

# TRAVESTON CROSSING DAM

## *Latest news on the proposal*

The Community Futures Task Force (CFTF) provides regular information for the people and communities of the region about activities being undertaken for the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam.

The CFTF meets regularly with the heads of State

Government Departments and community leaders to identify and address issues of concern.

The CFTF also meets with residents, community groups and local councils as an integral part of this process.

If you require help or advice please feel free to contact the Task Force on **1800 133 258**. You can also visit our website at [www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au](http://www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au) for the latest news or to view a calendar of events and activities in the region.  
Major General Peter Arnison - Chair

## ECONOMIC FUTURE OF THE TRAVESTON REGION – ACIL TASMAN REPORT

The Scoping Economic Futures - Traveston Crossing Region study (ACIL Tasman report) identifies economic and demographic trends in the region that could be drivers for future growth, and provides an outline of credible future economic and business development scenarios.

The study provides valuable regional information which could be used to guide the preparation of economic development strategies and opportunities for the Traveston Crossing region.

Detailed below are the major points from the report's Executive Summary. To read the full report visit [www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au](http://www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au) or pick up a copy from the Kandanga One Stop Shop.

The Cooloola region currently has above average unemployment levels and annual individual incomes some 16 per cent less than the Queensland average.

Current trends suggest that younger people are leaving the region while older people are arriving.

The \$1.7 billion Traveston Crossing dam project is a major opportunity for the Cooloola region to attract new investment, attract and retain a new workforce and to reinvigorate existing agricultural production.

The dam also presents an opportunity to think about the long term economy of the Cooloola region as coastal economies, such as Noosa, extend into the rural hinterland.

The challenge for local residents is to use the stimulus of the dam to maintain the desirable features of the region while growing the regional economy.

The proposed Traveston Crossing dam will be a catalyst to enhance the links between Gympie and Traveston Crossing and the Sunshine coast economy.

To ensure the economic prosperity of the Cooloola region, the connections between the hinterland and main centres must be deepened.

Sunshine Coast councils are already facing pressure to limit population growth, tourism impacts and the supply of land for industrial purposes.

*Continued.*

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Bridget Edwards

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER FOR COOLOOLA REGION

The Department of State Development has appointed an officer to support local business development activities from the announcement of dam construction to post-construction growth in the Cooloola region.

Bridget Edwards will work closely with the Cooloola Shire Council to deliver activities associated with the future economic development of the Cooloola region.

Since the dam was proposed, the Sunshine Coast and Maryborough State Development Centres (SDC) have liaised with over 90 businesses to assess impacts the dam proposal may have on their business.

Bridget will assist the Council and work with businesses to:

- provide a 'gateway' to the Shire's business community to access effective and relevant programs of the Queensland Government, particularly business and industry development services
- develop and maintain productive relationships with key regional stakeholders, and
- facilitate the implementation of economic development activities concerned with driving business and industry development.

Bridget will be located at the Department of Primary Industries office in Gympie from March 12 and can be contacted on **0428 159 984**.

# ECONOMIC FUTURE OF THE TRAVESTON REGION – ACIL TASMAN REPORT CONTINUED

In addition, the SEQ Regional Plan has set limits on future land development meaning that Gympie and its surrounds could benefit from any overflow of activity from coastal areas.

In addition to the wider regional changes, other benefits that may arise from the construction of the dam include -

- the new workforce engaged for the dam,
- the capital injected into farms and businesses, as part of the lease-back arrangements to compensate them for losses and disturbance,
- recreational and tourism activities associated with the dam,
- new local water allocations, and
- changes to infrastructure, in particular improved roads and access associated with the dam.

These will create opportunities to engage new entrants in the local economy and to restructure some traditional activities and promote some new ones.

The Traveston Crossing region will be able to use the considerable business and entrepreneurial experience of those farmers and business people who are offered lease-back arrangements to drive better agricultural and business practices in the vicinity.

