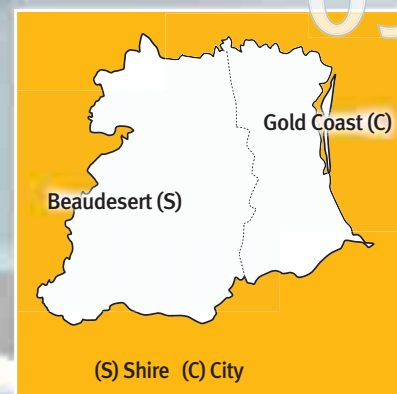


South Coast



The Magic Millions, Gold Coast



Premier's Message

My Government is continuing our investment to ensure a positive future for all Queenslanders.

We are committed to work with all to ensure we create opportunities

for our regions and to continue building on the Smart State's strong and stable foundations.

This Regional Budget Statement outlines the Government's ongoing investment in the South Coast region and its delivery on key election commitments for 2004-05.

The Government is meeting the needs of the people of South Coast through these initiatives and by improving services, especially in the areas of health, employment, education and child safety.

In 2004-05, our Smart State initiatives in education and training will enable the region to harness the creativity and talent within the community. This Statement demonstrates a significant commitment to a strong and prosperous South Coast region.

My Government will work with the people of the South Coast to continue creating opportunities for all Queenslanders to grow and enjoy a better quality of life.

Delivering on our election commitments for the South Coast region, the 2004-05 State Budget highlights include:

- \$22.6 million for the \$360 million Tugun Bypass including \$120 million from the Australian Government
- \$2.43 million for additional lanes on the Beaudesert-Nerang Road between Oak and White Streets
- \$1.95 million of \$39.5 million total funding for additional lanes on the Nerang to Broadbeach Road between Allambe Garden of Memories and Nielsens Road
- \$2.6 million to undertake renewal upgrades on more than 80 existing public houses in Varsity Lakes and Molendinar
- \$8 million of \$25 million total funding for a new TAFE campus at Coomera
- \$6.66 million to establish the Office of Urban Management
- \$615,000 for 15 new ambulance paramedics
- \$6.3 million (over three years) for eight renal dialysis chairs at the Gold Coast Renal Service
- \$14 million to support non-government organisations to provide health and health related community services
- \$9.78 million, including \$782,000 for fit out, to complete the \$15.7 million stage two of Upper Coomera State College
- \$3.72 million, including \$297,000 for fit out, to complete the \$4 million stage two of Clover Hill State School
- \$563,000 for the Gold Coast Hinterland Great Walk.



Queensland Government

South Coast

The South

This Regional Budget Statement for South Coast outlines the Government's State Budget 2004-05 spending commitment to this region and its people. As a Government, we recognise the regions' valuable contributions to making Queensland the Smart State and home for over 3.8 million people. In South East Queensland we will spend \$3.39 billion on capital works.

The South Coast region covers 0.2% of the State. It is home to 479,671 Queenslanders, 13.2% of the State's population. It is growing at the rate of 3.3% per year. The South Coast is one of the State's more culturally diverse regions with 22.1% of the population born outside Australia. The significant contributors to this region's economy are tourism, hospitality and property and business service sectors, with 12% of all Queensland's businesses located in the South Coast region.

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 standard and accessibility of hospital and health services in the South Coast region includes spending in 2004-05 on key initiatives such as:

- \$3.3 million to upgrade the Logan Hospital Emergency Department

- \$2.5 million for a new cardiac diagnostic laboratory at the Gold Coast Hospital
- \$600,000 for improvements to Robina Hospital
- \$300,000 towards new birthing facilities at the Gold Coast Hospital
- \$337,000 for new medical and nursing staff at Logan-Beaudesert
- \$2.1 million to initiate the three year, \$6.3 million program for the Gold Coast Renal Service to deliver additional treatments closer to where people live
- \$500,000 for a new ambulance station at Nerang.

We have committed \$35.9 million over the next three years to recruit an extra 240 paramedics across Queensland. In 2004-05, \$615,000 will provide 15 new life saving ambulance paramedics in the South Coast region.

We are working to support low-income families and individuals through providing housing and housing related services.

Spending in this region in 2004-05 includes:

- \$23.1 million for new construction, upgrades and maintenance of public housing including \$3 million for the renewal of existing rental houses in Eagleby
- funding of \$4 million for community housing projects and services including \$1.3 million for Home Assist Secure services and \$500,000 for the construction of new singles accommodation in Southport.

