

September 2026

Help shape the activation of the Cairns South State Development Area



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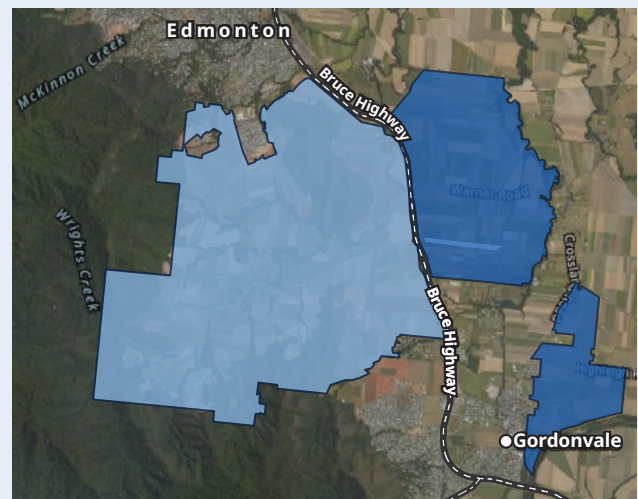


Queensland
Government

Updates on the Cairns South SDA

The Cairns South State Development Area (SDA) was established to support economic growth, diversification of the Cairns economy and job creation to support the long-term needs of the Cairns region. Declared in 2018 and expanded in 2020, it provides 1159 hectares of land for regionally significant industrial development.

The Cairns South SDA and Mount Peter Priority Development Area (PDA) will provide coordinated land use and infrastructure planning to generate investment for the Cairns southern growth corridor.



Mount Peter PDA Cairns South SDA

Demand for industrial land



382 ha of vacant, developable industrial land across the Cairns local government area (March 2026)



89% of this land is within the Cairns South SDA



41.4 ha of short-term supply remaining outside the SDA



Around 3.5 years supply of developable land outside the SDA

Cairns plays an important role as the industrial and services hub for Far North Queensland, providing around half of the region's industrial employment and goods and services produced.

Industrial land demand in Cairns is increasing faster than expected, requiring activation of the Cairns South SDA in the short term. Activation is ongoing work and will require master planning, infrastructure planning, investment in enabling trunk infrastructure and the phased transition of land away from cane production to industry.

Commencement of development

The Office of the Coordinator-General has received a development application in the SDA's High Impact Industry Precinct. The application is currently being assessed against the Cairns South SDA Development Scheme and is expected to unlock the first stage of development within the SDA, supporting growing demand for industrial land and investment opportunities in the region.

