



Council of Mayors
South East Queensland

South East Queensland One Community

**A case for further Federal
Government Investment in South
East Queensland Infrastructure**

Summary Booklet



1. Submission

The Council of Mayors (SEQ) is seeking a fair share of funding for the SEQ region from the \$20 billion Building Australia Fund, and other Commonwealth funding sources. At the core of this submission is the following aim:

“To address infrastructure deficits in the South East Queensland region; to enhance economic activity; lessen congestion on the drive to and from work; enhance existing road and public transport networks and have minimal impacts on the environment”.

2. Strategy

To address critical short-term impediments to economic development and to reduce traffic congestion, the Council of Mayors (SEQ) analysed existing major transport infrastructure projects and through a prioritisation process identified the most critical projects that need to be addressed.

3. Project Rationale

The Council of Mayors (SEQ) is seeking the following long-term strategic outcomes:

- Improving the journey to work by reducing congestion across the region;
- Providing alternatives to motor vehicle use through better public transport options; and
- Removing potential obstacles to ongoing economic development across the SEQ region.

4. Projects

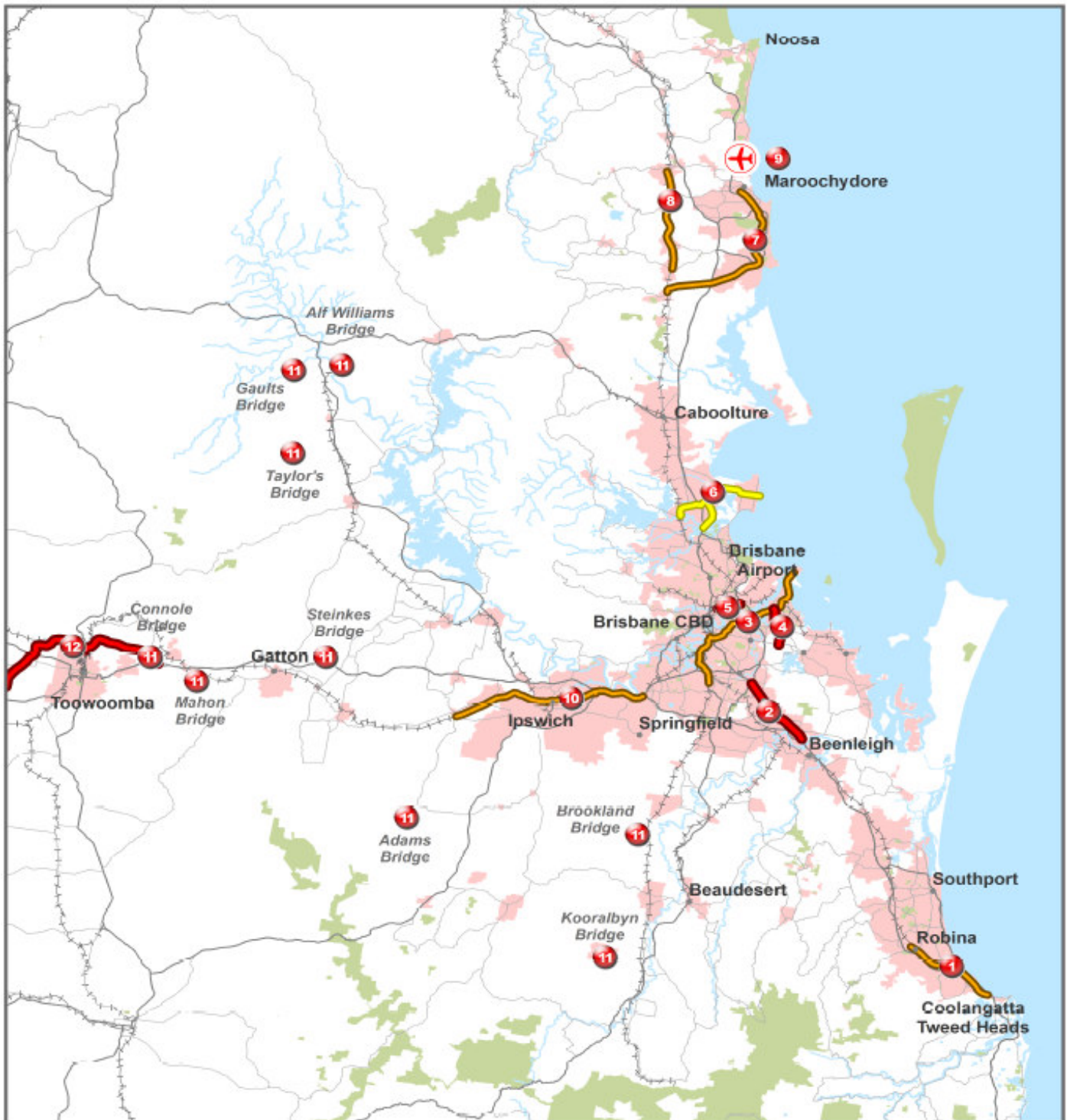
The Council of Mayors (SEQ) has identified 12 strategically important infrastructure projects.

