

Innovation and Improvement Fund

Round 2: summary of approved project funding

December 2018

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Applicant	Project name	Project description	Funding approved
Torres Shire Council	Valuing, protecting & promoting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge, culture & tradition in Torres Shire	<p>The project involves the preparation of a Planning Scheme Policy, supported by planning scheme provisions and various consultation activities, to be included in the Torres Shire Council's new planning scheme. The project will seek to integrate the consideration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Knowledge, Culture and Tradition within the planning decisions made by Torres Shire Council.</p> <p>The project builds upon work already undertaken while drafting the new planning scheme, particularly the Cultural Heritage Planning Scheme Study, and aims to provide an innovative approach to ensuring that the new planning scheme advances the purpose of the <i>Planning Act 2016</i>, specifically Section 5(2)(d). The project is intended to be carried out in a way that will provide for future adaptation and use of similar approaches for other Councils throughout Queensland.</p>	\$76,910
Gold Coast City Council (In collaboration with Griffith University)	Growth projections framework and methodology project	<p>Preparation of a new Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP) or major amendment to a LGIP requires a council to develop a new set of growth projections to forecast future urban growth and indicate how this growth will be distributed across regions over time.</p> <p>The Gold Coast City Council's current urban growth model is outdated, and results are hard to interpret and require significant resources to retrofit. The project will implement a framework and methodology for the preparation of growth projections that is transparent, defined, repeatable and fit for purpose.</p> <p>The project will be in collaboration with Griffith University and leading industry experts, to analyse, test and refine the framework and methodology to ensure it meets the overall project objectives.</p>	\$150,000

Carpentaria Shire Council	Property-Based Data System project	<p>The primary aim of the Property-Based Data System (PBDS) project is to develop a property-based data system that enables easy access to historical and current land use information by property; set up in chronological order and by land use and development activity (e.g.: planning, building, plumbing, local laws, other).</p> <p>This will facilitate easy access to site specific land use information, create time efficiencies and cost savings, improved quality assurance, improved accuracy of information sought from and provided by Council, improved transparency and will provide an opportunity to cross reference the PBDS with other electronic council systems.</p>	\$60,000
Ipswich City Council	Ipswich planning scheme e-platform and Strategic Framework	<p>The project will develop a new integrated and spatially-enabled-platform containing the new Ipswich Planning Scheme (including Strategic Framework). Council will implement the new planning scheme e-platform, initially concentrating on the preparation and community engagement for the Strategic Framework.</p> <p>The platform will be used for planning scheme drafting, presentation and engagement, and enable the scheme drafting team to produce complex documents collaboratively. Multiple users will be able to write, edit and publish various components of council's Strategic Framework and the balance of the planning scheme.</p> <p>The platform will familiarise and enhance the community's usage of council's new planning scheme and will enable council to engage with the broader Ipswich community. The community will also be able to engage proactively with council in the development of the planning scheme.</p>	\$141,000
Whitsunday Regional Council	Investment and Development Planning Interface	<p>The Investment and Development Planning Interface project aims to add value to Whitsunday Regional Council's online spatial mapping program and development application process by establishing a new user-friendly interface with capability to provide greater content to inform and assist users.</p> <p>The system provides information that will inform potential investors, new business and residents to locate suitable land for specific need within the Whitsunday local government area. Users will have the option to research planning, economic, demographic, business and industry information on an individual land parcel or</p>	\$100,000

suitable land areas for activity based on a series of land use criteria all within the one platform.

