



# Waterways Management Program

2017 - 2021

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# GCWA Waterways Management Program 2017-2021

The Gold Coast Waterways Authority was created in December 2012 by the *Gold Coast Waterways Authority Act (2012) (The Act)*. The Act requires the Authority to prepare a 10-year *Waterways Management Strategy* (Strategy) and an annual *Waterways Management Program* (Program) that provides a rolling 1+3-year investment plan. The Authority is required to consult on both the Strategy and the Program. Investment under the Program must be consistent with the Strategy.

**As per section 19 of the Act, specifically the Program must include:**

- a) *The policies and financial measures for implementing the waterways management strategy;*
- b) *The performance targets to be achieved;*
- c) *Details of the projects to improve and maintain navigational access to Gold Coast waters and to develop and improve public marine facilities;*
- d) *Details of measures to be taken to implement and monitor compliance with a waterways management regulation made under the Transport Infrastructure Act 1994 to the extent the regulation applies to Gold Coast waters.*<sup>1</sup>

Following community engagement and feedback on the draft Strategy in September 2013, the 10 year Gold Coast Waterways Management Strategy 2014-2023 was released on 5 March 2014. The following factors have informed the development of this Program and the selection of the projects listed in **Table 2**:

- The objectives and strategic outcomes outlined in the Strategy
- The key actions identified to achieve these objectives
- Ongoing consultation with the community and Council

The Authority has established internal governance policies and financial measures to ensure appropriate oversight of both capital project and operational investments.

## Gold Coast Waterways Management Strategy 2014-2023

The investments detailed in this Program fall under the following three Strategic Outcomes:

**Sustain** – continue to make sure that the waterways are well planned and maintained so that those who use and enjoy the waterways can do so safely and responsibly and so that the waterways remain an important asset for current and future businesses, visitors and residents to enjoy.

**Enhance** – improve the waterways so that all those who want to use the waterways can do so and that the capacity of the waterways is increased efficiently and sustainably so it keeps pace with demand.

**Promote** – promote the waterways so that everyone appreciates and is encouraged to use our unique waterways. Responsible enjoyment and use of the waterways is promoted, based on the best research and in coordination with related plans.

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<sup>1</sup> *Gold Coast Waterways Authority Act (2012) section 19 (2)*

## Waterways Authority funding & investment

In order to meet the objectives of the Strategy, the Gold Coast Waterways Authority requires an annual commitment of funding from the State Government to achieve the delivery of capital investments and operational projects. This annual funding includes allocations for operational project expenses, including salaries, supplies and services as well as an allocation for Capital investment. Investments proposed for the next four years are shown in **Table 2**.

**Table 1** below shows the annual summary of funding for the next four years. Funding for years 2017/18 to 2020/21 has been confirmed in this year's state budget process.

The initial funding of \$35.3M over four years from 2012/13 – 2015/16 which was provided to the Authority to improve the management of and access to Gold Coast waterways has been delivered or fully committed to projects.

### Table 1 Funding and Investment Summary 2017-21

	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	
(\$000)	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Total
Funding Allocation	5,810	5,250	4,700	6,100	21,860
Est. Carry forward from previous year	4,048	0	0	0	4,048
<b>Total Investment</b> <sup>1</sup>	<b>9,858</b>	<b>5,250</b>	<b>4,700</b>	<b>6,100</b>	<b>25,908</b>

#### Notes

1 As detailed in Annex A – Table 2

## Implementing the Strategy through the Program

This section highlights the key Waterways Management issues and investment opportunities that have been considered in preparing this Program. The headings summarise:

- What the Program will deliver for Gold Coast waterways users and the community; and
- How the Program aligns with the investment criteria and objectives of the Strategy.
- Please note: the Strategy covers a longer time span (10 years versus 4 years) and parts of it will be addressed by future Program years.

The Authority continues to maintain a dedicated Project Management Office (PMO) with a suitably qualified team of Project Managers to ensure that the Authority has the capability to deliver the Program and is ready to respond to other major projects as they emerge.

Project investments identified in the Program seek to provide the best value for money for Government and the community by sourcing efficient and effective procurement practices and delivery methodologies.

