive, Current amenities, Close to cafes, Closer to beach
- Closer to the beach, cafés and town. Public toilets and showers already insitu.
- It's close to the beach and the town. Public Toilets and showers are already in place.
- Toilet and shower facilities and cafes available. Near the ocean .
- Close to showers and toilets. Also close to beach so would make a great family outing
- Close to shower and toilet and walking distance to the beach.
- It's got toilets, it's near the Surfy for good and drink, there's plenty of car parking,
- Close to existing toilets and showers
- Nearer to beach, Surfy restaurant and cafes, public amenities, shady trees
- Close to the beach and existing amenities restaurants cafe
- Better situated to town and other amenities. Makes sense to have it nearby to the beach.
- Amenities, pleasant surroundings

Appendix Four – Letter for Port Douglas Surf Life Saving Club

Port Douglas Surf Life Saving Club
Corner of Mowbray & Esplanade
09.02.2023



Douglas Shire Council
Aquatic Precinct

To the Douglas Shire Council

We note you have recently been asking residents of our Shire to choose a preferred site for a splash park in Port Douglas.

The Port Douglas Surf Life Saving Club would definitely prefer Reynolds Park for the Aquatic Precinct.

Jalunbu Park is often used by picnickers both families and groups, as a place of shade and refuge from strong SE winds. Further when there are sizable events on the beach, largely sporting or community, some of the activities flow over into Jalunbu Park being so close.

Reynolds Park we feel would be much better suited as an aquatic precinct with its size and accessibility. We would strongly hope that a public swimming pool would be included in stage two.

A public swimming pool in Port Douglas is much needed to support and promote swim training and fitness for all ages in the area.

Thank you


IRENE CATS
President
Port Douglas
Surf Life Saving Club

Appendix Five – Letter from Douglas Shire Sustainability Group



PO Box 762
Mossman Qld 4873

sustainabilitydouglas@gmail.com

1 March 2023

Ms Rachel Brophy
Chief Executive Officer
Douglas Shire Council

Via email: rachel.brophy@douglas.qld.gov.au, enquiries@douglas.qld.gov.au

Dear Madam

RE: AQUATIC PRECINCT FEEDBACK

Douglas Shire Sustainability Group Inc. (DSSG) is an incorporated association active in the Douglas Shire since 2003, in support of sustainability in this region.

DSSG is a community-based environmental advocacy organisation whose objects are:

- To promote and encourage the adoption of the principals of ecologically sustainable development to all sectors of the community throughout the Douglas Shire;
- To the protection and conservation of the unique environment in the Douglas Shire and its surrounds, including the Great Barrier Reef, the Wet Tropics and World Heritage areas;
- To promote social, economic and environmental balance;
- To promote and support environmentally sustainable practices, education and great environmental awareness amongst visitors to and residents of the Douglas Shire;
- To recognise and promote the sustainable practices of the traditional owners of the Douglas Shire; and
- To promote and encourage the adoption of the principles of ecologically sustainable development to all sectors of the community throughout the Douglas Shire.

Our members have provided some feedback, and we have formed a view on the issues of

- The preferred location for and look and feel of a splash park, and
- Level of support for a public swimming facility in Port Douglas and whether people want a 50 metre lap pool, or free form lagoon.

In summary, we do not believe a purpose built splash park, at either of the identified sites, is necessary. We do not support a need for a public swimming facility in Port Douglas. We note that a large amount of accommodation and residential properties in the town have access to swimming pools that can provide splash and paddling activities for children and swimming for all. Council already supports, at rate-payer expense, a well-equipped suitable swimming pool in the Shire.

Funding and costs

We note that Council has secured funding to deliver a splash park in Port Douglas by May 2024, and that there is no funding available for additional facilities.

The splash park is said to be 'fully funded' including by way of grant and some portion of the \$1.2 million capital amount being contributed from Douglas Shire Council Capital Works – that is, from rate-payers funds which could be allocated elsewhere, arguably to better effect. For example we are aware that playgrounds are required in many parts of the Shire.

