



Regional
Development
Australia
SUNSHINE COAST INC

QUARTERLY REPORT TO REGION

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA (RDA) SUNSHINE COAST

Regional Development Australia (RDA) Sunshine Coast is part of a national network of 52 committees made up of local leaders who work with all levels of government, business and community groups to support the development and growth of their regions.

This *Quarterly Report to Region* provides an update on the latest regional trends and key activities and work undertaken by RDA Sunshine Coast.

Q4

OCTOBER-DECEMBER

2018

A Sunshine Coast that is innovative, dynamic,
connected and sustainable

HIGHLIGHTS

SUNSHINE COAST AIRPORT LAUNCHES DRAFT MASTER PLAN

The Sunshine Coast Airport – Australia’s fastest growing airfield – moved one step closer to expansion following last November’s launch of its Master Plan process.

The preliminary draft Sunshine Coast Airport Master Plan 2040 covers tourism, export and infrastructure development plans. Once endorsed by Sunshine Coast Council, it will guide the evolution of the airport over the next 20 plus years.

A Community and Aviation Forum recently met to discuss the draft Master Plan, which is due to be finalised and released in early 2019 followed by a 50-day public consultation period.

The plan covers the airport’s terminal’s car parks, ground services, utilities, airspace and aviation planning into the future following a new 2,450m runway, incorporating a 1,300m taxiway and other facility upgrades.

The new Master Plan is part of Council’s Sunshine Coast Airport Expansion Project (SCAEP). The SCAEP is expected to add \$4.1 billion to gross regional product between 2020 to 2040 and open new direct destinations in Australia, the Pacific and Asia.

Visit <https://www.sunshinecoastairport.com.au/corporate/expansion-project/project-background>.

NEW AIRPORT STORE BACKS SUNSHINE COAST BUSINESSES

Sunshine Coast Airport continued to proudly support local businesses through last November’s grand opening of its new Sunshine Coast 153° East concept shop.

Sunshine Coast Airport General Manager Aviation and Commercial Steve Prasser was on hand to cut the red ribbon alongside an enthusiastic crowd of VIPs and locals.

The store, which is named after the longitude line running through the Sunshine Coast, stocks home-grown and handmade gourmet food products, gifts, homewares, and skincare lines from select local and regional businesses.

It’s all part of a move to boost agribusiness, producers and retail across the region.

Outgoing Sunshine Coast Airport CEO Peter Pallot said he was delighted that the airport could play a role in supporting local business with concept partner AWPL.

“We are not only delivering a world-class regional airport for our community, we are proudly providing a platform for promoting local producers and enhancing their exposure to the Sunshine Coast’s discerning visitor market,” Mr Pallot said. “This is a fabulous opportunity to showcase our very own Sunshine Coast products.”

Local businesses on offer include bath and beauty business Soak Society, Hum Honey, KOKOPOD, Barenuts Macadamias, Noosa Black Coffee, The Bear and the Ladle, Black Lemonade and more (pictured below). Check it out!



HIGHLIGHTS



NEW RDA SUNSHINE COAST CEO APPOINTED

Regional Development Australia Sunshine Coast has appointed senior executive Paul Fisher as its new Chief Executive Officer.

Paul has more than 25 years' international strategic and operational leadership experience, in sectors as diverse as logistics, international humanitarian aid, digital media and social impact.

He has performed CEO, Managing Director and Board-level (NED) roles in high-growth start-up SME through to established national and global enterprises.

Get in touch with Paul via info@rdasunshinecoast.org.au.

SUNSHINE COAST BUSINESS AWARDS 2018 WINNERS

Huge congrats to all the organisers, finalists and winners in the hotly contested Sunshine Coast Business Awards 2018 Gala at the Novotel Twin Waters Resort on November 17.

Proudly supported by RDA Sunshine Coast, the awards saw Hall of Fame inductees including Australia Zoo, The Compass Institute Inc and Typefi.

Meanwhile, 2018 Business of the Year went to Bli Bli House Riverside Retreat (pictured), via <https://blliblihouse.com.au/>. The property has been renovated to reflect a bygone Victorian era of romantic charm.

For a full list of winners, visit <https://sunshinecoastbusinessawards.com.au/>.



HAPPY FIRST ANNIVERSARY TO THE SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL INNOVATION PIPELINE TEAM (SCRIPT)

As a founding supporter of the Sunshine Coast Regional Innovation Pipeline Team (SCRIPT), the RDA Sunshine Coast is thrilled to say happy first anniversary to the program, which helps fuel the culture of innovation on the Sunshine Coast.

SCRIPT has invested in six high-quality innovation projects and engaged with more than 600 people through its series of innovation and business events, including inspiring keynote speakers like Steve Baxter and Jack Delosa.

The program is a collaboration of local entrepreneurs, businesses, government stakeholders and community members, all passionate about making the Coast a great place to live and work. Visit <http://digitalsunshinecoast.com.au/script>.

HIGHLIGHTS

THE FUTURE OF NAMBOUR UP FOR PUBLIC CONSULT

Nambour residents, business owners and workers were invited to have their say on the Reimagine Nambour project at one of four community consultation pop-ups last December.

The project is an economic transition strategy aimed at transforming the former sugar mill town into a modern, vibrant and sustainable economy, while retaining Nambour's distinct cultural identity.