In developing the Program, the Authority has prioritised investments to meet the following key objectives and actions in the Strategy:

## What the Program Delivers:

### Sustain

Strategy Criteria	How the Program delivers Sustain Strategy Actions
1.1, 1.2, 1.8 & 1.9	Maintain Navigation channels, Destinations, Marine Infrastructure & Navigational Aids <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keeping the navigation channel and destinations network safe and available through 5 maintenance dredging projects across 4 years (\$4.4M), and an indicative allowance in the outer years of the program for Priority Operational Dredging Projects (\$1.35M)</li> <li>Ongoing Navigational Aid servicing via a continuous preventative maintenance program (\$210K)</li> <li>Removal of abandoned watercraft and property from the waterways (\$240K)</li> <li>Ongoing routine Hydrographic Survey program and of the waterways to monitor channel depths and respond where required (\$400K)</li> <li>Development of a dedicated dredge spoil management facility at Coomera to compliment the dredging works program (\$3.24M)</li> <li>Maintaining and upgrading Marine Infrastructure in conjunction with City of Gold Coast (\$2.11M), and an indicative allowance in the outer years of the Program for priority Capital Boating infrastructure projects(\$600K)</li> </ul>
1.3	Maintain and Improving the Gold Coast Seaway - the Sand Bypass system (SBS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allowances for ongoing preventative maintenance, upgrades and implementing energy efficiency recommendations for the operation of the Seaway Sand Bypass System(\$2.68)</li> </ul>
1.4, 1.5, 1.7	Waterways Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage moorings, marinas &amp; anchorages efficiently</li> <li>Development of an interactive strategic planning tool and an online information submission app known as iGCWA (\$215K)</li> <li>Implementation of a Camera Surveillance Network for waterways behavioral monitoring (\$145K)</li> <li>Prevent and if necessary respond to marine pollution</li> </ul>
1.6	Protect the environmental Values <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with environmental authorities to protect and manage waterways environmental values by conducting and funding research into the environmental effects of dredged areas through the Scientific Research and Management Program and the Sand Management Plan.</li> </ul>

## Enhance

Strategy Criteria	How the Program delivers Enhance Strategy actions
2.1	<p>Complete the channel network with new dredging projects and improved navigation aids</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhancing the navigation channel network through 6 new capital dredging projects across 4 years (\$4.98M)</li> </ul>
2.2	<p>Manage space on the waterways to balance the needs of all users in a way that protects the environment and maximises the recreational and commercial benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of the Canal Navigational Access Investigation project data for use in Managing Canal water allocations</li> <li>Implementing the whole of waterways Buoy Mooring Strategy and investigating the Buoy Mooring replacement project</li> <li>Implementing recommendations of the Speed Limits Review (\$50K)</li> </ul>
2.3 – 2.4 & 2.5	<p>Identify, encourage and provide new and improved public waterways access facilities, anchorages and destinations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaboration with the City of Gold Coast in planning and providing new destinations such as a new public boat ramp at Woongoolba (\$230K) and a new public pontoon at South Currigee (\$450K)</li> <li>Upgrade of 1 existing public pontoon at The Spit (\$200K) and 3 existing boat ramps at Oxenford, Alberton and Steiglitz (\$1.3M)</li> <li>Implementing ongoing infrastructure improvements to Doug Jennings Park (\$2.85M)</li> <li>Perform a strategic evaluation / Demand Study for a Pontoon in Broadbeach (\$25K)</li> <li>Construction of the Seaway South Emergency Access Stairs (\$81K)</li> </ul>
2.6	<p>Support and encourage businesses related to the waterways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perform a Strategic Evaluation / Demand Study for a pontoon in Broadbeach (\$25K)</li> <li>Investigate the creation of an Underwater Sculpture Museum in the Broadwater (\$10K)</li> </ul>
2.7	<p>Improve efficiency of the Sand Bypass System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigations into renewable energy generation and energy efficiency solutions for the Gold Coast Seaway Sand Bypass System (\$25K)</li> <li>implementing energy efficiency recommendations for the operation of the Gold Coast Seaway Sand Bypass System (\$895K)</li> </ul>
2.8	<p>Ensure that the Gold Coast Waterways Authority is flexible and ready to respond to other major projects as they emerge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuing capacity and capability building within the dedicated Project Management Office (PMO), with utilisation of a suitably qualified Project Management Team to ensure successful project delivery</li> <li>Implementation of Best Practice Project Management Framework and project delivery processes.</li> </ul>

