

Fact Sheet

March, 2014

Burnett River Floodplain Action Plan: Projects fast-tracked for funding

What's progressed since the community consultation in September 2013?

To move forward with government funding applications, independent engineering firm GHD provided an Options Assessment Report which was fast tracked as part of the overall Burnett River Floodplain Action Plan being delivered in mid-2014. This Report recommended a number of feasible large-scale infrastructure projects and flood management initiatives for Council's consideration.

The team took the 320+ responses, ideas and feedback received during public consultation in September, and worked with the projects' dedicated Community Reference Group (CRG) and the Technical Working Group, to refine this list down to 40 different projects and initiatives. Following an initial engineering assessment, these 40 projects were narrowed down to

Fast Facts

- **320+ public ideas** informed the identification of possible projects
- Approx. **\$225+ million** high-level cost estimate for the 4 main project categories
- **7 large-scale infrastructure** projects proposed
- Reductions in flood levels for **both north and south sides** of the Burnett River
- **741 properties** would no longer experience above floor flooding in a 1% AEP flood event as a result of the East Levee and Floodgates project
- **436 properties** would no longer experience above floor flooding in a 1% AEP event as a result of Millaquin Bend project
- Improved evacuation routes for **400 – 600 people** in the Goodnight Scrub, Perry River and Morganville areas
- Establishment of an evacuation route for **1150 people** off Branyan Drive, Bartholdt Drive, Arcardia Drive and surrounding local roads
- 4WD evacuation route for Pine Creek, Givelda and Electra areas
- Overall Action Plan delivered mid-2014.

20 large-scale flood mitigation projects that were fed into a Multi-Criteria Assessment (MCA).

The MCA process objectively considered options based on the feasibility, effectiveness, social, environmental and economic advantages and disadvantages of each. The CRG assisted in weighting the criteria before was fed into the MCA process.

Further detailed assessment was undertaken on the eight most promising options from the MCA. This work directly informed GHD's recommended list of projects outlined in the Options Assessment Report.



Figure 1: Community Information Sessions, September 2013



Fact Sheet

Councillors voted on the options in GHD’s Options Assessment Report and the CRG Final Report at a Special Council Meeting held Friday, 21 February, prior to the recommendations being forwarded to the Minister for Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience for funding.

The final report of the Burnett River Floodplain Action Plan will describe the region’s vulnerability to large Burnett River floods and outline the floodplain management projects and strategies that will reduce flood impacts and improve the region’s flood resilience and preparedness.

Figure 2 (below): Community Information Sessions, September 2013

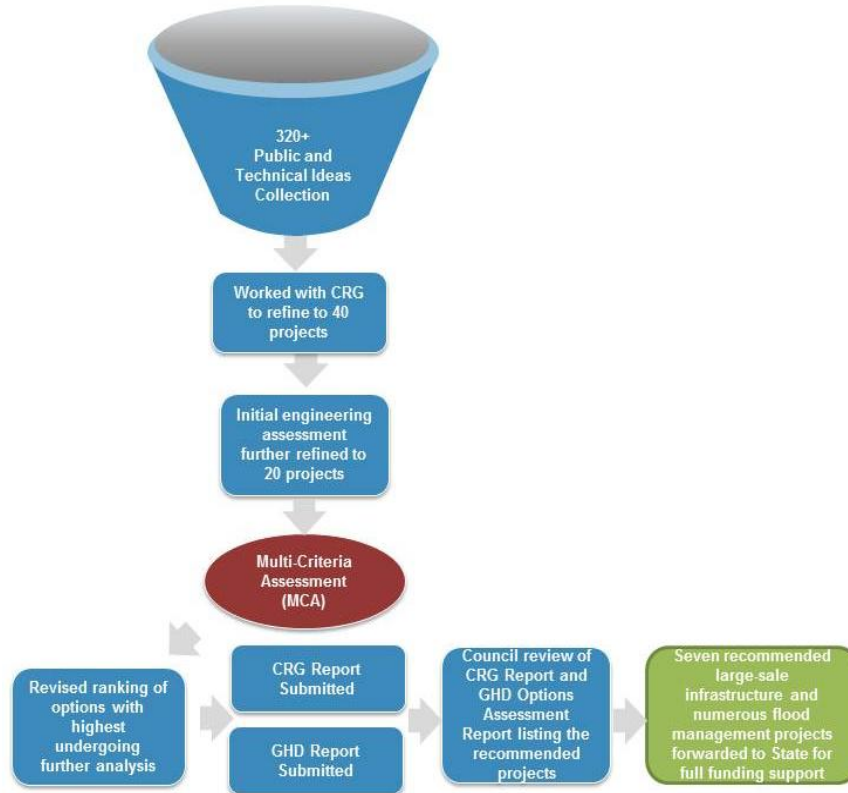


Figure 3 (above): Project Selection Process – Burnett River Floodplain Action Plan



What projects has Council put forward for funding?

