

North Coast

State Budget

05-06



Premier's Message

My Government is continuing our investment in public infrastructure and services to meet the current and future needs of all Queenslanders.

We are also committed to working to ensure we create opportunities for Queensland's future prosperity and to continue building on the Smart State's strong and stable foundations by supporting the leading edge research technologies.

This Regional Budget Statement outlines the Government's ongoing investment in North Coast's regional infrastructure and details important regional initiatives in 2005-06.

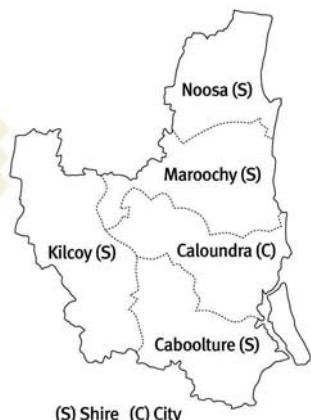
My Government is meeting the needs of the people in North Coast through infrastructure initiatives and services, especially in the areas of transport, training, education, health and housing.

In 2005-06, our infrastructure initiatives will enable the North Coast region to use the opportunities the region has to offer. This Statement demonstrates a significant commitment to the long-term viability of the region.

My Government will continue to work with the people of North Coast to create employment and lifestyle opportunities for all Queenslanders.

State Budget highlights for the North Coast region in 2005-06 include:

- \$23.23 million to upgrade the Sunshine Coast Motorway including:
 - Sippy Downs to Kawana Arterial (Military Road);
 - Pacific Paradise interchange and access to David Low Way;
 - interchange improvements at Mooloolaba and Maroochydore Roads;
 - duplication to four lanes from Maroochydore Road to Pacific Paradise;
 - traffic management devices between David Low Way and Emu Mountain Road; and
 - Mooloolah River interchange concept planning.
- \$10 million to develop industrial land west of Caloundra
- \$5 million to develop land at Coolool to accommodate low impact industries
- \$11.62 million, including \$1.51 million for fit out, for the new Caloundra West State College
- \$6.93 million to redevelop the existing Nambour Residential Aged Care facility
- \$17.3 million for new and upgraded public housing.



→ The North Coast region includes Caloundra City and the shires of Caboolture, Kilcoy, Maroochy and Noosa.



Queensland Government
Smart State

Peter Beattie

Peter Beattie MP
Premier and Minister for Trade

South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan 2005-2026

South East Queensland has been growing strongly for the past 20 years and over this period the region's population has grown by almost one million people making it the fastest growing region in Australia.

To keep pace with this growth the Queensland Government has unveiled Australia's largest and most ambitious infrastructure plan since Federation, outlining investments of up to \$55 billion in South East Queensland over the next 20 years.

North Coast Infrastructure



Projects include:

- ➔ \$500 million for a new hospital on the Sunshine Coast
- ➔ Almost \$2 billion for rail infrastructure on the Sunshine Coast including an additional line through Landsborough to Nambour and a new line to Maroochydore

➔ The Sunshine Coast will also benefit from \$90 million to widen Maroochydore Road to four lanes between the Bruce Highway and Martins Creek



- ➔ \$75 million to widen Deception Bay Road from the Bruce Highway to Lipscombe Road

- ➔ The Caboolture Northern Bypass will be built at a cost of \$70 million
- ➔ Over \$450 million will be spent on East-west linkages from Burpengary to Eumundi.



This Regional Budget Statement for the North Coast region highlights the Government's 2005-06 spending commitment to this region and its people. As a Government, we recognise the regions' valuable contributions to making Queensland the Smart State and providing services to over 3.9 million people. In this Budget we have allocated nearly 60% of capital expenditure outside the Brisbane Statistical Division.

The North Coast region covers 0.3% of the State. The region is home to 416,574 Queenslanders and 4.5% of the State's Indigenous population. The region's unemployment rate is 5.3%. Retail trade, and property and business services are significant industries for the region's employment and local economy. The North Coast is home to over 10% of the State's construction, accommodation, café and restaurant businesses. These reflect the importance of tourism for the region, which is able to capitalise on the North Coast's natural beauty and proximity to major urban centres.