The Reimagine Nambour Steering Committee, of which RDA Sunshine Coast is a member, also includes local business and community leaders, as well as council, state and federal politicians.

Visit <http://www.reimagineambour.com.au>.

SANTA CLAUS HERALDS THE NEW BULCOCK STREET

Caloundra's \$3 million revitalised Bulcock Street was officially opened by a special guest from the North Pole last Christmas, much to the community's delight.

Proudly supported by Sunshine Coast Council, in collaboration with the Caloundra Business Alliance, the free event at Downtown Caloundra saw Bulcock Street transformed into a Christmas wonderland.

Sunshine Coast Council's Bulcock Street upgrade, which finished last November two weeks ahead of schedule, includes new trees, shrubs and footpaths, a reshaped roadway, additional street furniture, directional signage, public art and smart city technology.

Christmas shoppers were also treated to free parking in the Caloundra CBD. In partnership with the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce, Sunshine Coast Council provided an eight-week amnesty until Sunday, January 27, 2019. Two-hour time limits still applied.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT FUND GRANT APPLICATIONS OPEN

Sunshine Coast businesses can now apply for funding valued at between \$125,000 and \$2.5 million in the Queensland Government's Advance Queensland Business Development Fund.

The program focuses on the growth of innovative Queensland businesses, particularly in the emerging industries of tomorrow. It will create high value, knowledge-based and skilled jobs now and into the future.

RDA Sunshine Coast Research and Grants Coordinator Sarah Wetton is providing local business support. Sarah is highly experienced in strategic fundraising and grant and business-case development.

For more information on the Business Development Fund, visit <https://advance.qld.gov.au/>.



HIGHLIGHTS



PLANS UNVEILED FOR SUBMARINE CABLE STATION

Australian-based global leader in critical infrastructure, Vertiv, has been awarded the contract to design and construct the \$6.6 million Sunshine Coast International Broadband Submarine Cable landing station.

By 2020, the Maroochydore cable landing station will help deliver Australia's fastest data and telecommunications connection to Asia and the second fastest to the United States.

Vertiv, which has committed to using locally based contractors where possible, will build the landing station housing the terrestrial connection point for the cable.

The cable landing station is funded from the \$35 million total budget for the Sunshine Coast International Broadband Submarine Cable project.

The Sunshine Coast Broadband Submarine Cable Project is expected to deliver up to 864 new jobs and stimulate \$927 million in new investment in Queensland.

For more information, visit invest.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au.



COAST NAMED ON WORLD SMART 21 COMMUNITY LIST

The Sunshine Coast has been named on the Smart21 Community list for 2019 – the fifth time in six years it has been recognised as a global leader in smart technology and innovation.

The announcement was made by the Intelligent Community Forum (ICF) at its fifth annual Next Gen Tech Conference in New York.

The Sunshine Coast is one of only three Australian communities in the Smart21 for 2019 and remains in contention for the prestigious designation of an Intelligent Community Top7, announced in February 2019.

Sunshine Coast Mayor Mark Jamieson said it was an outstanding achievement: "Being part of the Smart21 demonstrates that we are delivering world class initiatives, across all of the six intelligent community indicators and ones that will benefit the community well into the future."

Other Smart21 Communities of 2019 include Adelaide, South Australia, Binh Duong Smart City, Vietnam and Greater Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

HIGHLIGHTS

NEW \$2.2 MILLION NOOSAVILLE LIBRARY OPENS

Noosa residents celebrated the official opening of the newly refurbished Noosaville Library at Wallace Park last November.

The \$2.2 million Noosaville Library expansion was a joint initiative of Noosa Council and the Queensland Government – with Council receiving a \$805,954 Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program grant.

Minister for Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs, Stirling Hinchliffe, Noosa Mayor Tony Wellington and State Librarian Vicki McDonald attended the reopening.

The library is at Wallace Drive, Noosaville. Visit noosa.qld.gov.au.



REVAMPED NOOSA PARK ROAD BOARDWALK OPENS TO THE PUBLIC

Noosa's much-loved Park Road Boardwalk received a facelift by Noosa Council last October. The boardwalk is one of the most heavily utilised pieces of public infrastructure in the Shire, catering for millions of residents and visitors each year.

Noosa Mayor Tony Wellington said the new section of boardwalk showcased the iconic Laguna Bay and included expanded viewing platforms, resting stops at key viewing sites and improvements to existing stairway accesses. "The unique Grant Calder architectural design uses natural and durable materials in keeping with Noosa's design principles," the Mayor said.

The project's environmentally friendly design, whereby Noosa Council was able to retain existing vegetation by designing the new boardwalk around it, also saw it win an Australian Institute of Horticulture (AIH) Regional Greenspace Award.



View from paradise: Noosa Council's award-winning, revamped Noosa Park Road Boardwalk is a much-loved community attraction.

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Regional Development Australia Sunshine Coast



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NEWSLETTERS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Three RDA Sunshine Coast monthly [newsletters](#) were distributed in the October-December period:

- Developing Better Regions (October)
- Advocating for Better Transport (November)
- Building a Better Digital Future (December)

In addition, the RDA Sunshine Coast has significantly boosted both its followers and community engagement across all four of its popular social media platforms.

One of our most-liked, recent posts was this beautiful Instagram shot heralding Expressions of Interest in new four-day local culinary festival, The Curated Plate, kicking-off in August 2019. Visit www.thecuratedplate.com.au.

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