# Promote

Strategy Criteria	How the Program delivers Promote Strategy actions
3.1 – 3.4	Promotion and Communication of the waterways
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Ensure stakeholders are appropriately engaged to promote relevant and tangible benefits for waterways users, by implementation of the GCWA – Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (CASES)</i></li> <li>• <i>Continue to establish partnerships and collaborate with Gold Coast Tourism, Tourism and Events Queensland, Commonwealth Games Organising Corporation (GOLDOC) and support and encourage events that include a higher profile focus on the waterways</i></li> <li>• <i>Inform and educate the community about the waterways via education campaigns, advertising and maintaining the interactive Gold Coast Waterways Authority’s Website and Social Media feeds, with a focus on outcomes of consultations, news reports and waterways information, Convene Waterways Management Symposiums and attend annual boating shows and Marine Expos (\$60K)</i></li> <li>• <i>Ensure value for money by initiating and supporting research that promotes and improve understanding of Gold Coast waterways issues and management options through the Scientific Research and Management Strategy, the Science and Innovation Advisory Committee (formerly known as the Science Advisory Committee) and collaborative partnerships, through the Scientific Research and Management Program (SRMP), (\$1.1M over 4 years) and SRMP Grant Application Contributions (\$150K)</i></li> </ul>



# Annex A

## Table 2 Proposed Project Investments 2017-21

Project	Investment (\$)	Approved	Indicative		
		2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
		Year 1 (\$)	Year 2 (\$)	Year 3 (\$)	Year 4 (\$)
Alberton Boat Ramp Upgrade	450,000		450,000		
Broadbeach Pontoon - Strategic Evaluation / Demand Study	25,000		25,000		
Cabbage Tree Point Boat Ramp Facility Upgrade	450,000			450,000	
Camera Surveillance Network - Behavioral Monitoring Project	145,000	25,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Canaipa Passage Dredging 18/19	700,000		700,000		
Coomera Dredged Sediment Rehandling Facility	3,240,000	3,240,000			
Coomera River Dredging – Downstream (Cap)	727,000	727,000			
Coomera River Dredging - Upstream (Cap)	785,000	785,000			
Coomera River Dredging - Upstream (Op)	895,000	780,000	115,000		
Watercraft and Property Removal	240,000	30,000	70,000	70,000	70,000
Doug Jennings Park Ongoing Infrastructure Improvements	1,120,000		620,000		500,000
Doug Jennings Park Infrastructure Improvements - Stage 3	1,730,000	1,730,000			
Eastern Channels Dredging	1,000,000				1,000,000
GCWA Business Improvements Fund	200,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Hydrographic Survey Program - Routine	400,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Indicative Capital Boating Infrastructure Projects - Priority Projects	600,000				600,000
Indicative Maintenance Dredging Projects - Priority Projects	1,350,000			650,000	700,000
Indicative Waterways Management Projects - Priority Projects	400,000				400,000
Jacobs Well Dredging 20/21	1,000,000				1,000,000
Labrador Channel Dredging Ch2800 to Ch3800 - Stage 3	595,000	595,000			
Main Channel North Dredging Project Ch25000 to Ch27000	400,000		400,000		



Main Channel South Dredging Project Ch8000 to Ch8500	400,000		400,000		
Marine Infrastructure - Minor & Emergent Fund	200,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Marks Road Woongoolba - Boat Ramp Construction	230,000		230,000		
Nav Aids – Major Maintenance & Renewal Fund	210,000	30,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
Nerang River Dredging (Evandale / TSS)	1,075,000			1,075,000	
North Channel Dredging 18/19	800,000		800,000		
Oxenford Pacific Highway Boat ramp Upgrade	430,000		430,000		
Sand Bypass System - Extend Slurry Line Outlet	900,000				900,000
Sand Bypass System - Green Energy Investigations	25,000	25,000			
Sand Bypass System – Energy Efficiency Improvements	895,000	575,000	120,000	100,000	100,000
Sand Bypass System - Shed Extension	30,000	30,000			
Sand Bypass System - Jetty Protective Coating Services	580,000	100,000	160,000	160,000	160,000
Sand Bypass System - Major Maintenance & Renewal Fund	200,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Sand Bypass System - Compound Hardstand Renewal	50,000			50,000	
Scientific Research & Management Program (SRMP)	1,010,000	200,000	270,000	270,000	270,000
South Channel & South Wavebreak Island Channel Dredging 19/20	1,000,000			1,000,000	
South Currigee Pontoon	450,000			450,000	
Seaway South Emergency Access Stairs	81,000	81,000			
Speed Limit Review	50,000	50,000			
Muriel Henchman Pontoon Upgrade	100,000	100,000			
SRMP Grant Applications	150,000	150,000			
iGCWA	215,000	215,000			
Underwater Sculpture Museum - Initial Investigations	10,000	10,000			
Vessel Improvement Fund	230,000	55,000	50,000	75,000	50,000
Waterways Management Symposium	60,000		60,000		
<b>Total - Projects</b>	<b>25,908,000</b>	<b>9,858,000</b>	<b>5,250,000</b>	<b>4,700,000</b>	<b>6,100,000</b>



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