

Sub 25

Economic Development Committee

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**ONLINE SUBMISSION - Grey nomad tourism**

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Importance of grey nomads to the Queensland economy:

1. What economic contribution do grey nomads make to rural and regional areas of Queensland?
2. Are the available statistics on grey nomads in Queensland useful, current and accessible?

They support towns by purchasing their supplies such as fuel, food, gas as well as visiting museums and tourist attractions, mechanical repairs, tiers etc. Contrary to beliefs many travel on a very tight budget. If they are forced to stay in expensive caravan parks there is less money to share around and they can not stay in the State as long as they would wish. Many do not wish to nor need to stay in expensive, crowded, regimented caravan parks. Why should we pay for play grounds, pool and other facilities we do not use or require.

Infrastructure requirements:

3. What are the public infrastructure requirements of grey nomads including health services, waste disposal sites and signage?
4. Is the current infrastructure for grey nomads in Queensland adequate? What additional infrastructure is required?

More road side rest areas, with toilet facilities (we are not getting any younger) we are encouraged not to travel tired but there are less and less rest areas particularly along the new roads being built and service centers are not always suitable or close enough. Easy well sign-posted drive through parking. More basic caravan parks. Many C parks are crowded to overflowing during the peak seasons of winter when the southerners come up, and during school holidays. Many prefer to camp informally. Having Show Grounds, sports grounds and reserves open to travelers is a great encouragement for them to stay and spend in town. More easily accessible public dump points. For instance in the Sunshine Coast Regional Council area there is only one that is not within a caravan park and that is at the Maroochy sewerage plant.

Marketing and promotion:

6. What is the best method of marketing Queensland's rural and regional communities to grey nomad tourists?

Tv,radio, state motoring body and caravan and motor home magazines. As well as tourist information centers.

Utilisation of grey nomad skills in regional and rural Queensland:

7. How successful have existing programs been in utilising the skills of grey nomads in rural and regional Queensland?
8. What can the government do to encourage grey nomads to use their skills by undertaking work in rural and regional areas?

Advertise the needs and vacancies via the above mentioned media among others. Many have to work to support themselves as they travel and have skills and experience they would be glad to use if they knew where.