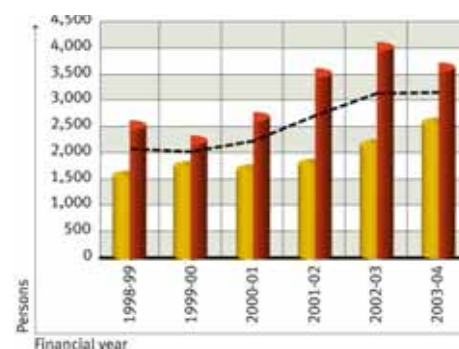
Improving health care and strengthening services to the community

We are committed to providing better hospitals, services and health care for all Queenslanders. Our commitment to improving the standards and accessibility of hospital and health services within the North Coast region includes spending on initiatives such as:

- \$5.5 million to construct the Sunshine Coast Ambulatory and Community Centre which will consolidate community health services in the Kawana-Maroochydore area
- \$4.5 million as part of the South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program to integrate acute health care, primary care and other non-government services at the Caboolture Ambulatory and Community Health Campus
- \$2 million as part of the South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program to expand the current Caloundra Health Service in order to meet the demands of this fast growing area of the Sunshine Coast

Participation in post secondary education, apprenticeships and traineeships

1998-99 to 2003-04



Source: DET, Apprenticeships and traineeships, (unpublished data)

The Glass House Mountains



- \$1.53 million to purchase medical equipment in 2005-06 for the Sunshine Coast Health Service District.

Expenditure on new and upgraded ambulance service facilities and staff includes:

- \$1.21 million to complete the new Narangba Ambulance Station
- \$1.3 million to replace the Coolum Ambulance Station
- four new ambulance paramedics as part of \$4.03 million for 70 new paramedics across Queensland.

We have committed \$16.21 million to support people with disabilities and their carers in the region, including:

- \$1.1 million for short term and limited respite care
- \$383,000 to assist young adults with a disability who are leaving the State's care to maintain their choice of living arrangements and to participate in their community.

Additional support of \$222,000 for community organisations will enable them to increase their capacity to continue to support people with a disability and their families.

Community groups will receive \$8.25 million to provide services in the region, including \$411,000 for child care, \$1.57 million for community support, \$1.18 million for domestic violence prevention, \$644,000 for prevention and early intervention services to support vulnerable children, young people and their families, \$2.35 million to support people at risk of homelessness, \$123,000 to link older people with their community,

and \$1.98 million for youth development and justice.

We are working to support low-income families and individuals through housing and housing related services. Spending in this region in 2005-06 includes:

- \$17.3 million for new and upgraded public housing
- \$1.55 million for community housing programs and services to address crisis and transitional housing needs
- \$934,000 to construct, purchase or upgrade Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander rental housing.

In 2005-06 the Government has funded organisations across the State to build or upgrade sport and recreation facilities. \$2.54 million for projects in the North Coast region include:

- \$398,800 to develop stage two of the western soccer fields at Kawana Sports Fields
- \$432,500 to the Noosa Shire Council to construct a heated swimming pool at Noosa Aquatic Centre.

Realising the Smart State through education, skills and innovation

The Premier launched the latest Smart State Strategy on 18 April 2005. *Smart Queensland: Smart State Strategy 2005-2015* establishes the strategic framework for using innovation and skills to drive economic growth to improve prosperity and quality of life for all Queenslanders.

In 2005-06, \$334,000 has been allocated to the BioBus, which will provide travelling biotechnology education and public awareness exhibitions to rural and regional Queensland schools. An additional \$140,000 has also been allocated in capital expenditure for ongoing enhancements of the exhibition.

The Government will provide \$400,000 in 2005-06 to support research to assess prospects for the development of a cane toad specific toxin bait by the Australian Invasive Animal Cooperative Research Centre.