Operating costs for the splash park are estimated at \$110,000 per annum – again rate-payers funds that could arguably be better spent elsewhere, and representing 0.3% of rates, presumably funded by way of rate rise.

The projected capital and operating costs for a swimming facility are not acceptable, representing significant rate rises for rate payers.

Locations

Development of Reynolds Park is undesirable as it is very visible from the access road, exposing all the equipment which goes with a splash park. Parking would need to be enhanced / provided – adding more concrete to the environment. It is an ideal location for planting as a 'forest park' – providing much needed shade and lowering temperatures.

In our view, a beach location is the best place for a splash park if one is to be constructed. Alternatives to the concrete and plastic vision could include safe (patrolled and stinger net) water's edge play area at four mile beach and/ or market park opposite Sugar Wharf. Such alternatives, carefully developed to not visually detract from the existing natural environment and with safety considerations met, could provide the additional, safe spaces for small children and families to enjoy.

Building in Jalunbu Park requires lots of fill, avoidance or change to the waterway and the sacrifice of large Melaleuca trees – part of the remnant littoral forest. We do not support this site for any development – perhaps Council could plant more shade trees.

We need to keep our natural open park like spaces – these provide public health benefit.

Look and Feel

The whole aquatic precinct notion seems to be inconsistent with the qualities that attract most people, visitors and residents to Port Douglas – its 'small town' undeveloped and natural environment.

If a splash park, as described by the Fact Sheet, is to be built we would prefer it is small and presented naturally – minimal concrete, plastic and fossil fuels.

Yours sincerely

Didge McDonald
President

CC: Mayor and Councillors

Appendix Six – Concerns about Jalunbu

Parking a Problem At Jalunbu – More Room at Reynolds

- I think parking would be an issue on Mowbray Street.
- Location is probably better for parking, the area behind the surf club is already busy
- Parking around Jalunbu Park is already limited
- If area around Jalunbu is used as an aquatic park it will severely impact parking for Four Mile Beach area.
- There would be too much traffic congestion near the access to the beach
- The area around the main beach is already crowded whereas Reynolds Park seems underutilised.
- Jalunbu already has a parking problem. On busy weekend days the beach traffic fills the limited spots on Mowbray street and there is not a lot of space for parking on Garrick street.
- Parking near surf club is already congested
- More space, better parking to not overload Jalunbu Park area which is already busy
- There is no parking at the surf club when the town is busy already.
- Jalunbu already a busy area.
- Parking is already a nightmare near the surf club/Garrick Street
- The road leading up to the Surf Club can be quite busy with traffic especially at weekends.
- I believe there would be too much of a parking issue at the location behind the surf club.
- Garrick Street in peak season is already filled by vans cars and motor homes using the beach and surrounds so not a suitable area. Need to make it easier to use the beach precinct

Jalunbu Park Lovely As Is.

- Jalunbu Park is such a peaceful place close to the beach entrance and should stay like that!
- The trees at Jalunbu are beautiful with lovely shade for people to enjoy. Do not ruin this area with a splash park please. Reynolds Park is already mostly clear of trees.
- Jalunbu park is a good area with shady trees etc which would be a shame to lose.
- Jalunbu Park has established trees and is a lovely tranquil space which should be preserved, where people come to read, rest, picnic or play. Please, no water park here!
- I think it would ruin the beauty and tranquility of the area. People who go to four mile to read a book and relax do not want to listen to the noise coming from a splash park.
- I love the beautiful trees and quiet atmosphere at Jalunbu. To me it is one of the most beautiful places in Port Douglas, and it would all be destroyed if used for the splash park.
- I think Jalunbu Park should remain a lovely, shady park between the water precinct & beach to allow families a great space for picnics & relaxing.
- Jalunbu is a beautiful area with trees and picnic spots, whereas Reynolds is a large, open and mostly unused area.
- Jalunbu Park is a lovely green space with fantastic trees and believe this should be retained.

