

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 604**  
**Asked on 10 May 2005**

MR McARDLE asked the Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr Beattie) —

**QUESTION:**

Will he list and provide details (source document, program/fund/strategy, commitment, cost, expected completion date [month/year], the progress made and expenditure to date) to fulfil each election commitment made by the Government for each State Electorate [reported separately] within the Far North Queensland region during and in the lead-up to the 2004 State Election?

**ANSWER:**

During the last State Election, I released a Beattie Plan for Cairns and the Far North on 30 January 2004 (attached).

The Beattie Plan for Cairns and the Far North was released to the media and the public. The Beattie Plan contains the key commitments for my Government in Far North Queensland.

Since 1998, the Queensland Government has developed a reputation for delivering on its promises and is judged in every electorate at every election on whether it has done so.

In most cases, the plan is due to be delivered by the end of this three-year term and the individual promises are in various stages of being delivered.

There are a few exceptions, such as the promise to deliver a specific number of extra teachers within four years, where it was made clear in the document at the time that the timeframe was longer than three years.

# Peter Beattie & Labor

KEEPING QUEENSLAND MOVING



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**BUILDING THE FUTURE**

**THE BEATTIE PLAN FOR**  
**CAIRNS AND THE FAR NORTH**

***KEEP QUEENSLAND MOVING***

## **BUILDING CAIRNS: BUILDING THE SMART STATE**

Cairns is the gateway to Tropical North Queensland and two of the world's greatest natural treasures: the Great Barrier Reef and the Wet Tropics Rainforests which are both World Heritage-listed.

Cairns International Airport is now the nation's fifth busiest in terms of international and domestic passenger movements.

The city's 120,000 residents enjoy an enviable lifestyle. The average annual population growth rate between 2001 and 2021 is projected to be 2%, compared with 1.6% for the rest of the State.<sup>1</sup>

Cairns is a dynamic regional city – with several recent large-scale projects, including the upgrading of City Place and completion of stage one of the Esplanade project, transforming the central business district and waterfront into a vibrant precinct.

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<sup>1</sup> Department of Local Government & Planning, Population Trends and Prospects, 2001 edition, 2001 Geographical Boundaries (cited in LGA Profile – Cairns, January 2004, OESR)

## **\$248 MILLION IN NEW INVESTMENTS AND SERVICES**

- \$15 million to protect and manage the Daintree and Cape York
- 1,560 new jobs, through an investment of over \$14.5 million
- \$74.5 million invested in transport projects and services
- \$18.4 million on health staffing and facilities
- \$18.7 million in education investments, including 24 new teachers
- \$9.1 million in public housing projects in 2004-05
- More than \$9.5 million on better police and emergency services facilities, including 11 new paramedics
- The *Smart State Building Fund* will deliver over \$89 million for health, education and community services, as announced in December 2003.

**Over \$248 million to build the future of Cairns**

**Significant boosts to services and infrastructure**

## **A RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT**

- Combined budgets for Cairns, Cape York, Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula, Tableland and Innisfail health services are now more than \$258.5 million
- More than \$220 million invested in transport infrastructure and services in Cairns and the Far North
- Over \$37 million in education capital works and new technologies
- Australian Airlines establishing its operational base in Cairns, providing a massive boost to the local economy
- Contributing \$45 million for stage one of the Cairns Cityport project
- 2,777 jobs created in the region since 1998 as part of the Government's *Breaking the Unemployment Cycle* Program

## NEW INVESTMENT AND SERVICES

### Jobs growth

**More jobs...lower unemployment**

Employment in the Cairns district is continuing to grow.

Under the Beattie Government, Queensland has been the country's powerhouse for job creation, accounting for one in every four new jobs created in Australia in the past five years and one in three over the past three years.

The Beattie Government's *Breaking the Unemployment Cycle* initiative has contributed to jobs growth in the Cairns district by delivering 2,777 new jobs since the program's establishment in October 1998.

While we have achieved jobs growth and falling unemployment, much more needs to be done to bring unemployment down even further.

As part of a continuing commitment to job creation, a re-elected Beattie Government will create an estimated 1,560 jobs over three years in the Cairns district under the *Breaking the Unemployment Cycle* initiative, with an estimated investment of \$14.5 million.

### Education.....See the future

**The Smart State...more teachers.....  
.better facilities**

We will employ up to 24 extra teachers in the Cairns, Cape, Tablelands-Johnstone and Torres Strait Islands education districts over four years from 2004 at a cost of more than \$3.8 million. This will help reduce Year 4-10 class sizes to the lowest in the country and improve curriculum planning and development in large primary schools.

