



Queensland
Government



Waterways Management Program

2020 – 2024

Table of Contents

GCWA WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM 2020-24	3
GCWA Spit Works Program 2020-24	3
Gold Coast Waterways Management Strategy 2014-2023	4
Waterways Authority Funding & Investment	5
Table 1 Funding and Investment Summary 2020-24	5
Implementing the Strategy through the Program	5
What the Program Delivers – Sustain	6
What the Program Delivers – Enhance	7
What the Program Delivers – Promote	8
ANNEXURE A	9
Table 2 Proposed Project Investments 2020-24	9

GCWA Waterways Management Program 2020-2024

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.

GCWA Spit Works Program 2020-24

Section 20A of the *Gold Coast Waterways Authority Act (2012)* also requires the Authority to develop a 3+1-year Spit Works Program, informed and guided by the Spit Master Plan.

Both, the Waterways Management Program as well as the Spit Works Program are delivered in parallel by the Gold Coast Waterways Authority.

The Spit Works Program is developed and published as a separate document.

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, being 2020-24.

Table 1 Funding and Investment Summary 2020-24

	Approved	Indicative	Indicative	Indicative	
(\$000)	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Total
Funding Allocation	7,500	11,050	6,500	6,700	31,750
Est. Carry forward from previous year	3,000	0	0	0	3,000
Total Investment ¹	10,500	11,050	6,500	6,700	34,750

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 data-bbox="432 524 1394 555">Maintain Navigation channels, Destinations, Marine Infrastructure & Navigational Aids</p> <ul data-bbox="432 573 1404 999" style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Keeping the navigation channel and destinations network safe and available through 6 maintenance dredging projects across 4 years (\$3.580M)</i> • <i>Ongoing Navigational Aid servicing via a continuous preventative maintenance program including a major campaign for the Gold Coast Seaway, North Channel and South Channel (\$550K)</i> • <i>Removal of abandoned watercraft and property from the waterways (\$130K)</i> • <i>Ongoing routine Hydrographic Survey program and of the waterways to monitor channel depths and respond where required (\$420K)</i> • <i>Operation of a dedicated dredge spoil management facility at Coomera to complement the dredging works program (\$35K)</i> • <i>Maintaining and upgrading Marine Infrastructure in conjunction with City of Gold Coast (\$7.607M)</i> • <i>Undertaking forward planning and investigations into complex future dredging projects to inform scope and feasibility (\$380k)</i> • <i>Work closely with the City of Gold Coast to deliver the Sand Backpass Project</i>
1.3	<p data-bbox="432 1028 1326 1086">Maintain and Improving the Gold Coast Seaway - the Sand Bypass system (SBS)</p> <ul data-bbox="432 1093 1404 1346" style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Allowances for ongoing preventative maintenance and upgrades of the Seaway Sand Bypass System (\$1,030M)</i> • <i>Comprehensive capital replacement program to upgrade the Sand Bypass System Jetty Deck, High Voltage Switch Gear, replace Jetty Structure components to ensure the future proofing of the system (\$4.306M)</i> • <i>Efficient operation of the Sand Bypass System to minimise dredging needs to no more than once in a 5-year period.</i> • <i>Funding for a major Gold Coast Seaway dredging campaign including the North Channel and South Channel (\$5,550M)</i>
1.4, 1.5, 1.7	<p data-bbox="432 1391 727 1422">Waterways Management</p> <ul data-bbox="432 1440 1362 1554" style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Manage moorings, marinas & anchorages efficiently</i> • <i>Manage Doug Jennings Park operational and compliance aspects including events</i> • <i>Prevent and if necessary, respond to marine pollution</i> • <i>Continual maintenance and improvements to GCWA vessel fleet (\$393K)</i>
1.6	<p data-bbox="432 1568 807 1599">Protect the environmental Values</p> <ul data-bbox="432 1615 1374 1749" style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>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 (\$1.000M)</i> • <i>Investigating the feasibility of owning inhouse Water Quality Monitoring Equipment</i>

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 5 new capital dredging projects across 4 years (\$7.023M)
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 South Currigee (\$515K) Upgrade of 10 existing boat ramps over 4 years (\$5.272M) Construction of a new boat ramp at Woongoolba (\$635K)
2.6	<p>Support and encourage businesses related to the waterways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide access to the Coomera Dredge Sediment Handling Facility for marine businesses Improve commercial marine infrastructure e.g. ferry pontoons 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) Continue to exceed the operational efficiency of the SBS to ensure dredging of the Gold Coast Seaway is required no more than once in 5 years, currently tracking at 9 years.
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 (\$280K)

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 Destination Gold Coast 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 improves 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). (\$1.000M over 4 years)</i>