We have committed \$13.88 million to support people with disabilities and their carers in this region. This includes approximately \$1.09 million for respite care and \$1.87 million to support school leavers with a disability make the transition from school to adult life. Funding of \$2.73 million is provided to assist adults with a disability to maintain the living arrangements of their choice and participate in their community.

Realising the Smart State through education, skills and innovation

Participation in the Smart State means we encourage and reward ideas, innovation, entrepreneurship and hard work across all sectors of the Queensland community, industry and Government.

We are investing in school infrastructure across the South Coast for the benefit of the region's young people and their education. In 2004-05, funding includes:

- \$5.31 million, including \$425,000 for fit out, to complete stage four of Flagstone State Community College
- \$5.94 million for approximately 28 new classrooms across the region,

Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre



The Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre opens in 2004. The facility will cater for up to 2,000 delegates at one time and will feature tiered seating for up to 6,000 people for entertainment, sports events and large functions; a 3,000 square metre exhibition hall plus a further 2,000 square metre external exhibition space.

South Coast consists of Gold Coast City (including Beenleigh) and

Indy



Funding of \$11 million is provided for the Indy 300 on the Gold Coast to continue to bring tourism and economic benefits to the region. The Government, through Queensland Events, also supports other major events such as the Gold Coast Airport Marathon, Australian International Movie Convention, Gold Coast Motor Bike Week, Pan Pacific Masters Games, Conrad Jupiters Magic Millions Carnival and Sales, the ANZ Ladies' Masters Golf, Uncle Toby's Hardcourt Tennis and Australian Surf Life Saving Championships that will bring thousands of competitors and visitors to the Gold Coast during 2004-05.

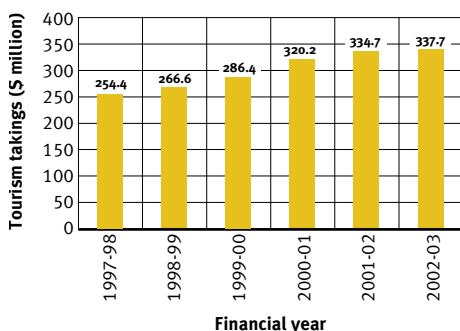
including at Ormeau, Logan Reserve and Jimboomba State Schools

- \$5.45 million, including \$490,000 for fit out, as part of a \$6 million project to replace the Coolangatta Special School.

This is in addition to \$871,000 provided for the Triple R program, which will provide repainting, reticulation and re-roofing for 22 local schools, including repainting at Ormeau State School and roofing at Beenleigh Special School.

Tourism takings (\$ million)

South Coast, Queensland, 1997-98 to 2002-03



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

We are promoting lifelong learning and skilling the workforce to meet the needs of industries central to the Smart State vision and Queensland's economic growth. In 2004-05, approximately \$89 million will be invested in creating around 35,000 training places in the region.

In addition, approximately \$8 million is allocated for a new TAFE campus at Coomera. This will deliver high technology training and provide linkages to other industry and educational facilities in the area.

Protecting our children and enhancing community safety

The Government is intent on reforming the child protection system. We are increasing the recurrent funding for child protection to at least \$109 million in 2004-05 and at least \$214 million by 2006-07 to build a new, radically improved system for safeguarding the welfare of Queensland children. The South Coast region will benefit from new funding for State-wide initiatives that include:

- an additional 518 service delivery and support staff who will be employed over the next three years with 318 of these to start in 2004-05 and \$11.74 million for additional frontline staff in 2004-05
- 23 new or expanded Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child care agencies by 2006-07 and the establishment of a new Indigenous Support Branch

- therapeutic services such as counselling and support for children with a disability
- 134 new alternative care places in 2004-05 for young people who are not suited to conventional foster care
- \$4.17 million in 2004-05 to further support our foster carers
- \$4.19 million for new places and improvements to residential care.

Implementing strategies that contribute to safe communities is a priority. In the South Coast region key initiatives include:

- \$102,000 to establish a Neighbourhood Police Beat at Elanora in 2004-05 at a total project cost of \$473,000
- \$1.9 million for police facilities, including a station upgrade at Southport.

Managing urban growth and building Queensland's regions

The Office of Urban Management will be established at a cost of \$6.66 million. It will provide leadership to manage urban growth and infrastructure provision effectively in South East Queensland, helping to maintain our high quality of life.