As part of this initiative two extra teachers will support the prep trial at Cairns West State School and Mareeba State School.

### Creating 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classrooms

Over the next three years, the Beattie Government will distribute up to \$7 million in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) grants to Queensland state schools in the Cairns, Cape, Tablelands-Johnstone and Torres Strait Islands education districts.

### Cooler Schools

We will invest around \$5.7 million to air-condition up to 221 classrooms in the Cairns and Tablelands regions under the \$17.6 million commitment to complete air-conditioning classrooms in the Cooler Schools Zone.

## **Capital Works**

The Beattie Government will invest more than \$1.6 million in new and upgraded facilities in the Cairns and Tablelands regions to give local students the best possible education, including:

- Approximately \$320,000 for additional toilets at Mossman State High School
- Approximately \$360,000 to upgrade special education facilities and provide additional toilets at Atherton State School
- Approximately \$250,000 for additional toilets at Malanda State High School
- Approximately \$250,000 to upgrade toilets at Warraber Island State School
- Approximately \$250,000 to upgrade special education facilities at Smithfield State High School
- Approximately \$180,000 to replace telephones at: Mossman State High School, Caravonica State School, Yorkeys Knob State School, Innisfail State School, Port Douglas State School, Herberton State School and Yungaburra State School.

## **Wired for the Future**

Under the three-year Wired for the Future Program, the Beattie Government will provide approximately \$652,000 in upgrades to increase the electrical capacity of schools in the Cairns and Tablelands regions as follows:

- Parramatta State School – approximately \$23,000
- Whitfield State School – approximately \$94,000
- Freshwater State School – approximately \$8,000
- Redlynch State School – approximately \$2,000
- Trinity Beach State School – approximately \$7,500
- Babinda State School – approximately \$83,000
- Gordonvale State School – approximately \$10,000
- Atherton State School – approximately \$121,000
- Kairi State School – approximately \$80,000
- Malanda State School – approximately \$136,000
- Yungaburra State School – approximately \$88,000

The funding will give schools the electrical capacity they need to plug into the Internet and make better use of technology to educate students.

## **Health.....A focus on people**

The Beattie Government will invest over \$18.4 million in a range of key health services and projects, including:

- \$13.6 million to complete the \$16 million redevelopment of Innisfail Hospital. The project includes 50 acute care beds, a new accident and emergency unit, medical imaging, a new front entry and the replacement of four old buildings
- An investment of \$800,000 to build primary health care centres on Warraber and Darnley islands, to complete the \$11.2 million Torres Strait Primary Health Care Centre Redevelopment Program
- \$2.5 million to employ a specialist ear, nose and throat surgeon to reduce waiting times for elective procedures at Cairns Hospital
- \$1.5 million to employ six new nurses and open an extra critical care bed at Cairns, taking the number to 16. This will relieve pressure on the emergency department and improve waiting times for elective surgery.

## **Transport.....strong foundations**

The Beattie Government will invest over \$74.5 million in transport projects and services.

### **Roads**

The Government will spend \$49.693 million in 2004-05 on state-controlled roads, including contributions to the following projects (some of which have started with some funds already spent):

- \$663,000 for land resumptions on the Bruce Highway between Gordonvale and Cairns, to provide for future works
- \$329,000 towards land resumptions on Brinsmead-Kamerunga Road, to provide for future works
- \$622,000 to upgrade floodways on Peninsula Developmental Road at Healy and Dead Horse Creeks and Ryan's and Carroll's Dips between Laura and Coen
- \$520,000 to seal a 5km section of Peninsula Developmental Road (Laura-Coen) near Yarrenden Station
- \$198,000 to seal the Peninsula Developmental Road between Lily's Creek and Carroll's Crossing
- \$468,000 to complete a section of Peninsula Developmental Road (Coen-Weipa) to sealed standard near the "Telecom Tower"

