# THE PALMS OUR JOURNEY...

PREPARED ON BEHALF OF **PPNQ DEVELOPMENTS** SEPTEMBER 2020

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## **REGIONAL CONTEXT**

#### **KEY DRIVERS FOR CAIRNS**



#### \$2.22 BILLION INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS PLANNED OR UNDER CONSTRUCTION



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### HISTORY

A key driver for The Palms is to transform what is currently private land and develop a vision that shares the site's assets and setting with the wider community.

Currently zoned as a sport and recreation use, the site was originally used for farming sugar cane. Up until the late 1900s, this industry was the primary use in Kewarra Beach until the site was purchased and transformed into a golf course in 1990. It was with this purchase that the site began to be opened up to the public yet in a private setting – only members of the golf course were able to enjoy the site.

Community-title residential developments have, over the years, moved in to border the site. This has reduced the amount of frontage to the public by privatising the boundary to those that own these residential blocks. Rezoning parts of the site could potentially allow for up to 1500 apartments. Opening up the use of the land for all to enjoy, not just a select few, is therefore an important aspect for the vision and development of The Palms.















## 1. GAP IN THE MARKET

Urbis were engaged to undertake market research into the Cairns residential market, which identified a clear gap in the market. The demographic trends for the northern beaches highlighted a gap in family orientated homes for upgraders. A strong sense of place was also seen to be important to potential buyers and The Palms was well positioned to meet this demand and create a truly unique community for the northern beaches.





## 2. LASTING LEGACY

There is a big opportunity at The Palms to create a unique destination for the Northern Beaches. With a new school proposed, combined with the tourist park, The Palms offers variety and choice for locals and visitors to this region. It is also important to note the amount of open space that is being retained in the development - comparative in area to the Cairns Botanic Gardens, Similar to the Botanic Gardens, these areas will also be accessible to all users at the site.

#### **THE PALMS: 35HA (85 ACRES)**









## **18HA (44 ACRES)** CLUBHOUSE AND TOURIST PARK FACILITIES

NEW





#### **CAIRNS BOTANIC GARDENS: 38HA (92 ACRES)**







## **300+ ON-GOING JOBS** (25 CHILDCARE - 65 SCHOOL - 210 TOURISM)

	3.	BOOST	TOURIS
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It is important to understand how the proposed uses at The Palms compare to the site's historical use as a golf course. For example, there is a significantly greater turnover from the tourist park compared to the clubhouse and golf course facilities. Additionally, of the 32,227 rounds of golf played at The Palms that financial year, only 3,794 individuals actually played these rounds. This figure is made up on members (253), locals (917), tourists (2,146) and corporate day events (478), which highlights a low number of individuals who use the course frequently.

The water park that sits within the proposed tourist park, however, is projected to have almost 100,000 visitors. Additionally, there are over 155,000 total number of room nights anticipated per annum equating to over 385,000 guest nights (accommodation nights x average number of guests per room). The tourist park will also employ a significantly higher amount of people than the golf course has in the past, reinforcing this use as a greater alternative at The Palms.

Note - projected revenue and employment figures are approximate only.

#### **BEFORE**

#### FY17 CLUBHOUSE + **GOLF COURSE**



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#### AFTER

#### Tourist Park OPERATIONS

#### **\$34.7 MILLION ANNUAL REVENUE**

## **41,504** LOCAL DAY VISITORS **96,351** GUEST STAYING (4 NIGHT AV)

## **TOTAL EMPLOYEES**

## 4. SUSTAINABILITY FIRST

The Palms aims to be a high-quality sustainable development and hopes to become Cairns first Certified EnviroDevelopment project.

EnviroDevelopment is a scientifically-based assessment scheme that independently reviews development projects and awards certification to those that achieve outstanding performance across four or more elements – Ecosystems, Waste, Energy, Materials, Water and Community. Its benefits are felt across the entire community from occupiers / visitors at the development to Government bodies.





