

OUR REGIONAL PRIORITY PROJECTS

15 YEARS IN REVIEW



1st July 2025 marked the 15th Anniversary of Capricorn Tourism and Economic Development Ltd (trading as Capricorn Enterprise).

When Capricorn Enterprise was formed on 1st July 2010, a collaborative list of Regional Priority Projects was agreed upon with the then amalgamated Rockhampton Regional Council (RRC), CQUniversity and major industry and business partners. As major public and private sector developments were achieved over time and the Livingstone Shire (Capricorn Coast) Council separated from RRC in January 2014, the Regional Priority Projects list was updated to reflect specific needs of the two LGA areas, while retaining our strong regional focus.

On behalf of our business and industry partners, Capricorn Enterprise has consistently and collaboratively advocated for these Regional Priority Projects alongside our elected Local, State and Federal representatives over the past 15 years.

MAJOR PRIVATE SECTOR ACCOMMODATION INVESTMENT

Capricorn Enterprise has actively championed major private sector accommodation developments to meet the region's growing demand for 4.5-star and Island accommodation, as identified in successive Capricorn Destination Tourism Plans. Notably, Oshen Yeppoon's approval was delayed by a year due to former State government "Iconic Places Legislation" — a policy successfully repealed in Queensland in June 2011 following joint advocacy by Capricorn Enterprise and Local Government.

- Quest Rockhampton – opened September 2013
- Oshen Yeppoon – opened April 2014
- Great Keppel Island Hideaway – since July 2014
- Empire Apartment Hotel, Rockhampton – opened January 2015
- Kortess Resort, Rockhampton (now Quality Resort Parkhurst) – opened 2015
- Salt Yeppoon – opened February 2016

Capricorn Enterprise joint CQUniversity submission entitled "Assessing the regional economic impacts of flood interruption to transport corridors in Rockhampton" – August 2011

Australian/Qld govts 10 Yr Bruce Hwy Action Plan legislated including **Yeppen South Project** – 2012

Great Keppel Island Revitalisation Resort Plan (Tower Holdings) – approval March 2013 (Tower Holdings leases subsequently revoked by State government in April 2023)

Central Queensland's inclusion in the Northern Australia Plan – achieved 2014

Bruce Hwy Yeppen South Project incl. 1.6km bridge crossing (south Rockhampton) – completed 2015

Australia-Singapore Military Training Initiative (ASMTI) – \$1 Billion investment at Shoalwater Bay Military Training Area (SWBMTA) – announced 2015

Supporting Major Regional Events (**BEEF AUSTRALIA** federal funding \$2.4M under threat - secured 2015) *Beef Australia 2027 has federal funding commitment of \$12 Million.*

Panorama Drive (Northern Strategic Link Road) – completed 2017

Great Keppel Island - \$25 Million announced for undersea water/power – announced 2017 (eventually amended to provide "on island" common user infrastructure – delivered in 2025)

Rockhampton Riverfront Redevelopment – completed March 2018

Yeppoon Foreshore Redevelopment incl. Yeppoon Lagoon – completed May 2018

Rockhampton Ring Road - \$1 Billion committed November 2018

Surf Lakes Yeppoon prototype – commenced October 2018

Homemaker Centre Stage 1, Yeppoon (developed by Gibb Group) – opened February 2020

Implementation of Capricorn Destination Tourism Plan 2014-2020

Surf Lakes Yeppoon Development Application - approved January 2022

Rookwood Weir – completed November 2023

Great Keppel Island (Wop-pa) Master Plan – completed April 2024

Implementation of Capricorn Destination Tourism Plan 2021 – 2024

New Health Sciences Academy (students Yrs 10-12) Rockhampton - funding confirmed March (Federal govt.) and June (State govt.) 2025

Stage two TAFE Centre of Excellence at CQUniversity northside campus – State govt. funding announced 2025

Keppel Bay Conference Centre and Sporting Hub – completed November 2024

ASMTI at Shoalwater Bay Military Training Area - officially opened November 2024

CQUniversity – Qld's first Dual Sector University – 10 year Anniversary July 2024

Rockhampton Ring Road – construction commenced November 2023

CQUniversity Allied Health Stage 2 Rockhampton campus – opened July 2015

Gracemere Industry Park "The BIG G" stage 1 opened August 2015

Upgrade Rockhampton Regional Airport – 2015 and ongoing

Gracemere Overpass – funding announced 2011, opened May 2013

CQUniversity & CQTAFE merger – Fed govt. December 2012, approved State govt. May 2013

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2022

2023

2024

2025

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