Less trees to remove

- There's less trees to clear in Reynolds Park to avoid debris from leaves.
- Reynolds Park is larger with less trees to cut down
- I don't think the trees in Garrick street should be pulled down.
- Reynolds better as not so many trees to remove.
- No trees to cut down
- Whatever happens the paper bark trees in Garrick Street must remain.
- I am against the removal of any of the beautiful Melaleucas. They help to give port Douglas its charm. People come here for the beauty and bounty of nature here.
- Feel like there would be no removal of beautiful trees
- No need to cut trees down, that park is used a lot now.
- There would be minimal tree removal needed compared to other options
- Less trees will die
- Reynolds because I don't want the trees destroyed in the park near the lifesaving club
- Less trees to cut down
- Less chance of lots of trees being removed
- No trees will be lost
- Less trees to be removed
- Don't have to cut down trees at Reynolds

Neighbours

- Reynolds park is a larger space that will allow additional car parking. It is further away from residences and the terrible noise pollution the park will create. This location will adversely affect fewer residences than Jalunbu Park. Jalunbu Park is surrounded on two sides by high density living where residents will be affected by the noise pollution. Jalunbu Park has a diversity of wildlife (particularly birdlife) that will be destroyed by the water park. You can't do that. It is a quiet haven for reflection, peace and tranquility that must be preserved for future generations. Reynolds Park does not have that same vibe as it is essentially open, unused space. It is a void waiting for development. Car parking in Mowbray Street is at a premium now with people accessing the patrolled beach. This water park will create gridlock in two of the most beautiful streets (Mowbray and Garrick Streets) in Australia. That corner of Mowbray and Garrick and looking down Garrick Street is absolutely iconic and must not be made into a car park. Jalunbu Park is a beautiful space and my only suggestion for improvement is to put more tables and chairs under those beautiful trees for residents to use. Do not destroy Jalunbu Park. It is one of the most beautiful spaces in Port Douglas and must be preserved for all time.
- The Garrick Street one would be right in front of apartment view
- Area at Jalunbu Park will be too congested with splash park, surf club and flag swimming area at four mile. Port Douglas is not the Gold Coast and shouldn't aspire to be.
- Ample area for parking and less businesses to complain about the noise of kids screaming

Appendix Seven – Keen Interest to See Something Happen

"Every town on the coast of Queensland has a lagoon and a splash park. The fact that Port Douglas is a top tourist destination and DOES NOT HAVE ANYTHING is crazy. Let's go forwards."

- 20 years is a long time to still be only at this stage - exhausting!!!!
- A facility much needed for Port. Can't wait for this to happen to enjoy the benefits.
- A great idea and hopefully will be approved.
- A lagoon and splash park needs to go ahead to give young families something to do in the heat. There is nothing to do for the kids both local and visiting. I am not comfortable let my babies swim in the stinger season as there is still risk of stings in the nets. This town is turning into an old retirement village, time to liven it up a bit!
- About time!
- After sooooo many years of talking about a splash park/ lagoon, please make it happen this time 😊
- Appreciate the consultation. Can't wait until this is built
- As we are all aware this issue has been ongoing for an unacceptable length of time, let's get this done, for the undoubted betterment of Port Douglas.
- Be proactive and let's move forward and not waste time in making a decision
- Bring it on!
- Desperately need something for children and families in town
- Do it!!!!
- Every other holiday location has either a splash park or swimming lagoon or both. Working in a resort in Port Douglas, many comments are made that less touristy places like Cooktown & Mackay have them & they are surprised PD has neither,
- Every town on the coast of QLD has a lagoon and a splash park. The fact that Port Douglas is a top tourist destination and DOES NOT HAVE ANYTHING is crazy. Let's go forwards.
- Families are struggling to find activists that are safe and fun and available year round. They are driving to Cairns, paying parking fees, eating in Cairns restaurants and shopping in Cairns stores when they'd prefer to keep it all local. We surge to facilitate this as quickly as possible and not to get caught up and argue over insignificant details.
- Get on and DO IT!
- Get on with it! [2]
- Given the current situation with Stingers and Crocodiles it is imperative for the future of tourism in the region that Council gets on and build these Water facilities .. particularly the lagoon
- Go and do it please !!!
- Great effort in getting this issue moving again, let's hope we can do something with it. Best of luck!
- Great to actually get it done
- Great to see it in works
- Hopefully it finally happens.
- Hopefully this can happen whilst my children are young enough to enjoy it!
- Hopefully will be a reality, this time!
- How about you enact the Sports Precinct Master Plan first! You have not even been able to draft a shared user agreement between existing clubs after 3+ years. Stop employing staff to "plan" and start implementing instead, you should be ashamed of your 100% lack of progress.
- Hurry up stop procrastinating
- I hope it can be completed soon.
- I hope this get over the line!
- I just hope this goes ahead, great for the locals and tourists alike 🙏
- I really hope we are able to get anything at all. As a mother of three kids I believe with the amount of kids living and visiting Port Douglas a water facility is very much needed.
- I really want this for my children (before they are too old to use it). We would use it all year round, meet friends there, bring visitors there.
- I think I'd this goes ahead, it is great! Long awaited. I think it will be great for tourism as well.
- I think if PD do nothing it will be detrimental to the future of the town. In particular for its citizens.
- I think it is wonderful that finally something is being done.