Cairns Regional Council	Designing for density in the tropics	<p>Building on the success of council's Tropical Urbanism Policy, the project will deliver a toolkit for designing residential density in the tropics. The toolkit seeks to achieve planned density across the Cairns region, delivering best practice and innovative housing and site design that responds to Far North Queensland's distinct tropical climate.</p> <p>The project will adopt a collaborative engagement approach with the local development industry to utilise their knowledge and expertise and seek innovative, locally responsive, and tropical design outcomes.</p>	\$105,000
Cassowary Coast Regional Council	Floodwise Property Report project	<p>Cassowary Coast Regional Council is committed to providing the public with concise and easy to understand information regarding the planning scheme and the impact of flooding on their property. The project will improve the current online flood mapping reporting system to include additional information and help the public understand the impact of potential flood levels on the development of their property.</p> <p>These property reports will show the risk and type of flooding at a specific property, enabling landowners and potential developers to plan and build new habitable floor levels. The data used for the project is based on the 2014 Cassowary Coast Regional Council Flood Model using the latest flood computer modelling. The property reports will also include information to ensure all future building and development contributes to a creating a safe and flood-resilient region in the future.</p>	\$100,000
Rockhampton Regional Council	Mobile Development Advice Centre	<p>Rockhampton Regional Council sought funding for the creation of a Mobile Development Advice Centre (MDAC) and accompanying short, animated infographic videos. The project will create a user-friendly, mobile application service which digitises the delivery of council's planning and development advice functions.</p> <p>The inspiration for the MDAC concept originated from the Round 1 submission from Mackay Regional Council (MRC) for their 'Point and Plan' mobile application. Rockhampton Regional Council is looking to further develop what MRC have achieved from Round 1 and to provide a mobile "one-stop-shop" for planning and development advice within the Rockhampton region.</p>	\$120,000

Whitsunday Regional Council	Flood and Storm Surge property reports	<p>The project involves the development of a system to automate flood or storm surge reports. This will be achieved through integrating new hazard modelling with council's online mapping system to provide flood or storm surge levels and enhance understanding of planning requirements in hazard affected areas.</p> <p>The project will enhance the community's understanding of flood and storm surge constraints in development assessment, reduce costs for developers who may otherwise require professional technical reports to guide development, and create internal operational efficiencies for council officers.</p>	\$49,700
Logan City Council	Integrated Data Access (PD Hub Phase 2)	<p>Supported by Round 1 funding, Logan PD Hub was launched in June 2018 as the next generation of online services to support planning and development in the city.</p> <p>A second phase is proposed that will allow the community to make decisions which are more informed by having access to the vast amount of property and development information that council holds (e.g. plans, approvals). Much of this information currently requires customers to fill in a form and pay a fee, and then wait for staff to find the information and send it to them.</p> <p>This second phase requires two enabling elements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Documents: council seeks a better way of making information from the document management system (such as development plans and building envelopes) available in the cloud, so that customers can freely find it and use it in a helpful context. This will mean more satisfied, better-informed customers, and staff who can focus on more complex enquiries and value-adding services. 2. Data: council already makes some raw data available via an Open Data Portal (http://data-ogancity.opendata.arcgis.com/). As part of the drive to be innovative and transparent, there is a desire to make more data available and provide it in a more consumable format and relevant context to support discoverability (easy to find, search) and decision-making. 	\$50,000
Central Highlands Regional Council	Infrastructure Charges Calculator (Levied Charges)	<p>The project includes the development of an infrastructure charges calculator to be placed on the Central Highlands Regional Council website to provide automated levied charges estimates in accordance with the <i>Planning Act 2016</i>, the</p>	\$20,000

Central Highlands Regional Council Planning Scheme 2016, and Council's adopted Infrastructure Charges Resolution.

The calculator will provide customers with an estimate of likely maximum charges based on the Central Highlands Regional Council infrastructure charges resolution that can be applied to different types of development. These include material change of use of premises, reconfiguring a lot or carrying out building work.