The best future for remaining available land, particularly new horticulture opportunities and new boutique crops, is being explored.

The release of water to the area below the dam, and the flood mitigation associated with the dam, may open possibilities for more intensive agricultural uses in the area, and some rethinking of land that was previously flood prone.

Estimates suggest a 4 metre reduction in flood heights as a result of the dam, which would provide greater certainty for the low lying businesses and industrial estates of Gympie.

Around 500 employees will be needed in the construction of the dam.

The proportion of the workforce that can be sourced locally is uncertain, although 30 per cent of the workforce was sourced locally on the Paradise dam at the Burnett River.

This suggests that 150 jobs could be sourced locally for the proposed Traveston Crossing dam.

Should there be shortages of the necessary skills, local people will be given the opportunity to be trained.

This situation makes it imperative that the opportunity presented by the new dam, in particular the influx of workers and the liberation of capital from existing farms, is used to best effect.

A key issue is to keep potential participants in the economy informed of the progress of the project.

While uncertainty can prevent investment, accurate information will support the take up of economic opportunities.

## PROPERTY AND COMMUNITY SECURITY ISSUES

In late 2006 community members raised concerns with the Task Force relating to thefts from properties the Government had acquired.

Queensland Water Infrastructure (QWI), in conjunction with Sergeant Terry Kennedy, officer in charge of the Imbil Police Station, sought to address these concerns.

QWI engaged security services to patrol locations where the Government owned houses while police increased patrols around these locations.

Figures released last month by the Imbil Police indicated that:

- while 15 pumps were reported stolen during the last six months of 2006, no pumps have been reported stolen in the Mary Valley region this year,
- crimes against a person (assault, break and enter, stealing and wilful damage) have increased slightly from 24 to 26 over the past six months,
- three of the 26 crimes reported occurred on properties purchased by the Queensland Government, and
- offences such as drug, drink driving and 'good order' offences have increased this year but that may also be attributed to increased police patrols in the community.

Sergeant Terry Kennedy said the increasing number of rental properties available in the area following property sales to the Government had changed the social make-up of the area.

"We've seen an influx of residents into the area and I encourage existing community members to make these new residents feel welcome," Sgt Kennedy said.

"I'd also ask all residents, new and old, to continue to report any suspicious activity occurring in the area to help ensure our safety and security."

Residents can contact the Imbil Police on (07) 5484 5222.

\* Please note the above figures are not official Queensland Police Service statistics and therefore should be treated as estimates only as the data is subject to change.

## UPCOMING COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

Follow-up workshops will be held in Kandanga, Imbil/Brooloo and Carters Ridge to assist in establishing future land use and infrastructure options for each township.

In addition, a workshop will be held in Federal to identify key issues of concern regarding the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam and the local land use issues associated with the 'Cooroy to Curra' highway upgrade.

The workshops will allow more detailed discussion of the planning options for the townships. In some townships there will be more than one workshop. As each workshop will build on the outcomes of the one before, we recommend interested parties attend every workshop.

### KANDANGA WORKSHOPS

Specific issues to be discussed during these workshops include:

- future land use planning options for Kandanga
- establishment and/or relocation of affected services and infrastructure, and
- further general discussion about the impacts of the proposed dam on Kandanga.

### IMBIL/BROOLOO WORKSHOPS

Specific issues to be discussed during these workshops include:

- flooding and transport issues
- planning for road and other infrastructure
- planning for recreational and tourism opportunities, and
- general future land use planning issues for the Imbil/Brooloo area.

### CARTERS RIDGE WORKSHOP

Specific issues to be discussed during this workshop include:

- issues associated with the relocation of community facilities, and
- further general discussion about addressing the impacts of the proposed dam on Carters Ridge.

### FEDERAL WORKSHOP

This will be the first workshop held in Federal. Information will be provided on local land use and planning implications associated with the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam and the 'Cooroy to Curra' highway upgrade. There will be an opportunity for participants to ask questions and provide feedback.