# PARADISE PALMS VISIONING WORKSHOP OUTCOMES REPORT

PREPARED FOR **PPNQ DEVELOPMENTS** 02 FEB 2019

#### **PURPOSE**

The vision workshop conducted on the 21st of January was a way to get the entire client and consultant team together to analyse the site, understand the core principles and develop a vision for the development. The following attendees helped contribute to the success of the day:

Glen Power

Ben Craig

Paul Riga

- Darren Halpin
- Evan Yelavich
- Scott Christensen
- Patrick Day
- Michael Webb

- Troy Cavallaro



- Monique Fenn

 Chris Barker Brendan Rogina John Pirie Ben Johnston Wesley Coates

#### **SITE VISIT**

Whilst out on site, attendees were asked to fill in a questionnaire listing their likes, dislikes, and key features they thought must be at Paradise Palms. These notes can be found in Appendix A.





Noise issues with the Captain Cook Highway A DECKER OF A



Maintain the clubhouse and key views



Backdrop of the Macalister Range



Interface challenges to surrounding residents



#### **EXERCISE 1: KEY OBSERVATIONS**

After the site visit, an exercise was discussed with the group to determine what individuals saw as likes or opportunities and dislikes or constraints. Some key take-outs from the discussion included:

- Great opportunity to build on the existing landscape
- Significant views to the surrounding mountain range
- Majority of the site is quiet and secluded
- Opportunity to main the clubhouse as a key historical feature for the site
- Secondary access challenges
- Interface issues to existing homes on the boundary; and
- Highway noise along the eastern boundary

PARADISE PARMS - OBSERVENOUS LIKE/OPPORTUNITE aslike / considering · VILLAGE HOB / AMERITY FROM DAY 1 · UELETATON / CREEK CIVES · CLOB HOBSE COOPTION/LEANC ASPECT · HIGHWAY NORSE TO THE EASTERN BOY · HUMMONTY IS A CHALLENCE · VIEW - BACK TOWARDS WOUNTANS · PATHWAY COMMECTIVITY /ACLES 10/COA EMTRY STATEMENT · QUET / FALAA / MOVING WATER ·SITE UNDUCATION OF THE SITE ARBET AND APSOLVING CAND MIX OF VERETATION / NATURAL · ELEVING / FLEXABILITY / SMADD .... · Minthe Interface / Tencing · PREMON RES OPORTUNTY / MCC DEOP - PERCEPTION OF OWNERSHIP / ACCESS - DISSOMMED AAPROACH TO SITE · FILL OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTIAL VEGETATION RETENDON · FRACITY TO CREATE VILLAGS/ASIES SIZE TO DOLIVER A TRUE COMMUNITY ·LACK OF PERCEMED CONSEMINTS VEGETATION TO THE BOUNDARDS · Louting In THE MOONTAINS



#### **VISION AND PRINCIPLES**

Understanding what each buyer values in a development were grouped into categories to form the principles for site. From here, strategies will be put in place to achieve these principles and the vision for the development. These eight principles are:

- Safety
- Community
- Connected
- Flexibility
- Family
- Peace
- Healthy
- Quality



#### **FOCUS GROUPS: RESIDENTIAL PRECINCTS**

#### GROUP 1

The largest parcel of unconstrained land was deemed to be best used for standard residential:

- Most amount of efficiencies gained, targeting the affordable market
- Alternative road layouts depending on open space locations

Pockets of developable area, bounded by vegetation and waterway constraints, resulted in land suitable for the premium market:

- Peace and quiet
- Premium, high-end product
- Secluded, close-knit villages
- Option for retirement / premium product on the westernmost site





#### FOCUS GROUPS: VILLAGE HUB

#### **GROUP 2**

There is a high importance placed on the retention of the clubhouse, with an option for a tourist park next-door. This would activate the immediate precinct and provide a mix of amenities for families and tourists to the region.

- A hub of activity possibly including:
- A gym
- Shared offices
- Amenity for the wider community

Alternative school location was proposed along the Captain Cook Highway and retirement potentially located in a pocket of land just south of the entry roundabout.