Efficient and integrated transport networks are important for the ongoing development of regional Queensland. In the South Coast region, major initiatives in 2004-05 include:

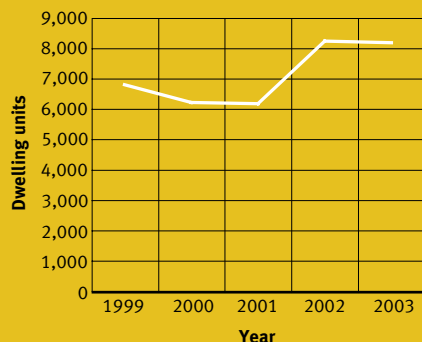
- \$900,000 as part of total Government funding of \$15 million to widen the Gold Coast Highway to four lanes from Robert Street to Stevens Street, including the Loders Creek Bridge
- \$1.4 million to widen the Stapylton-Jacobs Well Road between Alberton and Ageston Roads
- \$3.05 million to widen the Gold Coast-Springbrook Road to four lanes between Palm Meadows Drive and Bourton Road
- \$800,000 to accelerate improvements to intersections on Frank Street at Labrador

and Beaudesert Shire.



Residential building approvals

South Coast, Queensland, 1999 to 2003



Source: ABS Building Approvals, Queensland, (8731.3)

- \$17.67 million to construct additional tracks in South East Queensland, including the duplication of the line between Ormeau and Coomera.

During 2004-05, ENERGEX will spend \$9.5 million to establish a new substation at Varsity Lakes and \$7.1 million for the Coomera transformer and zone substation as part of a broader project to reinforce supply to the Gold Coast.

The people of the South Coast region will also benefit from:

- approximately \$457,000 for the Queensland Police Citizens Youth Welfare Association to construct gymnasiums at Broadbeach and Nerang
- \$31,000 to the Mustangs Brothers Rugby League Football Club to construct an amenities block at Chambers Flats, Beaudesert
- \$375,000 to continue the Government's commitment to a safer Gold Coast Schoolies Week Festival.

Protecting the environment for a sustainable future

The natural and cultural heritage of the South Coast is valuable for all Queenslanders and we recognise the value of ecotourism to the region. We are improving visitor facilities by spending an estimated \$1.14 million to improve visitor amenities and facilities in natural

areas throughout the region. This includes approximately \$563,000 for the Gold Coast Hinterland Great Walk.

In 2004-05, an estimated \$2.66 million is allocated to the Tweed River Sand Bypass project. This joint New South Wales and Queensland program is restoring and maintaining the southern Gold Coast beaches in Queensland and maintaining a clear navigation channel in the Tweed River entrance.

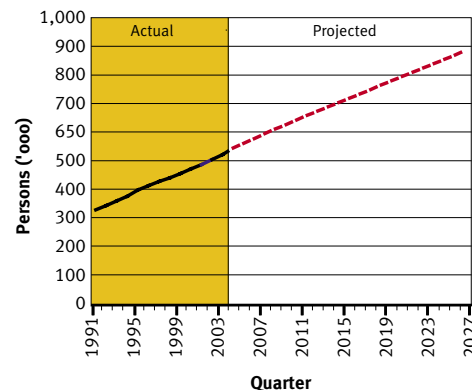
The Fire Ant Eradication campaign is ongoing, with \$2.68 million in 2004-05 for activities to protect South East Queenslanders from the environmental and lifestyle impacts of the fire ant.

Growing a diverse economy and creating jobs

The Government continues to work in partnership with the people of the South Coast region to build its social and economic strengths. The South Coast

Population projections

South Coast, Queensland, 1991 to 2007



Source: Department of Local Government and Planning, Queensland's Future Population, 2003 edition.

region will receive around \$6.04 million to create an estimated 1,113 jobs in 2004-05 through the Government's Breaking the Unemployment Cycle. This includes \$2.79 million for community employment and \$3.26 million for apprenticeship and traineeship incentives to provide jobs in crucial, skills-shortage industries and the public sector.

Funding of \$11 million is provided for the Indy 300 on the Gold Coast to continue to bring tourism and economic benefits to the region.

Delivering responsive government

The Government continues to engage with local communities and businesses to better coordinate service delivery and identify solutions to local issues, including through the regular Ministerial Regional Community Forums and Community Cabinets. Over \$1.27 million is allocated to support regional government offices working with the South Coast community to develop opportunities and address issues.

The film industry

Queensland continues to attract international productions from around the world, including the big-budget feature film *Peter Pan* (right), which finished production at the Warner Roadshow Studios in July 2003. Queensland is also a growing force in Australia's film industry landscape, with homegrown films like the multi-award winning *Gettin' Square* (below) that was released theatrically in October 2003.