Wed 21 March	6:00pm - 8:00pm Federal Hall	Initial workshop at <b>Federal</b>
Mon 26 March	6:00pm - 8:00pm Ridgewood Community Hall	Follow up workshop at <b>Carters Ridge</b>
Wed 28 March	6:00pm - 9:00pm Kandanga Hall	Follow up workshop at <b>Kandanga</b>
Wed 4 April	6:00pm - 8:00pm Mary Valley Show Society Hall	Follow up workshop at <b>Imbil</b>
Wed 11 April	6:00pm - 9:00pm Kandanga Hall	Follow up workshop at <b>Kandanga</b>
Wed 18 April	6:00pm - 8:00pm Mary Valley Show Society Hall	Follow up workshop at <b>Imbil</b>

For more information about the workshops, telephone the Office of Urban Management on **1800 021 818**.

## YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED – OFFICE OF URBAN MANAGEMENT MEETINGS

The Community Futures Task Force and the Office of Urban Management are collecting answers to the questions you asked at Community Township Workshops late last year.

The purpose of the workshops was to discuss planning options for the towns and how each community wanted the planning process organised.

While some questions were answered at the workshop, residents wanted greater levels of certainty and information regarding the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam.

When follow-up meetings occur in Imbil, Kandanga and Carters Ridge in late March and early April, we hope to have answered the 200 questions you posed last year.

The majority of the questions have already been answered and can be viewed online by visiting [www.oum.gov.au](http://www.oum.gov.au) and selecting Dam Planning Studies, then Traveston Dam, from the top navigation bar.



This photo is from the collection held at Queensland State Archives, Item IDA7164.

## QUEENSLAND STATE ARCHIVES TO HOST COMMUNITY HISTORY WORKSHOPS FOR LOCAL COLLECTORS

Coolooloa history buffs who are keen to have their records and photos assessed can attend a free Community History Workshop at the Kandanga Community Hall on Saturday 28 April.

Experts from Queensland State Archives will present sessions on collecting and caring for your historical records to help Coolooloa residents preserve their personal and community histories.

The Collecting your History session will focus on what items you should keep and how to make those difficult decisions on what items to discard.

You'll also learn what to do if your item is of national or State significance and will receive advice on preparing an inventory of your collection.

The Caring for your History session will focus on the best ways to store or preserve your personal mementos and records.

Once all of the questions have been answered the responses will be published in full at [www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au](http://www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au)

Paper copies of the initial and final responses will also be available at the Kandanga One Stop Shop.

## TASK FORCE MEETING NOTES TO GO ONLINE

Notes from the Community Futures Task Force meeting held on February 5 will shortly be available online at [www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au](http://www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au)

The decision to make these notes public was taken in response to requests from community members seeking more information regarding the activities being undertaken by the Task Force.

We will add notes from all previous meetings of the Task Force as time permits, while notes from future meetings will also be available online.

Please check the website regularly from April should you wish to view notes from previous meetings.

## BRUCE HIGHWAY (COOROY TO CURRA) STRATEGIC PLANNING STUDY - PROPOSED CORRIDOR

The Department of Main Roads is undertaking a strategic planning study to investigate the long-term upgrade of the Bruce Highway between Cooroy and Curra.

The aim of the study is to identify the best location for the highway, including a bypass of Gympie.

The proposed Traveston Crossing dam affects approximately 10km of the existing 65km section of highway under investigation.

As part of the study process, Main Roads has engaged extensively with community groups, local government and the wider community.

The information provided during this consultation process has influenced the location of the proposed corridor.

Main Roads has also undertaken more detailed investigation including engineering and environmental studies to help determine the proposed corridor location.

You will receive Newsletter 5 from Main Roads on Monday 12 March 2007, which provides information about the proposed corridor and outlines in detail where and when people can visit the display.

Main Roads encourages you to view the proposed corridor display and make comment between 14 and 27 March 2007.