We are investing in school infrastructure across the North Coast region for the benefit of young people and their

education. In 2005-06, funding includes estimated expenditures of:

- \$2.42 million, including \$194,000 for fit out, to build an additional eight classrooms at Mountain Creek State High School
- \$5.52 million, including \$441,000 for fit out, to construct stage two of the Narangba Valley State School
- \$8.92 million, including \$714,000 for fit out, to expand Chancellor State College to accommodate years 10 and 11 students.

Protecting our children and enhancing community safety

The Government is continuing to build a radically improved child protection system. A record \$394.8 million operating budget, up 45% since last year, will be spent this year to safeguard the welfare of Queensland's children. The North Coast region will benefit from the unprecedented increase of \$123 million for State-wide initiatives such as:

- \$28.8 million for additional permanent frontline and support staff
- \$19.6 million for extra alternative care places, extended family reunification services, foster care by non-government agencies and for sexual abuse counselling services
- \$13 million on foster care allowances and a further \$9 million for child related costs.

Augmenting this is a capital program of \$58.8 million which includes:

- \$25 million in additional funding over two years (\$19.2 million in 2005-06) to expand the number of Child Safety offices across the State
- \$25.3 million for the roll-out of a new IT system to better manage client files and departmental business.

Investment to enhance community safety within the North Coast region includes \$1.64 million in total in 2005-06 to upgrade police stations at Maroochydore and Nambour, refurbish the Caboolture Police Station and plan a new police station at Sippy Downs and \$264,000 for improved fingerprint processing at the Caboolture and Maroochydore Watchhouses.

Managing urban growth and building Queensland's regions

The South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program outlines the Queensland Government's infrastructure priorities to support the South East Queensland Regional Plan. Infrastructure funding in 2005-06 is the first stage of implementing the plan.

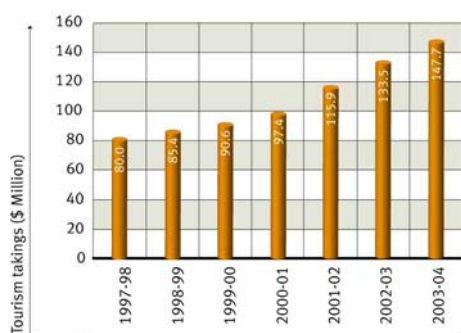
Efficient and integrated transport networks are important for the ongoing development of regional Queensland. In the North Coast

Main Beach, Noosa



Tourism

takings (\$ million), 1997-98 to 2003-04^a



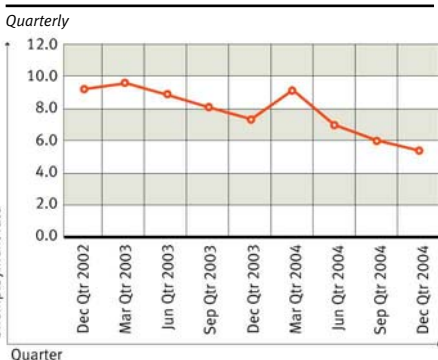
Financial year
(a) Data based on Sunshine Coast Tourism Region

Source: ABS, Tourist Accommodation, Queensland
(8635.3.40.001 and 8635.3)

region, major transport infrastructure initiatives include:

- \$14.96 million to upgrade the D'Aguilar Highway including:
 - constructing the Caboolture Northern Bypass;
 - between Winya Road and Kilcoy Creek;
 - completing bridge construction over Scrubby and Sandy Creeks; and
 - bridge replacement at Sheepstation Creek.
- \$7.22 million to upgrade Beerburum Road including:
 - between Soldiers Road and Beerburum Creek; and
 - Henzell Road and McKean Street intersection.
- \$5.48 million to complete the realignment of the Eumundi to Kenilworth Road between Eerwah Creek and Browns Creek Road
- \$2.45 million to repair and widen Boreen Point to Tewantin Road between Kimbah Court and Lake Cooroibah Road
- \$3.12 million to upgrade Landsborough to Maleny Road including:
 - Mount Mellum Road to Upper Mount Mellum Road; and
 - Bald Knob Road to Mountain View Road.

Unemployment rate^a



Source: DEWRB - Small Area Labour Markets. (QRSIS database maintained by the Office of Economic and Statistical Research (OESR)).