The projects Council has put forward for funding focus on preserving human-life in a large-scale flood event and reducing the impacts of above floor-level flooding while being financially responsible.

The recently submitted funding application outlines the high level cost estimates for four main project categories, totalling approximately \$225+ million.

We appreciate this is an ambitious list in terms of the costs but we believe it is a very strong list of projects which we know will provide significant benefits to the region.

The projects and initiatives cover four categories including:

<p>Large-scale flood infrastructure projects</p>	<p>Millaquin Bend Dredging and Widening Works - \$32.1M up front, \$2.1M/yr maintenance Reductions in flood levels for both north and south sides of the Burnett River in Bundaberg. In East, South and Central Bundaberg (-0.58 m in 1% AEP event) and North Bundaberg (-0.2 to -0.31 m in 1% AEP event). <i>436 properties would no longer experience above floor flooding in a 1% AEP event.</i></p> <p>East Levee and Floodgate – \$71M up front Protects East, South and Central Bundaberg from Burnett River flooding up to the levee design event (currently 0.5% AEP + 0.6 m freeboard). <i>741 properties would no longer experience above floor flooding in a 1% AEP flood event.</i></p>
<p>Establishing evacuation routes to reduce the risk to lives</p>	<p>Hinkler Avenue Upgrade – \$104M up front Greatly improved evacuation routes, access to evacuation centres and provides reliable and critical link for emergency access between north and south sides of the Burnett River in Bundaberg. Extends Tallon Bridge to North Hill Roundabout. Reduced strain on emergency and recovery services, improved public safety.</p> <p>Mount Perry Rd and Fairymead Rd Upgrades - \$7.4M up front Upgrade strategic road sections to 0.5% AEP flood immunity. Provide critical evacuation routes, access to evacuation centres and emergency access for Bundaberg North. Reduced strain on emergency and recovery services, improved public safety.</p>



<p><i>Establishing evacuation routes that reduce isolation of communities</i></p>	<p>Bartholdt Drive alternative evacuation route - \$1.4M up front Establishment of an evacuation route for approximately 1150 people off Branyan Drive, Bartholdt Drive, Arcardia Drive and surrounding local roads. Reduced strain on emergency and recovery services, improved public safety.</p> <p>Pine Creek, Givelda and Electra alternative evacuation route - \$1M up front Improved evacuation routes via 4WD for the local community. Reduced strain on emergency and recovery services, improved public safety and resupply route. Reduction in isolation from extreme flood depths reaching 27m in January 2013.</p> <p>Goodnight Scrub alternative route (in lieu of Perry River Bridge upgrade) \$5 -10M up front (yet to be detail costed) Improved evacuation routes for approximately 400 – 600 people in the Goodnight Scrub, Perry River and Morganville areas. Reduced strain on emergency and recovery services, improved public safety and resupply route. Benefits both Bundaberg and North Burnett Regional Council residents.</p>
<p><i>Community preparedness through improved flood information, flood warning systems, and emergency response initiatives</i></p>	<p>Various Flood Management Measures ~\$2.5M Multiple benefits related to community preparedness, education and resilience from improved flood information, flood warning, and emergency response. Potential for improved public safety and reduction in flood damages. Includes implementation of flood level markers, marking evacuation routes/zones, electronic information boards, disaster management portal, additional rain gauges and improvements for early flood warning. Broad benefits across the Lower Burnett River.</p>

What's next?

Council has put forward seven infrastructure projects and several flood management initiatives to the Queensland Government for full funding consideration. **These projects will form part of the overall Burnett River Floodplain Action Plan, which will also include other crucial floodplain management measures. Only the projects that receive funding support will be able to proceed.**

While we await funding decisions, our focus is on completing the Floodplain Action Plan. This involves rolling out initiatives such as flood gauge mapping, evacuation capability assessments and



route planning, improved flood search certificates, and managing future flood risk through land use planning.

The Action Plan encompasses all of Bundaberg Regional Council's efforts to address flood risk, resilience and preparedness, and follows the completion of a comprehensive two-year flood modelling and mapping study of the Burnett River floodplain located between Paradise Dam and the river mouth.

How can you find out more about the proposed projects and measures?

Members of the public are invited to attend one of the information sessions being run between Tuesday, 4 March and Wednesday 12 March 2014.

The sessions provide an opportunity to find out more about the range of projects and emergency response initiatives that Council put forward for funding to provide improvements to flood resilience and preparedness for the region.

<p><i>Information Session times</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 4th March – North Progress Hall - Two sessions at 4.30pm and 7pm. • Wednesday 5 March – Bundaberg Civic Centre Supper Room - Two sessions at 4.30pm and 7pm. • Wednesday 12 March – Wallaville Hall (2 Walla St) – One session at 6pm.
<p><i>Contact the Bundaberg Regional Council team at:</i></p>	<p>Web: http://bundaberg.qld.gov.au/burnett-river-action-plan</p> <p>P: 1300 883 699</p> <p>E: ceo@bundaberg.qld.gov.au</p>