For more information contact the Main Roads study team on 1800 180 566.

## SPORT AND RECREATION UPDATE

Representatives from the Department of Local Government, Planning, Sport and Recreation (DLGPSR) met sporting clubs representatives from the Mary Valley community on February 27.

The meeting was used to identify issues being faced by sporting groups and to inform them of funding programs available through DLGPSR.

Club representatives reported facing issues of declining membership due to changes in population, economic impacts influencing sports participation and uncertainty on challenges they may face in terms of facility development.

DLGPSR staff will be providing advice to clubs affected by the proposed dam development.

For more information please contact the Maroochydhore Office of Sport, Recreation and Racing on (07) 5479 1199.

On March 13, Minister for Local Government, Planning and Sport, Andrew Fraser, announced the Coolooloa Shire Council had been awarded \$6,653 to construct a BMX track and shade structure at Imbil.

You'll learn how to avoid damaging your items by storing them correctly and will receive advice on the preferred material to house and store your special items.

Staff from the archives will be happy to answer questions regarding any records or photos you take to the sessions.

State Archivist Janet Prowse said the workshops are suitable for anybody interested in collecting and preserving historical records, photos and personal histories.

"They're designed for the novice collector interested in learning where to start but are also suitable for the seasoned collector looking for more specific advice," Ms Prowse said.

These free workshops have been organised by the Coolooloa Shire Council and Queensland State Archives in conjunction with the Community Futures Task Force.

They will be held in the community hall from 10.30am until 3pm on Saturday 28 April.

Bookings are essential.

Phone Cate on 3131 7760 by Tuesday 24 April 2007

Date	Time and Location	Events	Contact
<b>March</b>			
Wed 21	6:00pm - 8:00pm Federal Hall	Office of Urban Management initial meeting at Federal	Office Of Urban Management ph 1800 021 818
Thu 22	1:00pm - 2:00pm, Executive Building,100 George Street, Brisbane	Community Futures Task Force Meeting attended by Mayors from Cooloola, Maroochy, Noosa, Boonah and Beaudesert Shires and relevant Directors-General - meeting not required	Community Futures Task Force ph 1800 133 258
Mon 26	6:00pm - 8:00pm Ridgewood Community Hall	Office of Urban Management follow up meeting at Carters Ridge	Office Of Urban Management ph 1800 021 818
Wed 28	6:00pm - 9:00pm Kandanga Hall	Office of Urban Management follow up meeting at Kandanga	Office Of Urban Management ph 1800 021 818
Thu 29	9.00 - 9.30 am by telelink	Regional Services Forum attended by Qld Government Agencies	Department of Communities ph 07 5459 8600
March/April		Community workshops for issues and future directions for broader Traveston Area	Office Of Urban Management ph 1800 021 818

<b>April</b>			
Mon 2	1:00pm - 2:00pm, Executive Building,100 George Street, Brisbane	Community Futures Task Force Meeting attended by Mayors from Cooloola, Maroochy, Noosa, Boonah and Beaudesert Shires and relevant Directors-General	Community Futures Task Force ph 1800 133 258
Wed 4	6:00pm - 8:00pm Mary Valley Show Society Hall	Office of Urban Management follow up meeting at Imbil	Office Of Urban Management ph 1800 021 818
Thu 5	School Term 1 ends		The Community Futures Task Force would like to wish you a safe and happy school holiday and Easter period
Fri 6	Good Friday		
Sat 7	Easter Saturday		
Sun 8	Easter Sunday		
Mon 9	Easter Monday		
Wed 11	6:00pm - 9:00pm Kandanga hall	Office of Urban Management follow up meeting at Kandanga	Office Of Urban Management ph 1800 021 818
Mon 16	1:00pm - 2:00pm, Executive Building,100 George Street, Brisbane	Community Futures Task Force Meeting attended by Mayors from Cooloola, Maroochy, Noosa, Boonah and Beaudesert Shires and relevant Directors-General	Community Futures Task Force ph 1800 133 258
Tue 17	School Term 2 commences		
Wed 18	6:00pm - 8:00pm Mary Valley Show Society Hall	Office of Urban Management follow up meeting at Imbil	Office Of Urban Management ph 1800 021 818
Thu 19	10:30am - 12:00 pm, venue tba	Regional Services Forum attended by Qld Government Agencies	Department of Communities ph 07 5459 8600
Wed 25	Anzac Day		
Sat 28	10:30am - 3:00pm Kandanga Hall	Community Archive Workshop at Cooloola	For booking contact Cate at Qld State Archives ph 3131 7760