#### FOCUS GROUPS: OPEN SPACE

#### **GROUP 3**

There was a high focus on the core principles and how open space can not only respond but also enhance these at Paradise Palms. This was proposed through:

- A variety of experiences
- Connectivity to key attractors (hero element)
- Pathway networks and interpretive signage
- Adapting to usage at different times of the day
- Taking ownership (being part of something new and different)
- Site celebration; and
- Local material, locally sourced, sense of place and character





#### A COMMUNITY FRAMED BY NATURE, WHERE LIFE IS A JOURNEY WORTH EXPLORING.





SAFE An inviting landscape to experience and enjoy A meaningful place for people

to live and enjoy



FAMILY A people's place at heart, where families thrive



PEACE

A relaxed and balanced landscape

## **OUR PRINCIPLES**



#### CONNECTED

A community linked to nature, by nature



#### HEALTHY

A network of journeys, framed by the Macalister Range



#### FLEXIBLE

A safe and resilient community, welcoming to all ages



#### QUALITY

A lasting legacy, one the community is proud to call home





STATISTICS:				
Total Site Area	95.7ha			
Net Residential Developable Area	19.5ha			
Total Number of Lots = 295				
Average lot size = 661m <sup>2</sup>				
Retirement	6.2ha			
Commercial / Childcare	0.3ha			
Tourist Park (inc. Clubhouse)	18.2ha			
School	3.8ha			
Open Space Corridors	35.3ha			
Part Lot 900 SP285555	1.6ha			
Road Reserve	10.8ha			

#### AUTHENTIC DESTINATION

Ideally positioned in the heart of the Northern Beaches allows The Palms to replicate the values important to the local community. From the tropical landscape of North Queensland to outdoor activities, integrating these assets with the community is vital to the future success of The Palms. An authentic destination defined by:

- Revitalisation of the iconic golf clubhouse
- Macalister Ranges as the backdrop
- Key view lines to the surrounding region
- Biodiversity corridors and rainforest
- Peace and tranquillity

There are also opportunities for themes around public open spaces that complement the rich character of the area. Whether this is through the built form or soft landscaping features, this will be a key attribute in remaining true to the local setting – a destination for both locals and tourists.













#### VIBRANT VILLAGE HUB

At the heart of The Palms will be the village hub, where local businesses will provide a boost to the economy and a meeting place for family and friends to socialise and relax.

Drawing on stakeholder engagement workshops and economic feasibilities, the following land uses could be found in the village hub which would seek to revitalise and activate the existing clubhouse building:

- Existing bar and restaurant to be maintained and upgraded
- Check-in and administration facilities for the adjoining tourist park
- Function facilities
- Convenience store and take-away shops
- Gym
- Serviced offices / meeting rooms
- Early learning facilities

With all located together in the central core of the site, providing a range of uses is important to the future success of the development. Rather than a standard residential subdivision, we envisage a diverse community catering for locals from a young age to those choosing to retire at The Palms.









(3)







### CONNECTION TO NATURE

In an ever connected world, the experiences felt and enjoyed with nature can often be overlooked. The Palms hopes to change that narrative, providing great public open spaces and increasing connections to the natural environment.

A dominant aspect of the vision for the project is this connection, creating a network of journeys throughout the site. From the Macalister Range to the dense tree-lined fingers of vegetation, The Palms has a unique opportunity to connect back to nature and experience true outdoor living.

There will be opportunities to:

- Hiking trails through the Macalister Range
- Engaging with the outdoors through fun runs
- Exploring the creeks and water-play opportunities
- Connecting into the Smithfield Mountain Bike Park

Promoting these experiences and connections will be vital for The Palms, establishing these values now for future generations to enjoy.















#### A PLACE TO CALL HOME

A sense of belonging is an important factor within any community, where one can feel safe and thrive for people to enjoy. The Palms will be home to families and residents of all ages, grounded by sustainable architecture.