- \$6.74 million to complete construction of a section of Cooktown Developmental Road between West Normanby River and Boggy Creek, to a sealed standard
- \$3.46 million to reconstruct Cooktown Developmental Road to sealed standard between Little Annan River and Scrubby Creek
- \$3 million to start construction of a section of Cooktown Developmental Road between Scrubby Creek and Sackleys Hill to a sealed standard
- \$408,000 towards construction of the Sackleys Hill to East Normanby River section of Cooktown Developmental Road to a sealed standard
- \$526,000 to start reconstruction of a section, east of Normanby River to west of Normanby River, of Cooktown Developmental Road to a sealed standard
- \$104,000 towards construction of bridges at East and West Normanby River and Whiteside Gully on the Cooktown Developmental Road (total cost \$6.5 million)
- \$859,000 to re-sheet sections of Burke Developmental Road between Normanton and Dimbulah in Mareeba Shire
- \$250,000 to complete formation of a section of Burke Developmental Road in Carpentaria Shire between Normanton and Dimbulah
- \$1.1 million for signal coordination at the intersection of Captain Cook Highway with Endeavour Road
- Almost \$2 million to complete planning to upgrade the Kuranda Range section of the Kennedy Highway between Cairns and Mareeba to four lanes, with a further \$761,000 allocated for hardship resumptions
- \$745,000 to provide maintenance works on the Barron River Bridge
- \$3 million to build a bridge and road approaches at Rice's Gully on the Redlynch Intake Road to replace the existing low-level floodway and improve wet weather access
- \$1.58 million to complete widening and sealing of the Mareeba-Dimbulah Road between Chettle and Barbetti roads, at a total cost of \$1.64 million
- \$1.44 million to repair, strengthen and widen the road surface on a section of the Gillies Highway between the Marks Lane intersection and Mountain View Drive (near the van park), just east of Atherton
- \$1.5 million to bring the Pinnacle Creek – Eureka Creek section of the Burke Developmental Road, between Normanton and Dimbulah, to a sealed standard
- \$100,000 for planning for repair and widening of the Gillies Road between Malanda-Lake Eacham Road and Yungaburra

- \$341,000 towards asphalt overlay works on sections of the Kennedy Highway between Mt Garnet and The Lynd
- \$104,000 for planning for future replacement of the Bushy Creek Bridge and approaches on the Mossman-Mt Molloy Road
- \$104,000 for traffic management on the Mareeba-Dimbulah Road near Granite Creek.

### **Community transport partnerships**

Under the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme, we will provide over \$9.88 million in 2004-05 to councils for projects (some of which have already commenced with some funding already spent), including:

- \$129,892, jointly funded with Cairns City Council, to complete drainage improvements at Lyons and Hartley streets intersection
- \$100,000, jointly funded with Cairns City Council, to complete upgrade of the intersection at Progress Road and Sheehy Road
- \$60,000, jointly funded with Cairns City Council, to complete traffic improvements at McLaughlin Street and Borrowdale Close intersection at Bentley Park School
- \$519,220 to complete the upgrade of the Yarrabah access road
- \$370,847 for training of Indigenous people in road construction and maintenance and to facilitate Roads Alliance activities
- \$318,112 to complete reconstruction of the access road (airstrip to barge ramp), road upgrading for community housing expansion off Chapman Street and Indigenous skills upgrading on Badu Island
- \$343,366 for maintenance of access roads, street lighting and road safety measures, signage, bus shelter and Indigenous skills development at Bamaga
- \$500,000 for training and Indigenous skills development in road maintenance on Coconut Island
- \$3.708 million for local road upgrades and maintenance, signage and facilitation of Roads Alliance activities in the Cook Shire
- \$1.627 million to upgrade the access road to bitumen seal and local Indigenous training on Darnley Island
- \$1.007 million to pave and seal Dauan Access Road and road maintenance on Dauan Island

- \$325,197 to replace a bridge on the Cape Tribulation Road at Hutchinson Creek; bicycle and foot paths in Port Douglas; and facilitation of the Roads Alliance in the Douglas Shire
- \$324,407 for pavement improvements to the access road and related Indigenous training in road construction and maintenance on Hammond Island
- \$1.158 million to seal, maintain and upgrade Hope Vale access road; resurface North Street; improve signage at Hope Vale
- \$345,764 for maintenance of the access road, south of Jardine Crossing; to upgrade drainage, form and gravel the northern access road to Pajinka in Lockerbie Forest; and provide a school bus shelter at Injinoo
- \$910,000 towards upgrading of the Topsy Creek and Kowanyama access roads at Kowanyama
- \$387,667 for community access road improvements and related Indigenous training at Kubin
- \$563,665 for community access road improvements, Indigenous training and signage at Lockhart River
- \$1.12 million to upgrade the access road between the town, the airport and the barge ramp on Mabuiag Island
- \$76,114 to complete replacement of Big Rooty Creek Bridge and to facilitate the Roads Alliance in the Mareeba Shire
- \$4,333 to complete access road improvements on Murray Island
- \$170,000 to pave and seal New Mapoon community housing expansion/sub-division in New Mapoon
- \$438,806 for maintenance of the access road and sealing of the airport road at Pormpuraaw
- \$113,060 to form, gravel and seal the access road to the camping grounds at Seisia
- \$97,353 to upgrade, form and drain the access road to St Paul's airstrip at St Pauls
- \$9,984 for access road maintenance on Stephen Island
- \$230,578 for maintenance and concrete paving of a community access road on Warraber Island
- \$2.92 million for local road upgrades, maintenance, footpath and bus set-downs in the Torres Shire
- \$100,000 to form, gravel and seal council a car park and Indigenous training at Umagico