- I would like to note that I am a grandparent and I would love to see this wonderful gift to the community and tourists be located in this amazing part of Port Douglas.
- It either needs to happen or put to bed for ever. It is just wasted money with 'consultation' after consultation.
- IT IS LONG OVERDUE. A MUST FOR TOURISM
- It would be great to make this really happen! Lots of ideas and promises in the past...
- It's about time!
- It's well over due and would benefit all aspects of the tourism and hospitality industry that our town relies on so heavily
- I've seen a lot of development around Australia during Covid and Port Douglas seems to have missed out?
- Just build it
- Just build it and the families will come .
- just do it
- Just do it
- Just do it
- Just do it this time.
- Just do it!
- Just do it!!!
- Just get it done
- Just get it done stop all the talking
- Just get it done, too much hesitation. It is needed, we are a tourist town!
- Just get it happening. 20 years of talk??
- Just get on with it
- Just get on with it! We have been looking at options for over twenty years and it goes nowhere
- Just go for it. You never going to please everyone. Good luck
- Just make a decision and get it done.
- Just make a decision, this has been going on for too long
- Lagoon is a must for this region. We are being left behind with what towns are doing up and down the coast.
- Let's do this!
- Let's do this! Honestly, we would be happy with anything for locals and holiday makers
- Let's do this. Well overdue.
- Let's just get this show on the road! PD is not just for old people or visitors. Children need a water facility.
- Let's just make it happen
- Let's just get them built. This has been going on for way too long. Given that we are a major tourist attraction, it will be well received by visitors and will be a good source of income for Council to reinvest in other amenities.
- Let's make this happen
- Make a decision and progress applications for Fed/State funding. You will not please everyone but that's life, make a decision. Need to have safe swimming alternative for tourism offering, something new for TPDD/Council to talk about and promote to tourists
- Make a decision earlier rather than later otherwise we will still be talking about in another 20 years
- Make it happen
- Make it happen for goodness sake.....tourists need a swim hole in town.....
- Make it happen. There is no reason for families to choose Port Douglas as a holiday or living destination if there are no safe (child friendly) play spaces for their children.
- Needs to happen
- No just get it up
- Nope just let's get it done and about time for this to happen in Port Douglas
- Please be inspired by other great water parks in the world. I will believe it when I see it. A water park has been the talk of this town for 10 years without anything yet built while Cooktown and other smaller towns have them already. My kids are now past the age of a splash park. Too slow, nothing ever happens, so, so many visitors per year, yet no lagoon, safe place to swim and hang out on a cool day, stop asking people just do it. Even places in North America that have 2 months of Summer per year have one!! Should have been done YEARS AGO DON'T WASTE ANYMORE TIME, IT NEEDS IT

