CLONCURRY STREETSCAPING MASTERPLAN FACTSHEET

What is the purpose of the Streetscaping Masterplan?

The Streetscaping Plan for Cloncurry is intended to provide a coordinated design approach to the current, ongoing and future development of the township Centre Zone. The Master Plan explains specific treatments and strategies both generally and at key locations throughout the subject area. It is important to view the document as both flexible and adaptive as the development of the streetscape within the Centre Zone, and more widely in the township progresses.

What is a Masterplan?

Masterplanning represents the broadest level of planning and design for a given project. The function of the master plan is to firstly articulate an overall vision for the project and secondly to provide a coordinated design approach including the investigation of particular landscape treatments and the subsequent full realisation of the stated vision. The Streetscaping Masterplan is draft document for public consultation and has not been adopted by council.

What is the timeline for the implementation of the Streetscaping Masterplan?

There is no timeline set for the implementation of the Cloncurry Streetscaping Masterplan at present. If adopted by Council, the Streetscaping Masterplan is intended to be implemented in stages (in line with the priorities of Council) as resources and funding become available.

What are the advantages of having the Streetscaping Masterplan?

There are several distinct advantages to having Streetscaping Masterplan adopted by Council, including:

- It allows council to better plan for future budget and resourcing allocation.
- Applications for grant funding in relation to town infrastructure within the plans scope will be made easier by reference to the Streetscaping Masterplan.
- Potentially improves the longevity of council streets and pavements by shielding them from exposure to the weather, thereby reducing maintenance costs.
Will lead to improvements to the town amenity for residents and tourists, thereby potentially improving business opportunities.

**What is the theme of the Streetscaping Masterplan?**

The proposed theme for the Cloncurry Streetscaping Master Plan is ‘Outback Oasis’ based on the following rationale:

- It builds on the existing perception of Cloncurry as a friendly, welcoming outback town located at the centre of Queensland’s major transport routes.
- It is appropriate for place. Cloncurry is an important stopover/resupply centre set in a relatively distant and isolated area of Queensland’s semi-arid tropical zone.
- The approach permits a programme delivery that is likely to be cost achievable over given budgetary periods as opposed to the approach based on hard landscaping solutions and the provision of structural shade elements.
- The Outback Oasis provides a strong and distinctive sense of identity/place for Cloncurry whilst serving as a point of difference from other centres (Barcaldine, Longreach, Winton etc.) but fits well within the broad tourism strategy for attracting/increasing visitation to outback Queensland.

**Why does the streetscaping masterplan emphasise the use of trees?**

Trees provide the following benefits:

- The benefits of street trees for shade are well known and are endorsed by variety of organisations including the Cancer Council, the Heart Foundation, the Planning Institute of Australia and the CRC for Water Sensitive Cities.
- The establishment of overlapping canopies of closely planted shade trees greatly improves pedestrian comfort.
- Trees can provide ancillary benefits that other forms of shade, such as structures often do not.
- Street trees in town settings provide an essential connection with the natural environment and will help improve the amenity of the town.
- A comprehensive pattern of street trees tends to calm traffic speeds and provides a buffer between pedestrians and vehicles.

**How will the Council maintain the trees?**

Council intends to progressively invest in the resources and staff to maintain the trees over time. This commitment will potentially include trained staff such as horticulturists, arborists and irrigation experts that will likely provide new employment opportunities for local people.

**Will the existing powerlines affect the trees?**

Council has commenced discussions with Ergon in relation to the powerlines in Scarr Street and issues can be addressed in planning when parts of Streetscaping Masterplan are proposed to be implemented. There are options available to council to mitigate conflicts with trees and powerlines. These include placing powerlines underground and using powerline conductors that sufficiently protected to reduce any risks from contact with trees.
How will the Streetscaping Masterplan change the parking in Scarr Street?

The Streetscaping Masterplan will change the configuration and number of car parking spaces in Scarr Street. The number in addition, the configuration of the car parking will change in most cases from parallel parking to angle parking. Angle parking has the advantage of increasing the number of parking bays for a given amount of space. Overall, the streetscaping will lead to better parking outcomes, while improving the street amenity.

Will trucks still be able to make deliveries to commercial businesses in Scarr Street?

Council has consulted with some key stakeholders in Scarr Street and has undertaken some modelling that has ensured that trucks can continue to make deliveries to commercial businesses in Scarr Street.