- \$27,500 to improve safety at school road crossings at Jessica Point School (Napranum) and Weipa Primary School
- \$40,611 for maintenance and repairs of causeways in Wujal Wujal
- \$717,855 on Yam Island - to form, gravel and seal a local access road; Indigenous training; and community housing subdivisions near the aerodrome
- \$151,238 for upgrading the Yorke Island access road, concrete paving at guest house, and for maintenance of road access to the airstrip and barge ramp on Yorke Island
- \$25,000, jointly funded with Cairns City Council, to start work on a shared bikeway/footway from Machans Beach to Holloways Beach
- \$60,000 to complete the bikeway from Kuranda High School to Myola along Myola Road, jointly funded with Mareeba Shire Council
- \$548,364 to complete a \$1.382 million project , as a contribution to Queensland Rail for rail maintenance between Ariga Mill-Mourilyan Mill
- \$10,000 towards a \$500,000 project, jointly funded with Atherton Shire Council, to widen and seal Tolga-Kairi Road (stage 1)
- \$175,000, jointly funded with Atherton Shire Council, to replace the Mick Creek bridge on Russell Pocket Road
- \$40,000, jointly funded with Atherton Shire Council, towards replacing the bridge on Beantree Road
- \$214,851, jointly funded with Eacham Shire Council, to complete work to increase pavement depth to stabilise and seal Lake Eacham Road
- \$32,500, jointly funded with Eacham Shire Council, to complete construction of a footpath at Yungaburra State School, Maple Street
- \$7,500, jointly funded with Eacham Shire Council, to complete construction of a footpath at Millaa Millaa State School
- \$100,000, jointly funded with Herberton Shire Council, towards paving and sealing Herberton industrial estate
- \$50,000, jointly funded with Herberton Shire Council, to complete construction of a bikeway in Perkins Street, Herberton
- \$130,000, jointly funded with Mareeba Shire Council, towards paving and sealing sugar farm access roads.

## **Urban bus services**

The Beattie Government has allocated an extra \$3 million over 3 years to provide new buses and new services for the people of Cairns and district. The new funding is in addition to the \$2 million a year already committed and the \$3 million recently announced for bus priority measures as part of initiatives flowing from the *Smart State Building Fund*. New initiatives include:

- Six new buses to improve existing services
- New express services from Edmonton to the city centre
- New services to the new estates in Edmonton
- New evening services to Mooroobool
- Extending Redlynch services at night and on weekends to Smithfield
- Conducting a trial of a new central Cairns loop service at 10 minute frequencies running a one-way loop from Cityport-Esplanade, Florence Street, McLeod Street, Courthouse, Cairns Central, Convention Centre-Wharf Street.

## **Cairns Cityport project**

The Beattie Government will complete construction of the Cityport project. The Government contributed \$45 million to stage one of the project, which will change the face of inner-Cairns. The second stage will include development of the old Great Adventures terminal and completion of the walkway to Trinity Wharf.

## **Access to Indigenous communities**

The Beattie Government will commit at least \$2 million a year from the Transport Infrastructure Development scheme to improve access into remote Indigenous communities across Cape York and the Torres Strait. Projects for 2004-05 include:

- \$660,000 towards bitumen sealing the Murray Island airstrip
- \$185,000 to upgrade the jetty and repair the barge ramp at Darnley Island
- \$260,000 to upgrade the jetty and repair the barge ramp on Hammond Island
- \$260,000 to upgrade the jetty and repair the barge ramp at Kubin on Moa Island
- \$20,000 towards repairing the barge ramp on Stephen Island
- \$260,000 to upgrade the jetty and repair the barge ramp at Warraber Island
- \$260,000 to upgrade the jetty and repair the barge ramp on Yam Island.