Provided by the Pacific Film and Television Commission, *Peter Pan* - © 2003 Jasim Boland/Universal Studios



Provided by the Pacific Film and Television Commission

Budget

Highlights

2004-05

Budget summary

Sustained economic growth and strong employment conditions

- Queensland is expected to continue to outperform the rest of Australia in both 2003-04 and 2004-05 with economic growth of 4% and 4¼%.
- Employment growth remains substantially higher than the rest of Australia, with growth of 2¼% forecast for 2004-05.
- The State's year-average unemployment rate is 6¼%, the lowest level in more than two decades.

Strong finances

- A General Government net operating surplus of \$646 million and a cash surplus of \$1.059 billion are forecast in 2004-05, following a record estimated actual net operating surplus of \$2.374 billion for 2003-04.
- The State's net worth is budgeted to grow from \$69.4 billion at 30 June 2004, to in excess of \$80 billion by 30 June 2008.

Competitive taxes

- Queensland's competitive tax status has been maintained, with taxpayers in other States and Territories paying on average 27% more state tax than Queenslanders in 2004-05.
- From 1 August 2004, credit card duty will be abolished and the general insurance duty rate will be reduced from 8.5% to 7.5%. In addition, debits tax will be abolished from 1 July 2005.
- From 1 August 2004, the threshold for the principal place of residence transfer duty concession will be increased from \$250,000 to \$300,000, providing home buyers with a saving of up to \$1,250.

Delivering on our priorities

Improving health care and strengthening services to the community

- The Budget includes \$90 million over three years to cut elective surgery waiting lists.
- An additional \$220 million over four years is provided to support people with a disability, their families and carers.

Realising the Smart State through education, skills and innovation

- The three year, \$1 billion, SmartVET strategy will introduce a number of new training initiatives and the expansion of high priority programs.
- Funding is provided for the Education and Training Reforms for the Future package including more than \$135 million in 2004-05 and rising to more than \$307 million in 2006-07.

Protecting our children and enhancing community safety

- Full implementation of child safety reforms will involve additional funding of at least \$214 million per annum by 2006-07.
- Funding of \$35.9 million over three years will employ 240 additional paramedics to address growth in demand, maintain emergency response times and improve services.

Managing urban growth and building Queensland's regions

- Capital spending will be boosted to over \$6 billion, the first time the capital works program has exceeded that benchmark.
- An additional \$200 million is allocated over four years for the Busway network and \$571 million over four years for a new Arterial Roads Infrastructure Package.

Protecting the environment for a sustainable future

- An additional \$75 million is allocated over four years, beyond the existing \$75 million commitment, to end the broadscale clearing of remnant native vegetation in Queensland by 2006.
- Funding of \$12.5 million is provided over three years for the acquisition of the strategic parcels of land of high conservation value to add to the protected estate in Cape York and the Daintree.

Growing a diverse economy and creating jobs

- The Breaking the Unemployment Cycle initiative will be extended for another three years at a cost of up to \$278 million.
- A \$20 million State contribution is provided towards construction of the \$60 million Queensland Brain Research facility, located at the University.

Government services in your region

For information on government services and activities in your region contact the primary contact offices listed below or visit the Government gateway at www.qld.gov.au

Beaudesert

QGAP

Centre 9, William Street
Beaudesert QLD 4285
Telephone 5541 3755
Facsimile 5541 3750
Opening hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday,
Friday - 9am to 4:30pm;
Wednesday - 10am to 4:30pm

Beenleigh

State Development and Innovation Centre

96 George Street
Beenleigh QLD 4207
Telephone 3287 8585
Facsimile 3287 8589
Opening hours:
Monday to Friday - 8:30am to
5pm

Department of Communities – Regional Communities Engagement

Unit 2, Post Office Plaza
Main Street
Beenleigh QLD 4207
Telephone 3287 8551
Facsimile 3287 8550
Opening hours:
Monday to Friday - 8:30am to
5pm

Gold Coast

State Development and Innovation Centre

96 Marine Parade
Southport QLD 4215
Telephone 5583 7599
Facsimile 5583 7591
Opening hours:
Monday to Friday - 8:30am to
5pm

Brisbane

Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy - LandCentre

Level 2,
Cnr Main and Vulture Streets
Woolloongabba QLD 4102
Telephone 3896 3216
Facsimile 3896 3333
Opening hours:
Monday to Friday -
8:30am to 5pm

Office of Economic and Statistical Research

Level 8
33 Charlotte Street
Brisbane QLD 4001
Telephone 3224 5326
Facsimile 3227 7437
Opening hours:
Monday to Friday -
9:00am to 5pm

Office of Urban Management

Level 4
61 Mary Street
Brisbane QLD 4001
Telephone: 3235 4557
Facsimile: 3235 4563
Opening hours: Monday to
Friday - 9am to 5pm