These projects reflect the differing infrastructure needs across council areas but more importantly, when linked with existing and committed infrastructure projects across the region, provide interconnected and integrated infrastructure solutions.















Council of Mayors (SEQ) - Project Summary

Project Name	Estimated Cost (\$ millions)
Brisbane City to Australia TradeCoast Corridor	482
CAMCOS - Passenger Rail: Beerwah to Maroochydore	3,120
Duplication Acacia Ridge to Port of Brisbane Rail Line	100
Eastern Suburbs Corridor	571
Gold Coast Railway Extension	1,800
North Coast Rail Line Upgrade	800
Pacific Motorway upgrade: Gateway Motorway to Logan Motorway	1,900
Petrie to Redcliffe Multi Modal Corridor	550
Rail Capacity Upgrade – Rosewood – Ipswich – Brisbane rail line	1,400
Replacement of Timber Bridges in Lockyer Valley, Scenic Rim and Somerset Regional Councils	20
Sunshine Coast Airport Runway	250
Toowoomba Bypass	1,750
Estimated Total Cost	12,743

5. Infrastructure Projects



Legend

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|--|--|
|  Gold Coast Railway Extension |  North Coast Rail Line Upgrade |
|  Pacific Motorway upgrade: Gateway Motorway to Logan Motorway |  Sunshine Coast Airport Runway |
|  Duplication Acacia Ridge to Port of Brisbane Rail Line |  Rail Capacity Upgrade - Rosewood - Ipswich - Brisbane rail line |
|  Eastern Suburbs Corridor |  Replacement of Timber Bridges Somerset, Lockyer Valley, Scenic Rim |
|  Brisbane City to Australia TradeCoast Corridor |  Toowoomba Bypass |
|  Petrie to Redcliffe Multi Modal Corridor |  Urban Area |
|  CAMCOS - Passenger Rail: Beerwah to Maroochydore |  Park / Forest |



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Kilometers



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6. About the Council of Mayors (SEQ)

The Council of Mayors (SEQ) is a political advocacy organisation representing the 11 councils in the SEQ region. The organisation has a leadership role amongst the key Local Government bodies in Queensland and its strategic aims are encapsulated in its mission statement:

The Council of Mayors (SEQ) is a political advocacy organisation that represents the interests of one in seven Australians. We proactively influence Federal and State Governments to ensure the long term viability, wellbeing and sustainability of our communities. We speak with one voice to ensure appropriate funding and delivery of infrastructure and services to the residents of South East Queensland.

The Council of Mayors (SEQ) region covers an area of more than 35,000 square kilometres, including the following Local Government areas (LGAs):

- Brisbane City Council.
- Gold Coast City Council.
- Ipswich City Council.
- Logan City Council.
- Lockyer Valley Regional Council.
- Moreton Bay Regional Council.
- Redland City Council.
- Scenic Rim Regional Council.
- Somerset Regional Council.
- Sunshine Coast Regional Council.
- Toowoomba Regional Council.

South East Queensland is one of Australia's fastest growing regions with more than 1000 people moving to the region each week.

7. Key Themes

The SEQ region is facing considerable challenges in terms of population and congestion. The Infrastructure Australia submission sought to address and highlight those issues.

Theme 1: Government and Infrastructure Investment

Local government faces greater constraints in its capacity to fund critical infrastructure investment. This situation has not been helped by the fact that Federal Governments since the 1970s have invested heavily in social assistance rather than hard infrastructure. The key issues under this theme included:

- The infrastructure challenge is one that is shared across all levels of government.
- Queensland local government has played its part in funding infrastructure.
- Queensland local government limitations in its capacity to deliver key infrastructure projects.
- Considerable State funding has been directed to the SEQ region in the 2008/09 period.
- SEQ residents and businesses have indicated that all levels of government need to fund critical infrastructure.