- Please build it! We are tired as a community of hearing proposals that never happen because Council tries to please everyone.
- Please find a way to make this happen. There is nothing for our children in Port Douglas and it's driving young families like us out of the area
- please get it moving this time it has been talked about for years!
- Please just do it and stop procrastinating!
- Please just do something this time.
- Please just do something, it really shouldn't take this long. People think the councils a joke.
- Please just get this done
- Please just get this up and running
- Please let this go through - especially a lagoon - this town needs it badly and has for many years. Give locals and tourist something to do that is free
- Please make it happen. PD needs to stay present
- Please make this happen, town is crying out for it
- Please move forward in this instead of having so many surveys. It could have been done by now surely.
- Please please try to make this happen. Town has always lacked a safe swimming area for both kids and adults to enjoy. In 17 years I've been in the beach water once. Hot, salty murky and at times of the year dangerous. What is the other option? Rivers which are a drive away...
- Please proceed with the water park!
- Please soon
- Port Douglas has been in need of a lagoon for 20 years! Please make it happen!
- Port Douglas is falling behind in tourism infrastructure when compared to other alternative destinations. We simply MUST improve this town.
- Port Douglas NEEDS IT!!!
- Something needs to happen
- Spend the money
- Stop faffing about all Council ever does is delay and refuse
- STOP TALKING AND JUST DO BOTH AT SAME TIME
- Stop the indecision. This should have been built years ago.
- Thank you for asking our opinion, now let's see some action.
- That a water park/lagoon is well overdue, so it's a good thing that this is being passed and public opinions are being heard! Thank you
- The construction of this project is well overdue. Residents are upset over the delay and constant arguments between councillors about this matter. The best location needs to be allocated to this project, it needs to be well planned and not a bandaid solution. Do it once, and do it right.
- These facilities are long overdue in our region. More families would choose Port Douglas to live in, growing the rate payer base. I thank the Council for the opportunity for consultation, however the time to implement is now.
- This council needs to stop wasting time debating these issues. Port Douglas has no safe swimming areas for the general public due to crocodiles and jelly fish. The fact that we do not even have a splash park for children in 2023 when we are probably one of the biggest tourist destinations in Australia during our winter months baffles the mind. This shows that the mayor and councillors lack any real understanding of what actually runs this town and shire. Just build the waterpark or watch Port Douglas go backwards while every other shire in our region strives to take our limelight.
- This has been going on for at least 20 years it is overdue. The cost of rate payers feedbacks and consultants fees have been absorbent. From visiting many towns on the east coast the majority have installed water play and swimming facilities for children and adults. Swimming is an essential skill for all children and with the continuing growth of Port Douglas it is an essential part of a community. Please please just do it.
- This has been talked about for so long. For us in the tourist industry it would bring us all year round business instead of the 6 to 9 months. Long overdue for Port Douglas
- this has been talked about for over 20 years I've lived here, we've seen other small towns have them built. It's quite unbelievable PD has not got this done. Enough talk, surveys, plans surely.
- This has needed to happen for over a decade and now we finally are gaining some momentum, there's a lot of older people who populate this town who may not be in favour as

they may not use the facilities, however we need to build for the future, the kids of today the future of the Douglas shire.