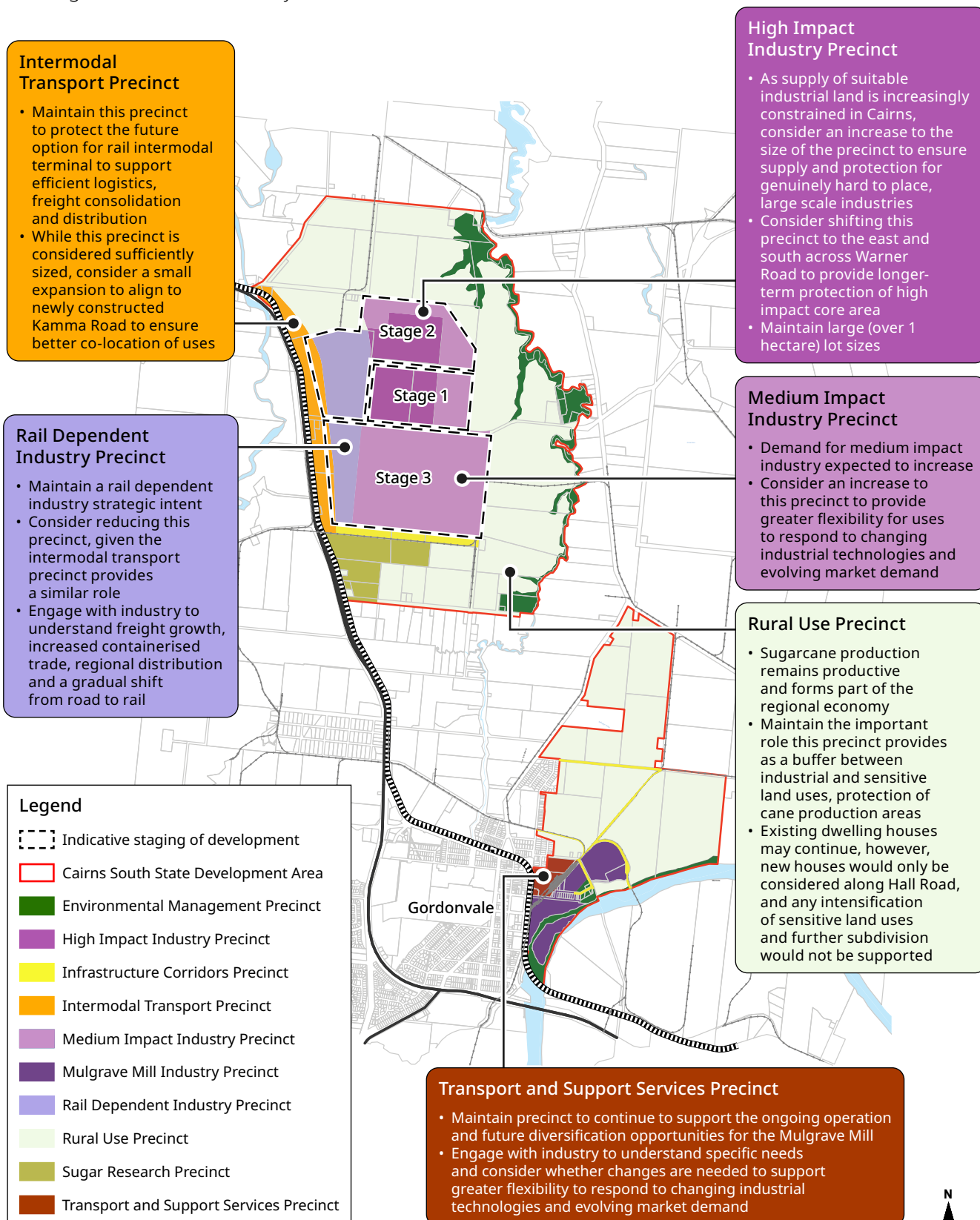


Cairns South SDA Development Scheme

Reviewing the development scheme

The Coordinator-General regulates development in the SDA through the Cairns South SDA Development Scheme. The scheme is being reviewed to make sure land use, precincts and infrastructure planning can respond to current and future industrial demand.

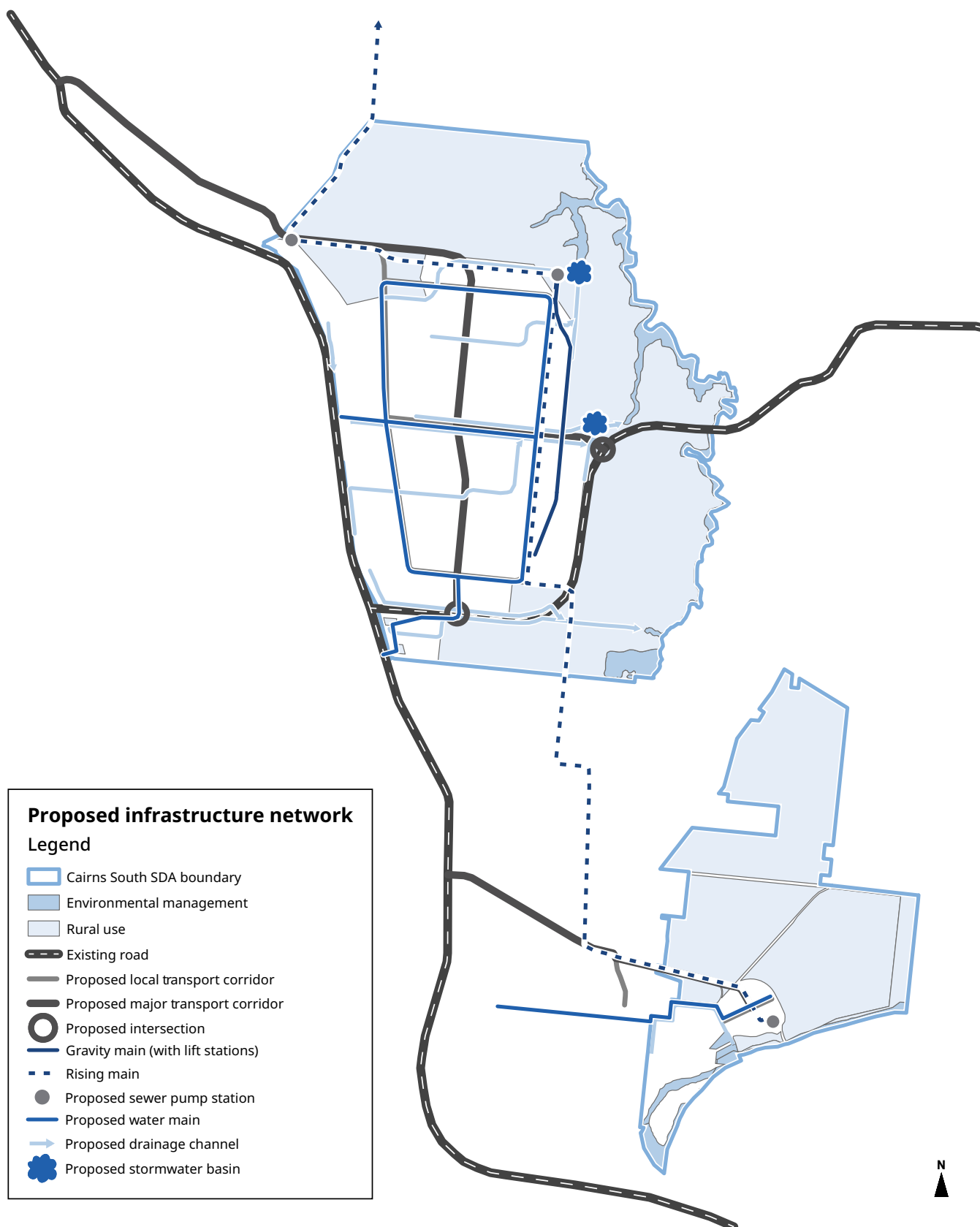
The figure below identifies key matters for consideration.



