

Question on Notice

No. 50

Asked on 15 February 2017

MRS LAUGA asked the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport and Minister for Infrastructure and Planning (HON J TRAD) –

QUESTION:

Will the Deputy Premier provide an update on the Economic Development Queensland project at the Yeppoon Railway Station?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Keppel for the question.

On 6 October 2016, the Queensland Government launched the *Advancing our cities and regions* (AOCR) strategy which will renew and repurpose surplus and underutilised state property to deliver better community outcomes, create jobs and drive economic growth. The Yeppoon railway station site was identified as a priority project consistent with the intent of the regional cities urban renewal precincts under the AOCR strategy.

The 2.4 hectare site is currently owned by Queensland Rail and has been vacant since the closure of the railway line in 2004. Economic Development Queensland (EDQ) in the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning will acquire the property and lead the delivery of economic and community outcomes on the site in accordance with the Livingstone Shire Council planning scheme, which encourages integrated mixed use development of the site.

EDQ is committed to genuinely engaging with the local community to gain a better understanding of local issues and priorities, to help guide potential renewal and revitalisation opportunities for the site.

EDQ's engagement activities have included a community information session held in Yeppoon on 24 October 2016 involving 60 people, and an online survey that attracted 146 responses. This feedback was used to prepare concept master plan options, which were presented to the community for review and comment on 17 and 18 February 2017.

EDQ is currently considering the community feedback and anticipates finalising a preferred master plan by April 2017. Should the development proceed, I am advised that the project has the potential to fund the delivery of community facilities and the refurbishment of the heritage railway station.