- This has to happen, between crocs and stingers swimming off the beach and creeks has become too risky, regardless of what other locals think, this will attract tourist, locals and boost the economy. Don't listen to the moaners who don't like progress.
- This hopefully will go ahead as this has been ongoing for decades and is always put on the back burner. Time to advance and make it the place to come and see and use.
- This is a much needed facility for our local shire, the locals are desperate for this to go ahead!
- This is long overdue.
- This is long overdue. We all know this. It's a matter of keeping the balance between not spoiling our lovely spot, and catering for the times when we cannot go into the sea. A much needed resource for the locals of this area, as well as tourists.
- This is so needed for the shire to grow and develop and continue to keep up with many other Shires dare outperforming the Douglas shire in terms of their infrastructure development to benefit tourists and locals alike.
- This is something that port Douglas has needed for a long time in order to keep up with other tourist destinations, as well as something for local families to enjoy.
- This must go ahead, we have crocodiles and stingers to deal with, and this is a tourist town, so options need to be available.
- This need to happen ASAP and not be rejected by an out of date council. Port and Mossman are boring for families.
- This needs to go ahead and is vital for both locals and as a tourist attraction to the area
- This needs to happen here in Port Douglas and the comparison to Mossman is ludicrous. Completely different markets. Have been told we don't need one as resorts all have them, most resorts have restaurants too and that hasn't stopped our restaurant industry... People like choice and safety for their younger ones.
- This needs to happen to save Port Douglas working in hospitality I am forever hearing there is nothing here for kids and with a young family myself I have to agree this would be the making of Port Douglas as a family friendly town!
- This project is far overdue for development in Port Douglas
- Time to just get it done now
- We left the area a few years back over frustration and continued delays to this project which have just gone on and on. Once you live in a town with these type of facilities you realise just how lacking Port Douglas is in this regard. Let's hope this time around this project will get followed through to completion. We would love to return but will not consider it till Port Douglas catches up with other regional communities.
- Yep. Just get it done already. We are falling so far behind the rest of tourism destinations it's embarrassing
- Yes hurry up
- Yes- look forward to the completion of splash park I hope politics don't get in the way of something good 😊
- Yes stop procrastinating and get them done
- yes, just make it happen
- You already had the majority vote for a swimming facility 3 years ago, stop procrastinating and just move forward! We are the only tourism town on the north east coast without anywhere to swim. There are crocs in the swimming holes. And no tourists staying in Port are going drive over to Mossman! We need a lagoon in this town ADAP or tourists will stay somewhere else and our tourism industry will decrease. Please just build a lagoon. We have been asking for one for 20 years now!

Appendix Eight – Do Nothing

There are higher priorities

- Put the money to deliver affordable public transport so people can use all our region.
- I would like to see these funds (local, state, federal) put to use for support of nursing, education and flood relief, not frivolous things like an aquatic precinct.
- I would prefer to see more focus and spending of rates on improving facilities for entire permanent community, not privileging 'parents with children' as your latest post appears to do. I don't see how this is a high priority goal in a town with literally four miles of beach and an abundance of rivers creeks and swimming holes. I would prefer to see an expansion of the public library and community centre, more Adult Education initiatives, public transport (multiple daily services to Cairns) and an upgrade of poorly maintained roads in township, nicer quality street lights and an upgrade to Reynolds Park (lush gardens with seating etc as a place for quiet contemplation).
- Focus on things they are unique to us. Think about what you can do better with the money.
- Council should spend the money on bettering the underutilized facility that already exists in Mossman and possibly in the park across the road in Mossman by the Botanic Gardens if they are going to do anything.

Not required/Unnecessary

- We are surrounded by natural creeks, beaches & have a beautiful swimming pool in Mossman.
- There are plenty of pools as well as a beautiful world renowned beach available to use.
- why any pool at all. almost every property and every holiday place has a pool
- I do not support a splash pool at all People come here for our reef and rainforest that should be enough. If everyone thinks it's an absolute necessity why not use the ocean as one
- Private enterprise is more than capable of delivering these facilities. There are pools all over Port Douglas. The Mossman pool facilities are more than adequate.
- Nearly all houses/resorts have pools. Highlight our natural beauty - that is your draw card.
- Most properties in Port Douglas have their own swimming facilities.
- There needs to be further consideration of environmentally and economically more sustainable ways for children and families to enjoy being in the water - e.g. the beach (Four Mile) and the many residential and vacation accommodation in the town.

Cost to Ratepayers

- Who ultimately pays for the upkeep, maintenance and security? Not to mention the lifesavers ...Surely not the ratepayers. You cannot compare Cairns and Airlie Beach with Port Douglas. Their Rate base is far in excess plus....Cairns doesn't have a beach as such.
- Douglas does not have the money to support such an investment. NO to the PD Aquatic Precinct - the rates would sky rocket each year.
- Repairs and maintenance will be a huge burden on ratepayers. Just look at the Cairns lagoon as a benchmark for disaster.
- Our rates are high enough as they are
- As a ratepayer I object to paying for the upkeep of a 25m lagoon pool.
- A splash park is not in keeping with the area. It will end up looking run down and ratepayers will have to wear the cost of ongoing maintenance. Repairing storm surge damage will be costly.
- It will add a need for security and cleaning etc. And maintenance that is costly and unnecessary and does not differentiate us from anywhere else as everywhere has lagoon and water play areas these days. It will also result in a need to raise council rates for ongoing maintenance and I am not sure that is going to be supported.
- Rates are too expensive no way can the shire afford two pools.
- You are forgetting about the whole of the shire. Spending money in Port Douglas only. Rates will go up and the ratepayers of the whole shire will be paying for something only a small percentage will be using.
- Locals would need to fund this facility which would mainly be used by tourists. I'm not in favour of our rates increasing for the use by visitors.