Cairns South SDA infrastructure planning

The Office of the Coordinator-General is working with Cairns Regional Council and Economic Development Queensland to coordinate infrastructure planning, provide greater certainty for proponents and support investment decisions across the Mount Peter PDA and broader Cairns southern growth corridor.

High-level strategic infrastructure proposed for the Cairns South SDA is shown below. This information will continue to be refined and will help inform a future infrastructure plan.



We want to hear from you

Your feedback will help identify local priorities, issues and opportunities and inform the activation of the Cairns South SDA.

Feedback will also inform the review of the Cairns South SDA Development Scheme in early 2027.

How to have your say



In person

Office of Coordinator-General representatives will be in Cairns during October 2026. Check our website for specific dates

Email cairnssouthsda@coordinatorgeneral.qld.gov.au to request a time.



Online meeting

Request a Microsoft Teams meeting during the engagement period by emailing cairnssouthsda@coordinatorgeneral.qld.gov.au.



How to provide feedback

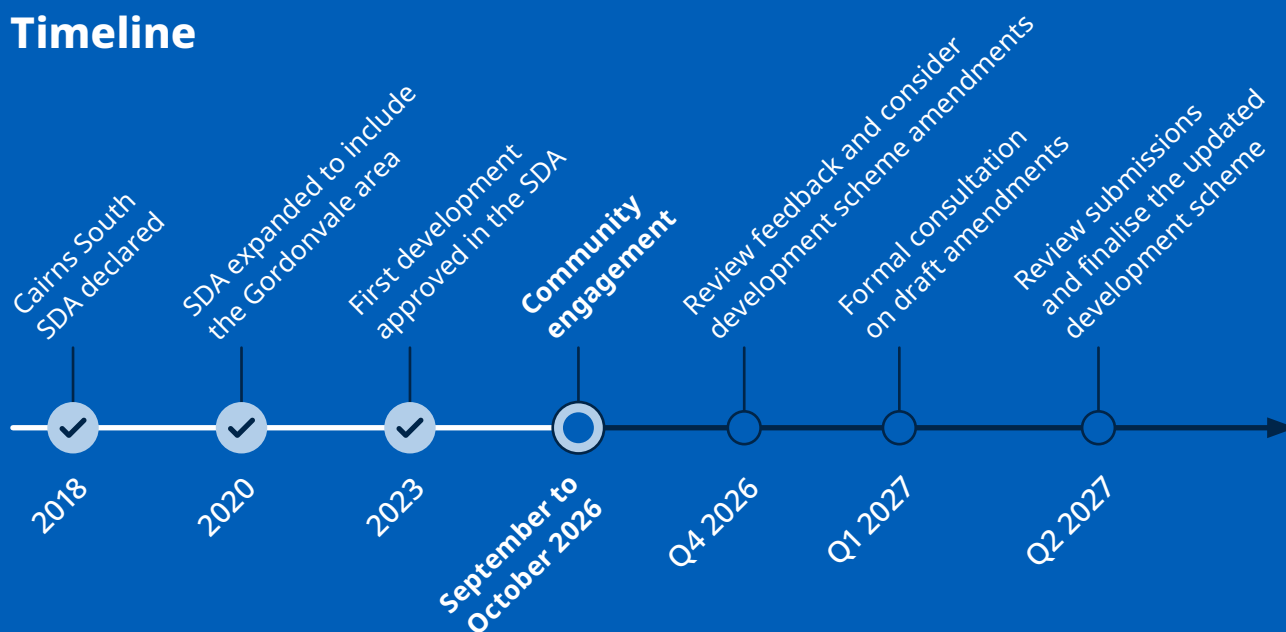
Submit feedback until **30 October 2026** via:

Online form: haveyoursay.coordinatorgeneral.qld.gov.au

Email: cairnssouthsda@coordinatorgeneral.qld.gov.au

Post: **PO Box 15517, City East QLD 4002**

Timeline



Find out more



coordinatorgeneral.qld.gov.au/cairns-south-sda