Such opportunities for The Palms could include:

- Providing spaces for families to grow
- Locals to come together for events
- Park runs through a network of pathways and connections

Pockets of individual communities could also be created at The Palms, whether that be in amongst the trees or closer to more major uses such as tourist facilities. There is the opportunity for different spaces and distinct characteristics across the site that ultimately provide the buyer and visitor a wider range of choice. We see pride of place within The Palms, where outsiders will admire and one that the local community will be proud to call home.















WE'RE PLANNING ON PROVIDING NEW HOUSING OPTIONS FOR RESIDENTS, EMULATING THE "COMMUNITY FEEL" OF EDGE HILL.



#### SPACES TO PLAY AND EXPLORE

From public parks to recreation trails, interacting with the outdoors is an opportunity that will be a major part of the The Palms development. Promoting a healthy and sustainable community is a key principle to the development.

In order to create and foster memories of the outdoors, public spaces for the community to explore could include:

- Intimate pocket parks within smaller residential precincts
- Walking circuits throughout the estate
- Large open spaces with BBQs, seating, playground and community facilities

Walkable communities that focus on safety linking a network of journeys are important when capturing the relaxed and balanced principles that The Palms seeks to uphold.

















FAMILIES WILL LOVE THE MEANDERING NETWORK OF PATHWAYS AND BOARD WALKS, LINKING PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS THROUGHOUT THE DEVELOPMENT.



#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**



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" **WITH THE SPACE AVAILABLE, A HIGH SCHOOL IS VERY MUCH NEEDED AND WIL INCREASE VALUES IN THE NORTHERN BEACHES.** 77

**IT WILL BE A PERFECT HOME AREA FOR FAMILIES AND NEW HOUSE BUYERS ALIKE.** 77









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INDICATIVE ONLY



## **OPEN SPACE STRATEGY**







#### ACTIVE

Encouraging a healthy lifestyle, the open space network will offer a multitude of play for all ages, challenging every level of abilities, as well as range of fitness opportunities, both static and dynamic.











Nestled in the foot of the rainforest and mountain range. A sense of retreat and sanctuary. The landscape embraces the natural environment of the MacAlister Range, echoing the sounds and smells of the rainforest. The Sanctuary precinct connects into a series of bushwalk trails, providing a sense of respite from daily life.

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	Trailhead connections
2	Respite / reflection spaces / forest bathing spaces
3	Educational / interactive & interpretive signage
4	lookout point / viewing decks
5	Bushwalks & closed loop walking trails
6	Water / hydrology / Living Waterways / sustainability (creating habitat)
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## **OPEN SPACE PRECINCTS**

The Palms will provide amenity at every doorstep. Defined by a meandering landscape that embodies both natural ecosystems and community spaces.

Set within an existing bushland, the Palms will foster an urban lifestyle. Connected, active, and leisure orientated, the community will live a vibrant life for families to grow. With a hub of local delights and spaces to meet and socialise, the Palms will be a people's place at heart.

The Palms will be a place of discovery. A place surrounded by fauna and flora that brings a true natural setting. The Palms will be a community like no other as a deep green enclave where houses back onto a rich landscape and the community come together in a green sanctuary.

Driven by a vision of vivid and active recreational space, the Palms landscape will draw on the following themes to create a distinctive environment:



#### LEGEND:





## **CENTRAL PARK**



## **NETWORK + CONNECTIVITY**

A key component of the site-specific open space network proposed for the Palms is the successful implementation of a well connected, comprehensive and robust pedestrian and cycle connectivity network.

The site is blessed by a comprehensive network of pathways and bridges through the existing landscape and bushland. Where the landscape will remain untouched, a key collective of paths and bridges can still be retained. These existing connections feed into the more broader, connectivity network that create closed loops and service the entire development.

