

# Council Initiatives

## COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



**Supporting community events** - Provide more than \$180,000 in funding in 2016-17 to support local community events including Carnivale, the Coral Coast Triathlon, the RRR Mountain Bike Challenge, Cairns Ironman, the Mossman Show, Taste Port Douglas, New Years Eve in Port Douglas, Mossman Community Christmas, the Great Barrier Reef Marathon, the Port Shorts Film Festival and the Crocodile Trophy.

**Promoting our tourism industry** - Increase funding to Tourism Port Douglas & Daintree by 5 per cent to \$474,045 in 2016/17 for destination marketing.

**Developing an Economic Development Strategy** - Council will develop an economic development strategy in consultation with our communities to identify the key priorities for the region.

**Launching a Sports Expo** - Council will launch a Sports Expo in the Douglas Shire to promote healthy lifestyles and support local sporting organisations.

**Establishing a Sister City/Province relationship** - Research a suitable Sister City/Province which has similar aspirations to the Douglas Shire to foster closer community and economic ties.

**Funding community projects** - Almost \$150,000 will be distributed to local organisations, businesses and individuals in 2016/17 through Council's grants program which includes the Community Support Program, the Business Development Fund, the Events Funding Program and the Regional Arts Development Fund.

**Sustaining the Mossman District Nursing Home Precinct** - Provide funding to support the development of the Mossman District Nursing Home Precinct.

**Adopting an RV Strategy** - Council will develop an RV Strategy to make the Douglas Shire more attractive for this lucrative tourism market.

**Combating domestic violence** - Engage in partnerships with relevant state agencies to develop a functional brief for the establishment of a domestic violence refuge in the Douglas Shire.

**Improving access to Yalanji cemetery** - Work with the Mossman Gorge community and stakeholders to facilitate better access.

**Enhancing community access** - Conduct a Community Access Audit to ensure compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act and Australian Standards, identifying and reporting non-compliance defects, updating asset registers and developing a capital works upgrade program.

## ENVIRONMENT



**Adopting new Planning Scheme** - Conduct community consultation on new Douglas Shire Planning Scheme that implements responsible environmental practices.

**Developing Sustainability Strategy** - Incorporate targets for reducing Council's carbon footprint.

**Encouraging recycling** - Construct and commission additional public place recycling bins and conduct audits to confirm recycling rates.

**Improving resource recovery** - Implement Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan to increase landfill diversion rates of 20 per cent recorded at transfer stations.

**Reducing disposable plastic bag usage** - Implement opportunities to remove disposal plastic bag usage in Douglas Shire as part of the Keep Paradise Plastic Free campaign.

**Protecting cassowaries** - Increase Local Laws presence and undertake education campaign in relation to dog control and cassowaries north of the Daintree River.

## SUSTAINABILITY



**Assessing customer satisfaction levels** - Conduct Customer Satisfaction Assessment to identify benchmarks across the range of Council services.

**Identifying Land Management Plans** - Determine freehold land assets currently surplus to Council requirements.

**Undertaking assessment of stormwater assets** - Undertake documented condition assessment of all stormwater assets and develop rectification plan including timeframes.

**Streamlining service provision** - Review community awareness of Port Douglas Community Hub and develop a plan to streamline service provision and improve community usage.

**Reviewing Disaster Management sub-plans** - Increase proficiencies in communications, hazard mitigation and warnings processes.

**Implementing a fleet maintenance system** - Develop a fleet maintenance system that records maintenance completed and predicts future maintenance requirements.

**Completing the Local Government Infrastructure Plan** - Adopt a plan that can be effectively applied to commercial and residential developments in the Douglas Shire.