



Queensland
Government



Waterways Management Program

2019 - 2023

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GCWA Waterways Management Program 2019-2023

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.*¹

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.

¹ *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 2019/20 to 2022/23 has been confirmed in this year's state budget process.

Table 1 Funding and Investment Summary 2019-23

	Approved	Indicative	Indicative	Indicative	
(\$000)	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Total
Funding Allocation	7,950	6,300	6,300	6,300	26,850
Est. Carry forward from previous year	760	0	0	0	760
Total Investment ¹	8,710	6,300	6,300	6,300	27,610

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 Program Delivery Unit (PDU) 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 1.1, 1.2, 1.8 & 1.9	How the Program delivers Sustain Strategy Actions
	<p>Maintain Navigation channels, Destinations, Marine Infrastructure & Navigational Aids</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping the navigation channel and destinations network safe and available through 7 maintenance dredging projects across 4 years (\$5.8555M) • Ongoing Navigational Aid servicing via a continuous preventative maintenance program (\$200K) • Removal of abandoned watercraft and property from the waterways (\$100K) • Ongoing routine Hydrographic Survey program and of the waterways to monitor channel depths and respond where required (\$400K) • Operation of a dedicated dredge spoil management facility at Coomera to compliment the dredging works program (\$40K) • Maintaining and upgrading Marine Infrastructure in conjunction with City of Gold Coast (\$3.79M) • Undertaking hydrodynamic studies of the Jumpinpin Entrance to ensure that dredging projects are planned using sound scientific assessment (\$140K)
1.3	<p>Maintain and Improving the Gold Coast Seaway - the Sand Bypass system (SBS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowances for ongoing preventative maintenance and upgrades of the Seaway Sand Bypass System (\$2.37M) • Upgrade the Sand Bypass System Jetty Deck to ensure maintenance of the 10 jet pumps can be undertaken into the future (\$3.96M)
1.4, 1.5, 1.7	<p>Waterways Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage moorings, marinas & anchorages efficiently • Operation of a Camera Surveillance Network for waterways behavioural monitoring across 4 years (\$200K) • Prevent and if necessary respond to marine pollution • Continual maintenance and improvements to GCWA vessel fleet (\$325K)
1.6	<p>Protect the environmental Values</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 (\$800K) • Development and implementation of a Strategic Offset Plan involving the installation of environmentally friendly buoy moorings and beneficial reuse of dredged sediment for habitat creation (\$590K)

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"> Enhancing the navigation channel network through 7 new capital dredging projects across 4 years (\$6.81M)
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"> Implementation of the Canal Navigational Access Investigation project data for use in Managing Canal water allocations Develop and implement a strategic statutory Waterways Management Plan (\$360K)
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"> Collaboration with the City of Gold Coast in planning and providing new destinations such as a new public pontoon at Alberton (\$210K) and South Currigee (\$600K) Upgrade of 4 existing boat ramps at Oxenford (\$500K), Alberton (\$300K), Jacobs Well (\$820K) and Cabbage Tree Point, Steiglitz (\$300K) Construction of a new boat ramp at Woongoolba (\$500K)
2.6	<p>Support and encourage businesses related to the waterways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform a Strategic Evaluation / Demand Study for a pontoon in Broadbeach (\$25K) Fund over 4 years for community grants and sponsorship (\$80K)
2.7	<p>Improve efficiency of the Sand Bypass System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding to extend the sand pipe outlet on South Stradbroke Island to reduce the amount of sand that comes back into the Seaway (\$950K)
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"> Continuing capacity and capability building within the dedicated Program Delivery Unit (PDU), with utilisation of a suitably qualified Project Management Team to ensure successful project delivery Implementation and continual improvement of a Best Practice Project Management Framework and project delivery processes An ongoing funding allocation for Planning and Innovation related projects (\$200K) Undertake LiDAR Survey of the Broadwater to the Coomera River (\$160K)

Promote

Strategy Criteria	How the Program delivers Promote Strategy actions
3.1 – 3.4	<p>Promotion and Communication of the waterways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <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>• <i>Continue to establish partnerships and collaborate with Gold Coast Tourism and Tourism and Events Queensland, and support and encourage events that include a higher profile focus on the waterways</i>• <i>Awarding funding grants or sponsorships to community groups which contribute to promotion and management of the waterways (\$80K)</i>• <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</i>• <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 and collaborative partnerships, through the Scientific Research and Management Program (SRMP), (\$800K over 4 years)</i>

