

## Queensland Advancing Our Cities and Regions strategy

October 2016

On Thursday 6 October 2016, Queensland Premier, the Hon Anastacia Palaszczuk MP, along with Deputy Premier and Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, the Hon Jackie Trad MP, and Treasurer, the Hon Curtis Pitt MP, released the Government's *Advancing Our Cities and Regions strategy*.

The strategy identifies eight economic and community zones that will unlock economic growth through state government engagement with local governments, industry and the private sector as well as communities around opportunities for the refurbishing, repurposing and renewal of state owned land.

The strategy outlines the below four priority projects:

**Cross River Rail economic and development strategy** to be designed by The Economic Development Queensland (EDQ) unit within the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, which will ensure promote the development of land around the Cross River Rail project as an extension strategy to ensure that the gains from nation's largest infrastructure project. It will deliver a pipeline of underutilized state owned land along the route to attract private sector investment.

**Moreton Bay renewal** program will be developed by EDQ and will aim to seek investment in new tourism operators in the Moreton Bay area and private sector investment in the Toondah Harbour redevelopment.

**Townsville redevelopment** will seek to investment in the Townsville CBD. This will include a potential Health and Knowledge precinct at the local James Cook University and the redevelopment of state owned land to capitalise and expand research, accommodation, housing and community facility uses. EDQ will also explore potential delivery of local infrastructure. This will all be done in addition to the expansion of the Townsville City Plan deal done between all three levels of government.

**Rockhampton revival** will see investment in the CBD through a revitalisation program and joint venture projects. This program will have a specific requirement of having a market appeal and capitalise on existing work between the state and local governments with the Central Queensland University around a small urban village development.

The eight economic and community zones identified under the plan include:

### **Cross River Rail innovation and economic development corridor**

The state government will design and designate a Cross River Rail innovation and economic development corridor between the Mayne Rail Yards and Boggo Road. This will link some of

Brisbane's major research hubs and economic centres. Within the corridor underutilised state land will be designated for development opportunities, specifically in the transit and transport space, aimed at attracting investment.

### **Cross River Rail-related economic development opportunities**

EDQ will identify a pipeline of economic development opportunities outside of the proposed Cross River Rail innovation and economic development corridor, but still associated with the Cross River Rail project. These opportunities are likely to include high density developments for seniors, health and knowledge workers close to transport and other community services. EDQ will also identify other opportunities for greater efficiencies within the broader transport network to maximise the benefits associated with Cross River Rail.

### **South East Queensland Urban Renewal Program**

Vacant and underutilized (unrelated to Cross River Rail) state owned properties have been identified for significant urban renewal programs across South East Queensland. Each site presents opportunities to deliver urban renewal precincts and address market demands and community needs such as housing for seniors.

### **Regional cities and urban renewal precincts**

EDQ will work with regional local governments and communities to identify urban renewal projects in strategic locations. The state government understands that while a number of regional cities have health and education services in their outer suburbs, there is a greater need to be co-located within or near their respective CBDs. Additional state and local government owned land has been identified for urban renewal projects within:

- Some regional ports;
- Rockhampton CBD; and
- Mackay CBD.

Additional planning is ongoing between EDQ and local governments around the Townsville waterfront, Toowoomba Railway Parks and Southport Priority Development Area.

### **Health and knowledge precincts**

The Queensland Government is developing a coordinated strategy to create health and knowledge precincts which capitalise on each precinct's local strengths. It is intended that these proposed health and knowledge precincts are integrated with multi-modal transport to attract students and retain investors. EDQ is currently working on a Gold Coast Health and Knowledge precinct incorporating the Gold Coast University and a Petrie Health and Knowledge precinct where the Council is planning a university. Additional opportunities have been earmarked for further Health and Knowledge precincts to be located on Queensland university campuses where surplus government land is available.

### **Housing renewal and integration precincts**

Stemming from the Queensland discussion paper – *Working together for better housing and sustainable communities*, EDQ is collaborating with the Department of Housing and Public Works to develop a plan for housing renewal in Logan and Redcliffe in particular. Further opportunities for investment are expected to be forthcoming.

### **Queensland renewable energy sites**



EDQ has commenced work with Ergon Energy to identify potential sites for additional energy infrastructure, solar farms and solar energy developments. A framework for project feasibility and a project delivery model will be forthcoming, which will potentially include a pilot project.

### **Regional liveability precincts**

EDQ will liaise with local government, communities and investors around project delivery, funding and planning for new infrastructure and the upgrading of existing infrastructure that is considered high priority for regional communities. Criteria for eligible projects includes accelerating economic development, meeting local need, contribution towards liveability and attractiveness of the regional town and fostering of sustainability.

Opportunities include an Ageing in Place pilot project, aimed to keep more elderly people living in their local area. EDQ will also liaise with local governments about the development of new retail centres, a residential and industrial land supply review, town master planning exercises and town rejuvenation projects as part of this particular economic and community zone.

### **Further information**

The Queensland *Advancing Our Cities and Regions strategy* is available [here](#).

The Queensland *Advancing Our Cities and Regions strategy* media release is available [here](#).

For further information on the Queensland *Advancing Our Cities and Regions strategy* please contact your Hawker Britton consultant [Eamonn Fitzpatrick](#) on +61 401 719 488.