(a) Data based on un-smoothed series.

Investment in the electricity system in 2005-06 includes \$27 million on major projects to improve the electricity distribution network including new substations at Tewantin and Cooroy by ENERGEX.

The region's long term viability is being enhanced by infrastructure projects including:

- \$2.33 million to local governments in the region for road and drainage works
- \$3.16 million to construct a sewage pressure main from Caloundra to Kawana and to upgrade the Kawana sewerage treatment plant
- \$17.5 million to purchase and develop land at the Yandina Industrial Estate, Coolum, and west of Caloundra
- \$2.5 million to plan, design and construct Sunshine Coast Bus Priority works as part of the High Occupancy Vehicle Program including:
 - the University of the Sunshine Coast Bus Gateway and Interchange; and
 - Nicklin Way, Alexandra Parade and Aerodrome Road pavement treatments.

Protecting the environment for a sustainable future

The natural and cultural heritage of the North Coast is valued by all Queenslanders.

This is reflected in our commitment of \$1.82 million for the construction and enhancement of visitor facilities in National Parks and Forest Reserves, including:

- Sunshine Coast Hinterland Great Walk in Mapleton Forest Reserve
- Noosa National Park and Sunshine Coast Hinterland with improved Information Centre facilities
- Bribie Island National Park, with protection works at the World War II Fortification, development of the Ocean Beach Camp ground, road rationalisation and construction of toilet facilities at Second Lagoon Day Use Area.

Woodford Folk Festival



Images courtesy Queensland Tourism

The Woodford Folk Festival is an event of international standing, attracting more than 2000 performers to the foothills of the Sunshine Coast. The six-day and six-night program includes more than 400 events such as concerts, acoustic jams, craft workshops, street theatre, writers' panels, and late night cabarets. Since its beginning in Maleny in 1987, the festival has grown to great heights as one of Australia's most popular multicultural events.



Growing a diverse economy and creating jobs

The unemployment rate in the North Coast region was 5.3% during the December quarter 2004, and has fallen by 9.2 percentage points since the December quarter 1996. The Government continues to work in partnership with the people of the North Coast to build on the region's economic potential.

The Government's Breaking the Unemployment Cycle initiative provides training and job opportunities to Queenslanders. The North Coast region will receive around \$7.28 million to create an estimated 1,015 jobs through the initiative during 2005-06. \$3.26 million is allocated in 2005-06 to community employment programs and \$4.03 million for apprenticeship and trainee incentives to provide jobs in crucial, skills-shortage industries and the public sector.

Delivering responsive government

The Queensland Government continues to engage with local communities, businesses and other government agencies to better coordinate services and identify strategies to meet local needs, including through regular Ministerial Regional Community Forums and Community Cabinets.

\$44.56 million will be spent State-wide in 2005-06 (\$125.5 million over the project life) to provide technology to improve business processes across government agencies. This project will generate long term savings and improve service delivery throughout the State.

Budget summary

Achieving strong economic growth and historic low unemployment rates

- Queensland's year-average unemployment rate is expected to fall to a 30-year low of 5% in 2004-05 and to remain at this historically low level in 2005-06.
- Queensland's employment continues to grow and, at 5¾% and 2½%, is expected to exceed the rest of Australia in 2004-05 and 2005-06, respectively.
- The State is expected to continue to grow more rapidly than the rest of Australia in 2005-06, representing the 10th consecutive year of performance above that of the other states.

Strong finances

- A General Government net operating surplus of \$934 million is forecast in 2005-06.
- The expected 2004-05 operating result of \$2.725 billion reflects the strength of the economy and investment markets.
- Beyond 2005-06, smaller operating and cash surpluses are forecast, primarily reflecting costs associated with significant investment in new infrastructure, the abolition of a number of State taxes, and the assumption of investment returns in line with long run averages.
- The State's net worth is budgeted to grow from \$85 billion at 30 June 2005 to in excess of \$93 billion by 30 June 2009.