## **Improved police facilities**

The Beattie Government will invest over \$2.2 million in capital works in far north Queensland. We will:

- Build a new police station and watchhouse in Ayton at an estimated cost of \$500,000 in 2004-05
- Provide two new police residences in Ayton at an estimated cost of \$600,000 in 2004-05
- Build a new police station at Hope Vale (estimated cost \$500,000)
- Provide two new police residences at Hope Vale (estimated cost \$600,000).

## **Public Housing**

The Beattie Government will invest \$9.1 million in 2004/05 in public housing projects as follows:

- \$4.7 million to build 41 new public housing dwellings
- \$2 million to renew 46 houses in Cairns
- \$2.4 million for refurbishment of public housing interiors

## **Emergency Services**

### **Paramedics**

The Government will fund 11 new ambulance paramedic positions to help save lives, maintain emergency response times and enhance the health and safety of paramedics, with an investment of around \$ 1.7 million.

## **Daintree Protection**

**Looking  
after our  
precious  
natural  
assets**

The Beattie Government will invest \$5 million to purchase land of high conservation values in the Daintree. Acquisitions will be voluntary. Douglas Shire Council will match the funding, and we expect the Federal Government to do the same. Our commitments:

- \$5 million in new funding over three years for acquisition of high conservation value land in the Daintree
- Targeting feral pigs and invasive weeds in the Daintree as part of the \$6 million increased funding for pest and weed management (as announced in *Protecting Queensland's Natural Heritage: National Parks*)
- Upgraded visitor facilities as part of the extra \$6 million allocated under the Smart State Building Fund (as announced in *Protecting Queensland's Natural Heritage: National Parks*).

## Cape York Management

We will invest more than \$10 million in new money to protect Cape York Peninsula's world class natural and cultural heritage over the next three years. Our commitments:

- \$7.5 million for voluntary acquisitions of land of high conservation value, with a view to gaining matching funding from the Commonwealth. This comprises \$2.5 million from the *Protecting Queensland's Natural Heritage: National Parks* policy, and a further \$5 million
- \$1.5 million for Indigenous land and sea management centres, which will tap into the wealth of traditional Indigenous knowledge to help us all care for country
- \$1 million for enhanced visitor facilities at key national parks, under *Protecting Queensland's Natural Heritage: National Parks*
- Compiling the case towards World Heritage listing of appropriate areas
- Additional funds for weed and feral animal management, from the \$6 million in state-wide funding announced under *Protecting Queensland's Natural Heritage: National Parks*.

## SMART STATE BUILDING FUND

In December 2003, the Beattie Government announced a \$1 billion package of strategic infrastructure investments targeted to support key services and projects across Queensland.

**Smart State Building Fund snapshot: \$89 million for new services, infrastructure**

The *Smart State* Building Funding will provide \$89.258 million for infrastructure and services for the Cairns region:

### Smart schools shaping the Smart State \$15.566 million

#### New school \$7 million

The Beattie Government will allocate an estimated \$7 million towards a new school in the Cairns region to meet demand for school facilities created by population growth.

### Smart Schools Renewal Program \$5.716 million

- Balaclava State School – major classroom upgrade to support arts initiatives – approximately \$552,000
- Mer State School – resource centre upgrade to support ICT initiatives – approximately \$170,000

- Miallo State School – resource centre upgrade to support ICT initiatives – approximately \$135,000
- Mossman State High School – major classroom upgrade to support arts initiatives – approximately \$628,000
- Pormpuraaw State School – classroom upgrade to provide for practical learning activities – approximately \$185,000
- Thursday Island State School – major upgrade to outdoor classroom to support arts initiatives – approximately \$698,000
- Yam Island State School – resource centre upgrade to support ICT initiatives – approximately \$170,000
- Edge Hill State School – major classroom upgrade to support arts and science initiatives – approximately \$377,000
- Smithfield State High School – major classroom upgrade to support Sports Science initiatives – approximately \$1.1 million
- Gordonvale State High School – major classroom upgrade to support multi-media initiatives – approximately \$500,000
- Yarrabah State School – classroom upgrade to support ICT initiatives – approximately \$125,000
- Atherton State High School – major classroom upgrade to support senior schooling pathways – approximately \$956,000
- Malanda State School – classroom upgrade to support arts initiatives – approximately \$120,000.

**Core facilities upgrades** \$2.85 million

- Balaclava State School – administration upgrade – approximately \$700,000
- Alexandra Bay State School – administration upgrade – approximately \$400,000
- Redlynch State School – administration/library upgrade – approximately \$850,000
- White Rock State School – library upgrade – approximately \$350,000
- Atherton State School – administration upgrade – approximately \$550,000.