#### **5KM+** Connected Footpath Network & Walking Trails



#### LEGEND:



## **ENTRY EXPERIENCE**



## **OPEN SPACE PROVISION**

The Palms' open space strategy has been designed and allocated to deliver a considered and consolidated network, that is compliant with the Cairns Regional Council's Open Space Policy Guidelines.

The open space has been dedicated into the following categories:

- Local Recreation Park
- Local Recreation Nodes
- Local Linear Parks
- Environmental Corridor

The Local Recreation Nodes have been strategically positioned to harness and protect existing vegetation, as well as existing vistas throughout the site. The locations of the recreation nodes ensures 100% of the proposed dwellings are within 400m of a local recreation node or park.

The Local Recreation Park has been positioned in the heart of the development to maximise accessibility. The park is well connected to the entire development through the linear park pathway networks and existing pathway trails through the environmental corridor.

The liner parks are designed primarily along road and environmental corridors on the site, to connect pedestrians and cyclists through the development, whilst also assisting with an increased buffer setback area to the environmental corridor.



#### LEGEND:





## **CONNECTED PARKLANDS**

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## LANDSCAPE BUFFERS



#### **3M WIDE LANDSCAPE BUFFER**



#### **5M WIDE LANDSCAPE BUFFER**



#### LANDSCAPE BUFFERS AIMED TO RETAIN EXISTING TREES WHERE POSSIBLE AND PROVIDE NATURAL VIEWS TO A TREE CANOPY FROM EXISTING DWELLINGS.



**15M WIDE LANDSCAPE BUFFER\*** \*Trees to be retained within lots if possible

## **ENTRY INTERFACE**

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### CENTRAL PARK Network

The Central Park is positioned in the heart of the development and well connected to a broader pedestrian network and bushland tracks an trails.

The park will take on the character of the MacAlister Range rainforest. Framed by large feature fig trees, with a ground-plane of detailed, tropical planting and paths of discovery. With the fig trees lit up with feature, colour lighting and fairy lights throughout the ground-plane, it creates a fairy-land gateway arrival threshold into the park. This arrival threshold is balanced by the relief of open space within the event lawn, in the centre of the park. This event lawn is a large kick-about space and is the perfect setting for markets, movie nights and general community events.

The backdrop of the existing bushland creates an amazing opportunity to blend the bush into the park by creating a transitional space of informal, nature play and exploration.

The amphitheatre also creates a break-out space that overlooks the natural environment, with the bushland forming a formal, backdrop behind a potential performance stage / shelter. The seating walls give opportunity for general respite and quite seating spaces away from the main park activity, day-to-day.

A park made out of simple, natural materials, that comes to life with colour at night. An iconic, wonderland of exploration.

A park that will attract people from across the entire region.



## **CAPTURING VIEWS**

COLUMN STREET

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#### **HERO PARK** LOCAL RECREATION PARK (1HA)

#### LEGEND

01	Event Lawn
02	Playground
03	Amphitheatre & stage area
04	Shelters
05	Multi-purpose courts
06	Enchanted Forest Entry
07	Fern Gully
08	Informal Nature Play
09	Linear Park
10	Dog Park (within Linear Park)

11 Trails through environmental corridor





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## **EVENT LAWN**



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### **TOURISM / VILLAGE HUB**

SIZE

**EMPLOYEES** 

REVENUE



**18HA** WITH 15HA DEDICATED TO THE TOURIST PARK









## WATER PARK INITIAL CONCEPTS



#### **KEY BENEFITS**



COMMUNITY-FOCUSED DESIGN



**PROMOTING THE NORTHERN BEACHES LIFESTYLE TO ALL** 



STRENGTHENING NATURAL CONNECTIONS







**CREATING A DIVERSIFIED** DEVELOPMENT



**PROVIDING AN ATTRACTIVE** MARKET FOR HOUSING



ADD VALUE TO THE ECONOMY



#### **CREATING A LEGACY FOR** THE COMMUNITY



#### **CREATING A DESTINATION**



# THE NEW HETRI OF THE BEACHES Open space for everybody