Theme 2: Economic Activity

Under this theme economic activity was examined in the context of planning for business growth. Funding corresponding infrastructure is critical to ensure continued economic growth. The key issues under this theme included:

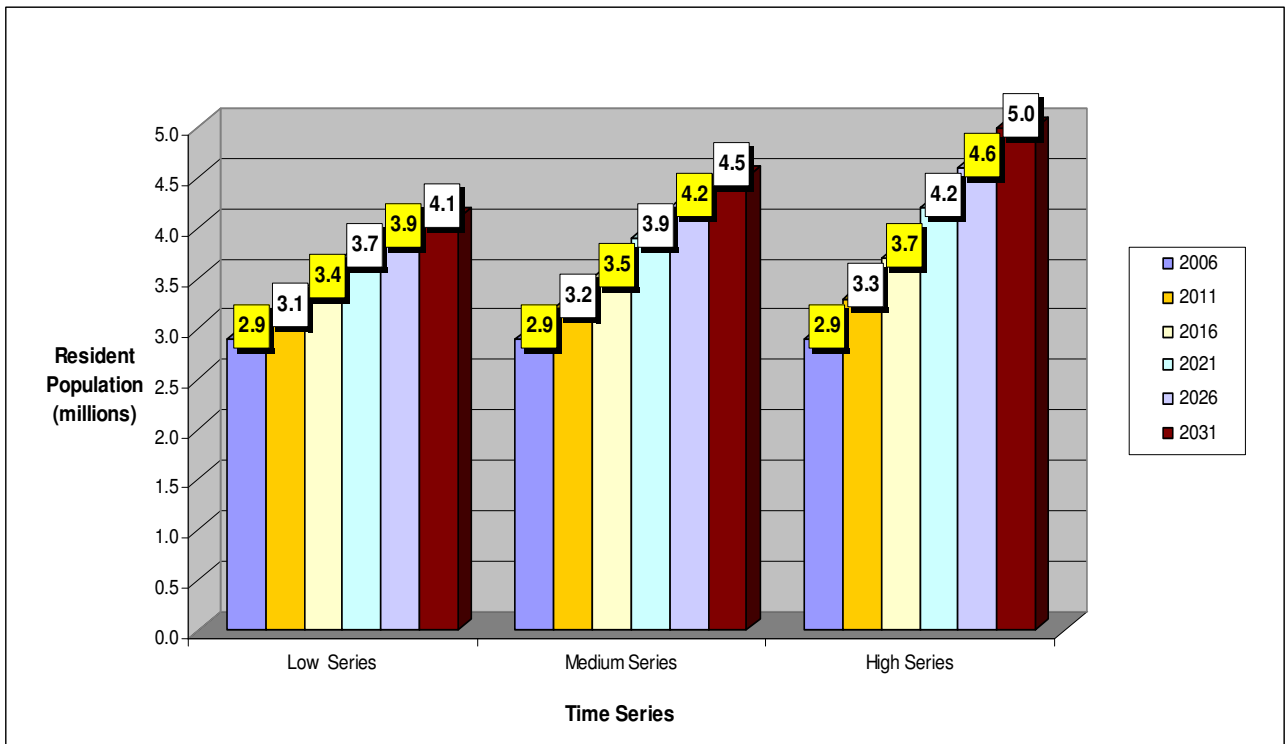
- Congestion - Employee and business access throughout the region is critical.
- Planning for Business Growth - Securing land for business growth in forecast growth and accessible locations is critical.
- Funding Infrastructure - Investment today will lead to positive economic returns.

Theme 3: Population

The SEQ region is facing the challenges and opportunities of a growing population and with 1 in 7 Australian residents choosing to live and work in SEQ funding for infrastructure is an essential to help sustain and build the region. Recent State government population forecasting suggests that the SEQ region may have a population in the vicinity of 4.1 to 5 million residents by 2031. The key issues under this theme included:

- The SEQ region is the fastest growing region in Australia.
- Employment and lifestyle factors are drawing people from across Australia to the region.
- Growth rates pose a challenge for existing infrastructure.
- Strategic infrastructure projects and investment are needed to deal with congestion and its impacts on economic growth.

SEQ Population Projections 2006-2031



Source: Department of Infrastructure and Planning 2008, 'Population Projections', Planning Information and Forecasting Unit.

Theme 4: Congestion

In terms of the economic impact, the cost of congestion to Brisbane for example has been estimated at \$1.2 billion in 2005. The key issues under this theme included:

- Personal car travel per person also increases.
- More car travel is attractive as incomes rise.
- Traffic continues to respond in a one-to-one relationship to population growth.