**Creating affordable public housing** \$5.1 million

- \$405,000 for public housing upgrades
- \$4.7 million for new singles accommodation

**Transport** \$6.7 million

- \$45,000 to upgrade oil spill response equipment at Cooktown
- \$250,000 to upgrade the Vessel Tracking System at Cairns
- \$214,000 to upgrade the pontoon at Tingara St Cairns
- \$100,000 to install two new ramps on Tinaroo Dam

- \$2.26 million to upgrade boating infrastructure including: upgrading jetties at Daintree, Palm Cove, and Newell; new boat ramps at Weipa, Cow Bay, Seisia and Lockhart River; upgrading pontoons on the Daintree River, on Thursday Island, at Weipa and Cooktown
- \$3.5 million for a long term dredging strategy in Port Douglas Harbour
- \$363,000 for jetty upgrades in Innisfail, Deeral, in Fitzroy Island and at Bellenden Kerr.

### **Safer roads \$15 million**

- \$3 million for bus priority measures on state-controlled roads in Cairns by 2006-07
- \$1.1 million to upgrade the traffic signals at the intersection of McNamara and Anderson Streets by 2005-06
- \$1.2 million to upgrade the traffic signals at the intersection of Smith Street and the Captain Cook Highway by 2005-06
- \$6 million to accelerate the upgrading of the Peninsula Developmental Road (matching contribution will be sought from the Federal Government). Includes five works packages as follows:
  - \$1.2 million to construct sections, north of Musgrave, to a sealed standard by 2005-06
  - \$1.2 million to construct sections, north of the Three Sisters, to a sealed standard by 2005-06
  - \$1.2 million to construct sections, south of Coen, to a sealed standard by 2005-06
  - \$1.2 million to construct sections, north of Wolverton, to a sealed standard by 2006-07
  - \$1.2 million to construct sections, south of Bamaga, to a sealed standard by 2006-07
- \$1.1 million to upgrade the traffic signals at the intersection of Endeavour Road and the Captain Cook Highway by 2004-05
- \$1 million for shoulder sealing and safety works on the Captain Cook Highway from Buchan Point to Yule Point by 2005-06
- \$1 million for shoulder sealing and safety works on the Captain Cook Highway, north of Yule Point by 2005-06
- \$600,000 to apply anti-skid surfacing, amend pavement markings and signage, and remove exit lane kerbing at Brinsmead-Kamerunga Road roundabout and Trinity Beach Road roundabout on the Captain Cook Highway.

### **Tough on crime – safer communities \$900,000**

- \$300,000 for a new Neighbourhood Police Beat at White Rock
- Commitment to establish a new police beat at Yorkey's Knob at an estimated cost of \$350,000
- Commitment to establish a new police beat at Mooroobool at an estimated cost of \$250,000.

### **Disability services**

- \$55,000 to upgrade disability facilities and equipment.

### **The arts \$1 million**

- \$1 million for the Stage Two extension of the Cairns Centre of Contemporary Arts. This will include a rehearsal studio and multi-purpose activity spaces for local arts organisations and enterprises.

### **Protecting our natural resources \$7.75 million**

- \$1.25 million for sophisticated water quality measuring equipment
- \$4 million to construct a rainforest top canopy walk in Wooroona National Park as an eco-tourism attraction
- \$1.5 million to expand visitor information facilities in the Wet Tropics
- \$1 million for the expansion of visitor information facilities on the Cape York Peninsula

### **Health \$35.6 million**

- \$5.5 million for a new primary health care centre at Yarrabah. The centre will incorporate services currently offered through Yarrabah Hospital, community health services and Queensland Ambulance Service.
- \$5.5 million to upgrade the primary health care centre in Hopevale so it can provide a range of public health services as well as outreach services
- \$14.6 million for redevelopment of the Weipa Hospital. The project includes a new building to bring all services under one roof
- \$7 million to consolidate a range of community health services spread across Cairns into a single Community Health Centre
- \$3 million for the development of a residential facility for mentally ill adults in Cairns

### **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander initiatives \$1 million**

- \$1 million to provide houses for the staff of community stores at Lockhart River and Pormpuraaw

## **Public works \$550,000**

- \$550,000 for government employee housing on Thursday Island.

# **DELIVERING FOR CAIRNS**

**We have been  
building  
momentum  
for the  
future....**

## **Key Achievements 2001-2004**

### **A strong record and commitment**

The Cairns and Tablelands region represents the Smart State at its very best. It is a region of boundless potential, great diversity, stunning natural beauty and bustling industry. It is a great place to live, work and raise a family.