Douglas Shire Council	Douglas Shire Council planning overlay videos and IT platform project	<p>The project will create numerous short videos, providing snapshots explaining hazard overlays and their purpose. The videos will be transferable across the State and will be available for use by the public and other councils. The videos will complement the statutory planning instrument by providing an innovative way to engage with developers and communities about planning.</p> <p>The project will also seek involvement from local high school video/film students and professional video makers, supporting future generations and local business. The student engagement will actively raise student's awareness of hazards and planning.</p> <p>The publication of the videos seeks to reduce planning enquires, provide greater accessibility to planning information and increase knowledge and help the broader community have a greater understanding of hazards.</p>	\$14,500
Central Highlands Regional Council	Planning scheme interactive mapping platform	<p>Council sought funding approval to establish an interactive mapping platform to be used by the Central Highlands Regional Council (CHRC) planning team as well as internal and external customers. Council owns the relevant Geographic Information System (GIS) data at present, which was used to initially develop the planning scheme maps for the current Planning Scheme.</p> <p>This project will streamline and improve the accessibility and useability of CHRCs Planning Scheme mapping for both internal and external stakeholders including CHRC planning officers, other CHRC officers (technical, customer service, etc.), land owners, business owners, community and sporting organisations, as well as the wider community and public.</p> <p>The project will assist council in realising the benefits of the new planning system for their communities through providing a mapping system with improved accessibility and</p>	\$45,000

useability for both internal and external stakeholders.

Cairns Regional Council (in collaboration with LGAQ)	Local government shared services toolkit for planning & development	The aim of the project is to develop a 'toolkit' enabling local governments to effectively and efficiently establish and implement council-to-council shared service arrangements at their discretion, and to streamline the delivery of local government core planning and development functions including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - development assessment including use of the alternative assessment manager provisions under the Planning Act, building certification, and - plumbing approvals and inspections. 	\$97,000
Townsville City Council	3D Modelling of Townsville's priority infill areas	Townsville City Council sought funding to develop and deliver 3D Modelling of Townsville's priority infill areas, being the Townsville City Waterfront Priority Development Area (PDA) and The Strand/North Ward area.	\$77,000
Lockyer Valley Regional Council	Lockyer Valley Regional Council Flood Advice Portal	This project will develop an automated on-line system to provide up-to-date and detailed flood information on any property in the Lockyer Valley Regional Council area, utilising flood modelling data already held by council. <p>Whilst existing systems in use at other councils provide this information on a lot-by-lot basis, the project will develop an enhanced system to provide data at a user selected location within a lot. This approach is more suited to and will greatly inform larger rural and rural-residential properties where flood impacts can vary widely across the lot.</p>	\$160,000
Maranoa Regional Council	Mapping Services Online	The project proposes to improve development services for the community and provide education through the implementation of integrated GIS technology. The technology provides an opportunity for council to manage its spatial data more efficiently, generate greater public interest in development processes and outcomes, and generally improve the public's understanding of the Queensland planning system and local planning issues. <p>The core component of the project is the development of a web-based mapping platform to host data relevant to the Maranoa regional area. The platform will rely on Council's existing GIS software, Spectrum Spatial Analyst (SSA).</p> <p>Council proposes to establish the platform with three interfaces:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maranoa Planning Scheme (including zoning, overlays, LGIP data etc.); 	\$140,800

2. Infrastructure/Services (including the location and details of infrastructure and services), and;
3. Flood Hazard Mapping (including flood hazard categories, water depths and velocities in the Defined Flood Event (DFE) in various scenarios (i.e. pre and post existing and proposed flood mitigation works)).

Each interface will be established with a public and internal display, enabling council to control and tailor the mapping content to the needs of users. The mapping platform will be fully interactive, with both search and reporting functionalities.

Banana Shire Council	Banana Shire on-line planning advisor	<p>The project is to design and implement an on-line planning enquiry tool to support the adoption of a new planning scheme for Banana Shire Council. The online enquiry tool is envisaged to be presented to the community as part of the introduction of the new planning scheme, providing the community with both a new planning scheme and enhanced access to its information.</p> <p>The tool will provide the opportunity for members of the public to search a property to establish the designated zone and any applicable overlays. It will then allow them to nominate a proposed development type to establish the required level of assessment for any application and the aspects of the planning scheme to be addressed in that application. This has the benefit of providing an applicant with up-to-date information on their application, the opportunity to correspond more efficiently with council and to understand what assessment and timeframe could apply to the application.</p>	\$100,000
Douglas Shire Council	Douglas Shire Council Storm Tide Inundation Methodologies Study	<p>The current 2018 Planning Scheme has an overlay that considers storm tide inundation, as required by the State Planning Policy. The mapped hazards are based on best knowledge to date, but the data is outdated.</p> <p>Different methodologies are now available to identify a more accurate extent of coastal hazard. The characteristics of the particular coast will have significant impacts on extent of hazard, such as coastal profile, geomorphology, vegetation, coral reefs and environmental form (e.g. inlets).</p> <p>The project will analyse three different methodologies on various coastal types that occur along the Douglas Shire Council's</p>	\$180,480