Annex A

Table 2 Proposed Project Investments 2019-23

Project	Investment (\$)	Approved	Indicative		
		2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
		Year 1 (\$)	Year 2 (\$)	Year 3 (\$)	Year 4 (\$)
CAPITAL AND OPERATIONAL PROJECTS					
Alberton Boat Ramp Upgrade	300,000		300,000		
Alberton Pontoon	210,000	210,000			
Broadwater LiDAR Survey - GC Bridge to Coomera River	160,000		160,000		
Cabbage Tree Point Boat Ramp Facility Upgrade	300,000		300,000		
Canaipa Passage Dredging 21/22	660,000			660,000	
Coomera River dredging - upstream (Cap)	110,000	110,000			
Coomera Dredge Sediment Management Facility (Operation and Maintenance)	40,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Coomera Dredged Sediment Management Facility (Construction)	15,000	15,000			
Eastern Channels Dredging	750,000				750,000
GCWA Work Pontoon	400,000		400,000		
Hydrographic Survey Program - Routine	400,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Jacobs Well Dredging 20/21	1,000,000		1,000,000		
Jacobs Well Boat Ramp Upgrade	820,000	70,000	750,000		
Jumpinpin Channel Hydrodynamic Model Study Ch 20000 to 24000	140,000		140,000		
Jumpinpin Channel Dredging Project Ch 20000 to 24000	950,000			950,000	
Main Channel Dredging Project Ch25000 to Ch 27000 and Ch 18400 to 18800	1,000,000		1,000,000		
Marine Infrastructure - Minor & Emergent fund	160,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Marks Road Woongoolba - Boat Ramp Construction	500,000				500,000
Nerang River Dredging (Evandale / TSS)	1,100,000			1,100,000	

Project	Investment (\$)	Approved	Indicative		
		2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
		Year 1 (\$)	Year 2 (\$)	Year 3 (\$)	Year 4 (\$)
Nerang River Dredging (Upstream of Ross St Bridge)	700,000			700,000	
North Channel Dredging 21/22 (Ch1100 to Ch8500)	1,000,000		200,000	800,000	
Oxenford Pacific Highway Boat Ramp Upgrade	500,000				500,000
Sand Bypass System - Extend slurry line outlet	950,000			950,000	
Sand Bypass System - Shed Extension	30,000	30,000			
Sand Bypass System - Jetty Protective Coating Services	790,000	160,000	210,000	210,000	210,000
Sand Bypass System - Major Maintenance & Renewal Fund	350,000	50,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Sand Bypass System - HV Switching Gear Upgrade	1,160,000	1,160,000			
Sand Bypass System - Compound Hardstand Renewal	40,000	40,000			
Sand Bypass System - Jetty Deck Upgrade	3,960,000	3,960,000			
South & SWI Channel Dredging 19/20	1,935,000	935,000			1,000,000
South Currigee Pontoon	600,000				600,000
West Crab Island Channel Dredging CH2700 to CH6200	1,260,000	660,000			600,000
West Crab Island Channel Dredging CH6200 to CH9000 (Northern End)	2,200,000		900,000		1,300,000
PLANNING AND INNOVATION					
Broadbeach Pontoon - Strategic Evaluation / Demand Study	25,000	25,000			
Community Grants and Sponsorship	80,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Offset Investment Project - Marine Plants (CAP) 52600	590,000	590,000			
Planning and Innovation Projects	200,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Scientific Research & Management Program (SRMP)	800,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Waterways Management Plan	360,000		160,000	200,000	
WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT					
Camera Surveillance Network - Behavioural Monitoring Project	200,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
GCWA Business Improvements Fund	240,000	90,000	50,000	50,000	50,000

Project	Investment (\$)	Approved	Indicative		
		2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
		Year 1 (\$)	Year 2 (\$)	Year 3 (\$)	Year 4 (\$)
Nav Aids – Major maintenance & renewal fund	200,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Vessel Improvement Fund	325,000	75,000	100,000	50,000	100,000
Watercraft and Property Removal	100,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	70,000
Total	27,610,000	8,710,000	6,300,000	6,300,000	6,300,000



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