Keep Port Douglas Natural and Unspoilt

- No splash park and no wet & wild
- I visited Port Douglas six years ago as a college student from the States studying in Cairns. I am hoping to move back to Australia in the next five years. I couldn't believe the beautiful and unspoilt beaches and scenery in your town. I've seen plenty of coastal places in Mexico that have been wrecked by too much tourism developments. Bad changes happen real fast, so please think about avoiding things that could change your town in a bad way.
- I believe that our Shire should be different to Airlie and Cairns, lets showcase our natural beauty! Most resorts have pools and there are beautiful swimming holes. Why do we have to have a splash park or a lagoon?
- You really need to know what you wish to achieve by building these facilities Who are your future patrons to something like this. Why do people really visit Port Douglas? Turning natural wonderlands into theme parks might just deter the very people the shire is going to attract. Port Douglas doesn't have to do desperate knee jerk things like wave parks and swimming theme parks. Very soon it will become like the Gold coast if we are not careful. You need a fifty year plan with great vision like scoundrel Slade started. Spend your effort on things that would make a person want to visit like being the most eco-friendly untouched piece of paradise in the world. If this sort of development is going to go ahead then my support for the region will definitely cease. I have quite a stake there and have supported the region at a loss for nearly twenty years because we believed in the region. Many people like us feel the same. We don't have to compete with other regions. We just need to do things different.
- Most properties have their own swimming facilities. It will add a need for security and cleaning etc. And costly and unnecessary maintenance will not differentiate us from anywhere else as everywhere has lagoon and water play areas these days. It will also result in a need to raise council rates for ongoing maintenance and I am not sure that is going to be supported.

No to Splash Park, Yes to Lagoon

- A splash park is only for children. There is a 50 metre pool in the shire - another is not required. A lagoon pool like the ones in Airlie, Cairns, Townsville is what it needed. Suitable for all ages. All year round. Located at Rex Smeal Park so it has a beautiful outlook, and using sea water possibly? Filtered to keep out even the smallest of jelly fish. No chlorination costs.
- A splash park is an absolute waste of funds and council consultation time and effort. The locals and visitors NEED a lagoon pool NOT a splash park that only suits small children. The demographics of this town and our visitors surely tell you that we need a solution to suit everyone! Come on council get this sorted once and for all every other council on the coast can manage it.

Negative Impact on Neighbours

- This is ridiculous to have a water splash park in residential area. Who wants this near his house?
- A water splash park will be very noisy for the residences close to it. We have an apartment just in front of Reynolds park, we can sell it if you do that. This cannot be in middle of town.
- Both locations will cause havoc and disruptions to the area. I live across from Reynolds Park. Placing it here will mean I will lose my on street parking and cause unwanted noise and traffic to the area outside the peaceful park home I purchased. Jalunbu park option will push all the 20 plus people living in cars outside of it in our peak tourist season outside of my home in Reynolds Park. I will strongly and legally oppose both these option to my full ability.
- Please consider local residents and those who have chosen to live in the vicinity due to low noise levels, traffic and tranquillity. The aquatic precinct will congest nearby streets, ongoing noise and constant foot traffic. A precinct like this should be near the beach. I don't think PD is a place for such facility unless it be beside the beach. It should not be placed residence homes and holiday houses. Very disheartening.

Water Shortage

- We already have a water shortage
- Where would the water come from for any type of pool considering there are frequent water restrictions in the Douglas Shire
- With water shortages worldwide do we really need more water wasted
- Water restrictions are on every year and everyone I know always get excess water bills.