The Beattie Government has worked to strengthen the Cairns region and help it unlock its full potential by supporting local industries and providing the essential services and community infrastructure which keep our communities safe, healthy and prosperous. The Government's record of achievement since 2001 demonstrates its commitment to ensuring the people of Cairns and the far north region live life in the Smart State to the full.

## **Highlights**

### **Health**

The Beattie Government continues to deliver a world class health system to the people of the Cairns region. The combined budgets for the Cairns, Cape York, Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula, Tableland and Innisfail Health Service Districts are now more than \$258.5 million. Some of our major achievements in health over the last three years have included:

- Completing the \$130 million redevelopment of Cairns Base Hospital
- \$6.9 million for the new Torres Strait Primary Health Care Centre at Thursday Island
- Providing staff accommodation at Weipa and Napranum, as part of an \$8 million election commitment
- Building a new community health centre at Cardwell
- Providing \$650,000 for a dedicated rehabilitation unit at Cairns Base Hospital
- Creating an extra 50 full-time nursing positions as a result of a review of Cairns Base Hospital.

### **Police and Emergency Services**

Queensland has the most dedicated police and emergency services personnel in the world. Over the past three years, the Government has committed more than

\$100 million for capital works and new equipment for emergency services in the Cairns region, and more than \$1.5 million for police capital works.

The Government has assisted our police and emergency services personnel in their vital role of protecting people in this region through such initiatives as:

- Establishing, at a cost of \$681,000, a 21-officer Far Northern Tactical Crime Squad to target property and drug offences
- Establishing a new police beat at Manoora (\$197,000)
- Establishing a new police beat at Holloway's Beach
- Expanding the Cairns City Police Beat in May 2003
- Building a new police residence at Kowanyama at a cost of \$350,000
- Building a new police residence at Yarrabah at a cost of \$325,000
- Providing a new ambulance field office at Coen (\$290,000), a replacement ambulance station at Bamaga (\$405,000) and a new field office and residence at Kowanyama (\$850,000) at a total cost of more than \$1.5 million
- Providing new ambulance residences on Thursday Island and at Weipa at a total cost of \$549,000
- Providing a new fire station at Cooktown at a cost of \$458,000, upgrading the regional workshop at Cairns at a cost of \$325,000, and commencing the project for a joint fire and ambulance facility at Innisfail at a cost of \$700,000 (\$1.7 million estimated total project cost)
- Continuing to improve fire response times by providing replacement fire equipment for Smithfield, Westcourt, Babinda, Gordonvale, Cairns South, Mareeba, Atherton and Malanda at a total cost of over \$3.8 million
- Strengthening our commitment to support our volunteers and improve community safety by providing a new State Emergency Services training facility at Gordonvale at a cost of \$112,000
- Continuing our commitment to improve services in remote areas by providing two Queensland Ambulance Service field officers, one at Horn Island and one at Kowanyama. This was in addition to five new firefighters, two new ambulance officers, three new communications officers and five student paramedics for Cairns, and two new Rural Fire Service training officers, one for Cairns and one for Innisfail
- \$250,000 to purchase land and commence construction of a replacement ambulance station at Atherton
- \$604,000 to replace the ambulance station at Mt Garnet and \$150,000 to build a new residence
- \$350,000 for a replacement ambulance station at Milaa Milaa co-located with Queensland Health.

## Transport

The Beattie Government has helped keep the Cairns region on the move. We have committed more than \$220 million to improve transport infrastructure in Cairns and the Far North, including:

- \$16.3 million for construction of a new two-lane bitumen section of the Peninsula Developmental Road between Mt Molloy and Laura at the Byerstown Range

- \$6.9 million for bitumen seal works on the Cooktown Developmental Road between Boggy Creek and Lakeland, and \$8.5 million to construct the bridge on the Big Annan River on the same road
- Over \$3 million to repair the Cook Highway in the northern suburbs of Cairns
- \$45 million for Cityport North, including the new Reef Fleet Terminal
- \$158 million for the Brisbane to Cairns tilt train
- \$110 million upgrade to rail track between Rockhampton and Cairns
- \$4.6 million to build a bridge and approaches over the Russell River on the Bramston Beach Road
- \$1.6 million to build a bridge and approaches over Middle Creek on the Pine Creek – Yarrabah Beach Road
- \$13 million in capital investments at Cairns Airport.