coastline. The project will identify the best practice methodology to apply to the different types of coast; and secondly, have the study appropriately peer reviewed. While the outcomes can be applied directly to the Douglas Shire Council area, there is a greater applicability of the study to enable other council's to then chose the best methodology for their coastlines.

Redland City Council	Interactive Planning Scheme	<p>The Redland City Council (RCC) planning scheme is currently made available to industry and the community on the council's website in the form of PDF documents. RCC recognises a need to transition to a cloud-based interactive hosting platform and software system to enable RCC to deliver similar services as other regional councils.</p> <p>The acquisition and implementation of this new software will enable council to improve user experience, make the planning scheme available in a more efficient way and streamline the process for updating the scheme when planning scheme amendments are undertaken.</p>	\$60,000
Toowoomba Regional Council (in collaboration with City of Gold Coast, Logan City Council, Redland City Council)	De-mystifying the LGIP	<p>This project is a collaborative effort between Toowoomba City Council, Gold Coast City Council, Logan City Council and Redland City Council that will enable councils to demonstrate and communicate to their communities an ongoing commitment to planning for growth in a way that is financially sustainable and ensures development responds to the existing settlement pattern.</p> <p>The project will look at new ways of communicating the role and content of a LGIP to increase stakeholder interest to meet the expectation of a more involved level of engagement with the community. The project will explore new communication tools and methods based on best practice engagement including interactivity (through gamification or web-based decision-making tools), improving accessibility and understanding.</p> <p>Better engagement during all key stages of LGIP including the preparation of planning assumptions will result in a reduction of ad hoc and reactive internal referrals, information requests, conversion applications and appeals.</p>	\$20,000
Tablelands Regional Council	Tablelands E-Services Project	Tablelands Regional Council proposes a project to deliver and implement an e-Services system, that will transform council's planning process by taking a templated and streamlined approach to managing all types of development applications.	\$100,000

This will allow customers to:

- lodge development applications online
- track their application online
- make payments online at the time of lodgement (where applicable)
- lodge requests / enquiries online directly to the correct department, resulting in more efficient responses
- obtain correct documentation online, eliminating delays in applications being rejected or requiring rework due to outdated or incorrect documentation being completed and submitted.

This project will build on the benefits that are being realised by the council based on the Tablelands ePlanning project, which was delivered with funding from Round 1 of the Innovation and Improvement Fund.

Townsville City Council	Townsville City Plan (Planning Scheme) Indicators	The purpose of the project is to develop a set of concise Townsville City Plan (planning scheme) indicators for the Townsville City Council's Planning Services Department. The indicators will be used to assess the effectiveness of the planning scheme (including planning scheme policies) and its implementation. The indicators will be used to communicate progress regarding the effect and success of the planning scheme to a broad audience, including council, the development industry and the broader community. In particular, the indicators will inform council's ongoing Planning Scheme Amendment Program—ensuring that the policy settings are delivering development as intended.	\$50,000
Gladstone Regional Council (in collaboration with Banana Shire Council)	Development Fact Sheets and Planning Scheme zone cards	<p>Preparation and provision of a suite of Planning Scheme Zone Cards and Development Fact Sheets for both council planning frameworks, covering the range of functions the respective planning and development teams provide.</p> <p>This will assist the public, particularly those unfamiliar with the Planning Scheme and development processes, in understanding the requirements of the Planning Schemes and the <i>Planning Act 2016</i>, as well as Operational Works, Infrastructure Charges, LGIP, Building & Plumbing.</p> <p>The list of proposed fact sheets and Zone Cards at this stage are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development Fact Sheets covering 22 relevant topics • Planning Guides covering 28 types of development or planning scheme zones. 	\$40,000

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