<b>May</b>			
tba	tba	Draft study reports on the findings of both the Sunshine Coast Needs Investigation and the Bridges Investigation to go on display for public comment.	Office Of Urban Management ph 1800 021 818
Mon 14	1:00pm - 2:00pm, Executive Building,100 George Street, Brisbane	Community Futures Task Force Meeting attended by Mayors from Cooloola, Maroochy, Noosa, Boonah and Beaudesert Shires and relevant Directors-General	Community Futures Task Force ph 1800 133 258
Thu 17	10:30am - 12:00pm, venue tba	Regional Services Forum attended by Qld Government Agencies	Department of Communities ph 07 5459 8600

<b>June</b>			
tba	tba	Community workshop on settlement patterns and infrastructure delivery options for broader Traveston area	Office Of Urban Management ph 1800 021 818
Mon 4	1:00pm - 2:00pm, Executive Building,100 George Street, Brisbane	Community Futures Task Force Meeting attended by Mayors from Cooloola, Maroochy, Noosa, Boonah and Beaudesert Shires and relevant Directors-General	Community Futures Task Force ph 1800 133 258
Thu 7	9.00 - 9.30 am, by telelink	Regional Services Forum attended by Qld Government Agencies	Department of Communities ph 07 5459 8600
Mon 18	1:00pm - 2:00pm, Executive Building,100 George Street, Brisbane	Community Futures Task Force Meeting attended by Mayors from Cooloola, Maroochy, Noosa, Boonah and Beaudesert Shires and relevant Directors-General	Community Futures Task Force ph 1800 133 258
Thu 21	10:30am - 12:00 pm, venue tba	Regional Services Forum attended by Qld Government Agencies	Department of Communities ph 07 5459 8600
Fri 22	School Term 2 ends		

## TRAVESTON CROSSING CONTACT NUMBERS

<b>Kandanga One Stop Shop</b>	<b>07 5488 4929</b>
<b>Counselling Services</b>	
1. Crisis counselling (Lifeline) 24/7	<b>13 11 14</b>
2. Lifeline at Kandanga	<b>07 5488 4929</b>
<b>Community Futures Task Force</b>	<b>1800 133 258</b>
<b>QLD Water Infrastructure Pty Ltd</b>	<b>1800 225 384</b>
<b>Department of State Development and Trade</b>	<b>1300 363 711</b>
<b>Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries</b>	<b>13 25 23</b>

<b>Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority</b>	<b>1800 623 946</b>
<b>Department of Main Roads</b>	<b>1800 180 566</b>
<b>Department of Natural Resources and Water</b>	<b>1800 243 585</b>

### CONTACT THE TASK FORCE

**Phone:** 1800 133 258  
**Fax:** 3224 5310  
**Email:** info@communityfutures.qld.gov.au  
**Website:** www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au  
**Post:** PO Box 15637 City East QLD 4002

### KEY WEBSITES

**Community Futures Task Force**  
 • www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au  
**Queensland Water Infrastructure**  
 • www.qldwi.com.au  
**Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority**  
 • www.qraa.qld.gov.au  
**Office of Urban Management**  
 • www.oum.qld.gov.au  
**Department of Environment & Heritage**  
 • www.deh.gov.au