## **Education**

The Beattie Government has ensured the children of the Cairns region have access to a world-class education, investing more than \$37 million since 2001 in capital works and new technologies in local schools, including:

- About \$4 million spent and committed to clear outstanding maintenance at state schools under the Government's \$50 million Triple R Maintenance Program
- Over \$12 million towards further stages at Bentley Park College
- \$3 million to refurbish Cairns State High School
- \$1.9 million to refurbish Trinity Bay State High School and build a new art block
- \$1.5 million for an administration and resource centre at Bamaga State School
- \$1.2 million to rebuild fire-damaged facilities at Freshwater State School
- \$800,000 committed to replace the administration block at Saibai Island State School
- \$610,000 committed to additional classrooms and toilets at Freshwater State School
- \$450,000 committed to additional toilets at Daradgee Environmental Education Centre
- \$443,000 for a pre-school facility at Western Cape College, Aurukun
- \$400,000 committed to replace student toilet and shower block at Holloways Beach Environmental Education Centre
- \$350,000 for a new toilet block and student covered area at Redlynch State School
- \$320,000 to build a second pre-school unit at Redlynch State School.

## **Employment and Training**

The Beattie Government has continued to meet the employment and Smart State training needs of the people of the Cairns and Far North region through such investments as:

- Investing an estimated \$48 million in training in the Far North Region, which includes the Cairns area, in 2003-04
- Committing more than \$6.1 million to the Cape York Training and Employment Strategy over the past two years and an estimated investment of \$2.2 million in 2003-04
- Committing an estimated \$1.3 million for capital works at the Cairns campus of the Tropical North Queensland Institute of TAFE.

## **Tourism**

The Beattie Government lured Australian Airlines to Queensland in late-2002. The airline established its operational base in Cairns, providing the biggest single boost to the state's tourism industry in a generation. Australian Airlines has the capacity to bring 350,000 international tourists into Cairns each year. The potential annual economic benefit has been estimated at \$500 million. The Beattie Government has backed the airline with marketing campaigns in its major Asian markets.

## **Community Infrastructure**

The Government recognises that building stronger and more supportive communities is the key to ensuring Queensland remains a great place to live, work and raise a family. Since 2001, the Government has enhanced the community infrastructure in the Cairns and far north region through such allocations as:

- An ongoing investment in preserving and protecting our natural environment and national parks in the Northern Region, which includes the Cairns area
- More than \$84.2 million invested in housing and housing-related services
- More than \$60 million in community infrastructure funding through local government grants and subsidies
- Investing more than \$44.5 million in non-government services in the areas of childcare, child protection and family support, domestic violence prevention and support programs, and homeless support programs
- Ergon Energy is undertaking a \$25 million project to improve supply to Cooktown, involving new substations at Yalkula, near Mt Molloy and Lakeland and 146km of transmission line
- More than \$11.9 million for children and adults with a disability in 2003-04, an increase of more than \$4.4 million
- More than \$9.4 million for arts and cultural projects, including more than \$1.7 million to establish the Cairns Centre of Contemporary Art
- Over \$8.3 million in Sport and Recreation grants to continue development of facilities and maximise participation in sport and recreation
- \$8.3 million in grants and subsidies to councils and community organisations for pest and weed control, flood mitigation, natural resource management and joint Commonwealth-State Natural Heritage Trust projects

- \$8.2 million DPI Northern Fisheries Centre opened in November 2003
- More than \$7.8 million allocated under the Smart State Research Facilities Fund towards the development of the Australian Tropical Forest Institute at the Cairns campus of the James Cook University
- More than \$7.3 million has been allocated between 2002-05 to the Cairns program of the North Queensland Drug Court. To date, 24 Intensive Drug Rehabilitation Orders have been issued by the Cairns Drug Court
- \$6.93 million to community groups from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund
- Over \$1.8 million to Tourism Tropical North Queensland since 2001 for the promotion and development of tourism and business events in the region
- \$296,895 for 15 projects under the i-STAR program, which provides financial assistance to industry, local authorities, education and training institutes to overcome ICT skill shortages and promote ICT careers
- Completion by Ergon Energy of the first stage of the Edmonton switching station project to limit power outages
- More than \$4.5 million investment in capital works by Department of Natural Resources and Mines, including \$267,000 for Torres Strait island water infrastructure, \$332,000 for mine shaft repair and capping and \$711,000 from a \$2.8 million commitment to rehabilitation of acid sulphate soils in public lands at East Trinity.