Annexure A

Table 2 - Proposed Project Investments 2020-24

Project	Investment (\$)	Approved	Indicative		
		2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
		Year 1 (\$)	Year 2 (\$)	Year 3 (\$)	Year 4 (\$)
BOATING & MARINE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS					
Jacobs Well Boat Ramp Upgrade	2,242,000	2,242,000			
Alberton Boat Ramp Upgrade	300,000	300,000			
Cabbage Tree Point Boat Ramp Facility Upgrade	300,000		300,000		
South Currigee Pontoon	515,000			515,000	
Marks Road Woongoolba - Boat Ramp Construction	635,000			500,000	135,000
Oxenford Pacific Highway Boat Ramp Upgrade	600,000			500,000	100,000
Boykambil Boat Ramp Facility Upgrade	500,000				500,000
Seaway Training Wall Stability Review	120,000	60,000		60,000	
Marine Infrastructure - Minor & Emergent fund	205,000	40,000	55,000	55,000	55,000
Tipplers Pontoon Replacement	75,000		75,000		
Proud Park Finger Pontoon Replacement	85,000			85,000	
Jabiru Island Boat Ramp Replacement + Floating Walkway	350,000			350,000	
Burleigh Heads Boat Ramp Replacement	280,000			280,000	
Proud Park Pontoon Replacement	325,000				325,000
Tally (Palm Beach) Boat Ramp Replacement	350,000				350,000
Isle of Capri Boat Ramp Replacement	350,000				350,000
Hope Island Jetty Replacement	375,000				375,000

Project	Investment (\$)	Approved	Indicative		
		2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
		Year 1 (\$)	Year 2 (\$)	Year 3 (\$)	Year 4 (\$)
DREDGING PROJECTS					
Coomera Dredge Sediment Management Facility - Operation and Maintenance	35,000	20,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Main Channel Dredging Project Ch25000 to Ch 27000 and Ch 18400 to 18800	888,000	888,000			
Jacobs Well Dredging Project	1,820,000	1,000,000			820,000
West Crab Island Channel Dredging CH6200 to CH9000 (Northern End)	1,505,125	855,125	650,000		
North Channel Dredging Project (Part A)	1,750,000	350,000	750,000		650,000
Gold Coast Seaway Dredging Project (incl. South Channel and North Channel Part B)	5,550,000	1,000,000	4,550,000		
Coomera River Dredging Project	1,040,000			1,040,000	
Nerang River Investigation & Dredging Project	825,000		825,000		
Jumpinpin Channel Investigation & Dredging Project	1,065,000		1,065,000		
Canaipa Passage Dredging Project	660,000		660,000		
Eastern Channels Dredging Projects	2,740,000			1,440,000	1,300,000
SAND BYPASS SYSTEM & DOUG JENNINGS PARK MAINTENANCE					
Doug Jennings Park Amenities Block - Upgrades	75,000	20,000	35,000		20,000
Doug Jennings Park Amenities Block - Major maintenance	70,000	20,000	20,000	10,000	20,000
Sand Bypass System - Major maintenance	350,000	50,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Sand Bypass System - Capital Replacement Fund	645,000				645,000
Sand Bypass System - HV Switching Gear Upgrade	1,537,000	1,537,000			
Sand Bypass System - Jetty Deck Upgrade	994,875	994,875			
Sand Bypass System - Jetty protective coating services	570,000	170,000	110,000	180,000	110,000
Sand Bypass System - Shed Extension	180,000			180,000	
Sand Bypass System - Compound Hardstand Renewal	40,000	40,000			
Sand Bypass System - Extend slurry line outlet	950,000		950,000		

Project	Investment (\$)	Approved	Indicative		
		2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
		Year 1 (\$)	Year 2 (\$)	Year 3 (\$)	Year 4 (\$)
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT & INVESTIGATION					
Hydrographic survey program - Routine	420,000	100,000	100,000	110,000	110,000
Jumpinpin Channel Hydrodynamic Model Study Ch 20000 to 24000	140,000	140,000			
Project Forward Planning & Investigations	240,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
PLANNING & INNOVATION					
Community Grants and Sponsorship	80,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Planning and Innovation Projects	280,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000
Scientific Research & Management Program (SRMP)	1,000,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Waterways Management Plan	360,000		160,000	200,000	
Waterways management symposium	60,000		30,000		30,000
Dredging Water Quality Monitoring Equipment Procurement	0		0		
WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT					
GCWA Business Improvements Fund	200,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Nav Aids – Major maintenance & renewal fund	200,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Major Marine Signs	350,000	30,000	30,000	260,000	30,000
Vessel Improvement Fund	313,000	113,000	50,000	100,000	50,000
Vessel Major Maintenance Fund	80,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Watercraft and Property Removal	130,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	100,000
Total	34,750,000	10,500,000	11,050,000	6,500,000	6,700,000



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