Competitive taxes

- Queensland's competitive tax status has been maintained, with taxpayers in other states and territories paying on average 25% more state tax than Queenslanders in 2005-06.
- A land tax relief package will significantly reduce the number of Queenslanders paying land tax and provide rate reductions for all land tax payers, at a cost of \$847 million over four years.
- Debits tax and six stamp duties will be progressively abolished, beginning 1 July 2005. Queenslanders will save \$3.5 billion over seven years from the abolition of these State taxes.

Delivering on our priorities

Improving health care and strengthening services to the community

- The health budget increases by \$413 million or 8.4%, including service enhancements across the State.
- \$115.1 million in capital funding and \$120.4 million in recurrent funding has been allocated over four years to further develop responses to homelessness.
- An additional \$180 million over four years is provided to enhance disability services, including respite, emergency and crisis care.

Realising the Smart State through education, skills and innovation

- \$80.1 million will improve the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) environment in schools and improve ICT access and the skills of students and teachers.
- \$291.9 million in recurrent and \$62.7 million in capital funding in 2005-06 will support training initiatives under the \$1 billion SmartVET strategy, including additional traineeship places in new and emerging industries, and further funding for the Mining Centre of Excellence to reduce skills shortages affecting the Queensland mining industry.

Protecting our children and enhancing community safety

- An overall funding increase of \$123.1 million will enhance child protection services.
- Police staffing and resources will be enhanced and \$231 million is allocated over three years to upgrade and extend various correctional facilities.

Managing urban growth and building Queensland's regions

- Capital spending will be boosted to \$8 billion, \$1.9 billion more than last year's record program.
- The South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program identifies capital projects amounting to around \$55 billion. Over the next four years, approximately \$2 billion is allocated over current Budget commitments.

Protecting the environment for a sustainable future

- \$58 million in recurrent funding and \$25 million in capital funding has been allocated over four years to manage an estimated additional 3.46 million hectares of Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service estate.
- \$10 million over four years will support Queensland organisations to adopt resource efficient practices to improve the way they do business.

Growing a diverse economy and creating jobs

- More than \$470 million is provided over four years to support the Government's 10-year Smart State Strategy. This includes \$136 million in recurrent and \$64 million in capital funding over four years for three new Smart State grants programs to build research centres and support innovation in fields including health and medicine, agriculture and mining.
- The Breaking the Unemployment Cycle initiative will continue to provide employment programs for Queenslanders aimed at reducing skills shortages and improving the employability of job seekers.

Government services in your region

For information on government services and activities in the North Coast region, please contact the offices listed below. Additional contacts are available on the Government gateway at www.qld.gov.au, or by ringing Smart Service Queensland on 13 13 04.

Maleny

QGAP Office

38A Coral Street

Maleny QLD 4552

Telephone 5494 3537

Facsimile 5494 3506

Opening hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday - 9am to 12:30pm
and 1:30pm to 4:30pm

Caboolture

State Development and Innovation Centre

Level 4, 33 King Street

Caboolture QLD 4570

Telephone 5431 2540

Facsimile 5495 7456

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday - 8:30am to 5pm

Maroochydore

Department of Communities - Sunshine Coast Regional Office

Bernard House

21 Cornmeal Parade

Maroochydore QLD 4558

Telephone 5475 0060

Facsimile 5443 6137

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday - 8:30am to 5pm

Mooloolaba

State Development and Innovation Centre

108 Brisbane Road

Mooloolaba QLD 4557

Telephone 5470 9400

Facsimile 5470 9420

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday - 8:30am to 5pm

Nambour

Department of Local Government and Planning - Women's InfoLink

91-95 Howard Street

Nambour QLD 5460

Telephone 5470 8774

Toll Free 1800 177 577

Facsimile 5441 6544

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday - 9am to 5pm

Nambour

Department of Natural Resources and Mines - Nambour Service Centre

Centenary Square

52-64 Currie Street

Nambour QLD 4560

Telephone 5451 2215

Facsimile 5451 2262

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday - 9am to 5pm

Brisbane

Office of Urban Management and Infrastructure Coordination

Level 4, 61 Mary Street

Brisbane QLD 4001

Telephone 3247 5446

Facsimile 3235 4563

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday - 9am to 5pm

