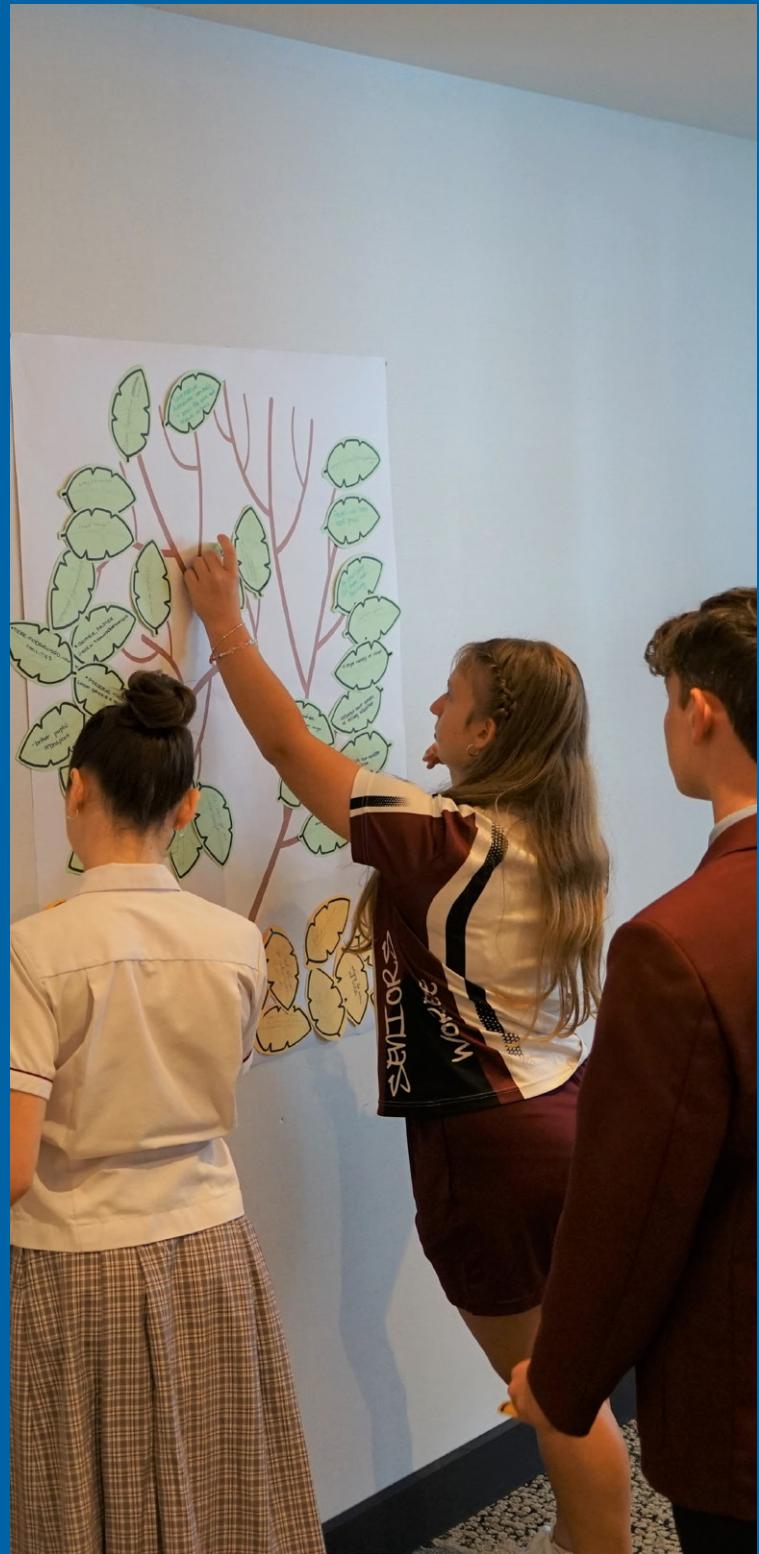


# Towards 2050

## Youth and Community Summits Summary Report



**Shaping Cairns**  
from the beaches to the boulders

 **Cairns**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

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Cairns Regional Council acknowledges and pays our respects to the Traditional Custodians of our region, the Djabugay; Yirrganydji; Buluwai, Gimuy Walubara Yidinji; Mandingalbay Yidinji; Gunggandji; Dulabed and Malanbara Yidinji; Bundabarra and Wadjanbarra Yidinji; Wanyurr Majay; Mamu and NgadjonJii peoples. We extend this respect to all elders past, present and future, and other First Peoples within our region.

# Introduction



Cairns is a popular place to live and work. In 2022, the population of Cairns was 172,272. By 2050, it is projected to grow to 241,000 (based on State Government information released in June 2023). This is nearly 70,000 additional people.

Council's Towards 2050 Shaping Cairns project is planning for this growth now, to make sure everyone can live here and enjoy what we love about Cairns today.

Growth can deliver many benefits, including more and better jobs, diverse housing options, public spaces, roads and public transport, entertainment, health and education services.

Good design and thoughtful planning will help us shape our growth in a positive way, ensuring that we protect and embrace many of the things that make Cairns special: our unique environment and our economic, social and cultural values.

The Council Towards 2050 Shaping Cairns project team is engaging with as many community members as possible to capture their thoughts and ideas about how to shape the Cairns of the future. The community's thoughts and priorities for the future will contribute to Council's strategies in planning for 2050 and beyond.

During **Phase 1** of the project between September and December 2022, Council heard from community members through an online survey on the Towards 2050 project webpage and conversations at pop ups around Cairns. A total of 13,827 interactions were captured. This feedback has helped us to understand what the community thinks makes Cairns special and their ideas for growth in Cairns. The Phase 1 Engagement Summary Report is available on the project website ([www.haveoursay.cairns.qld.gov.au/towards2050](http://www.haveoursay.cairns.qld.gov.au/towards2050)).

In **Phase 2**, Council hosted two community summits on 5 and 6 May 2023. The aim was to build on what we heard from the community during Phase 1, to check the engagement findings and dig deeper into this feedback. One of the summits was designed specifically for secondary school students from across the Cairns region, to address the fact that we did not hear from many local young people during Phase 1.

As well as continuing the conversation with the community, the summits also offered the opportunity to discuss how local governments plan for growth and what needs to be considered.

**This summary explains the objectives, structures, activities and key findings of both summits.**

# Objective of the summits

The Towards 2050: Shaping Cairns summits for young people and the community aimed to:

- Capture feedback from young people who were an under-represented group in Phase 1 of the engagement process.
- Build understanding about:
  - the change that has occurred in Cairns over the past 30 years and how this change has helped to shape the places that are loved today.
  - the opportunities and challenges that growth presents and what this means to each participant.
  - the planning principles that will help to shape the Cairns of the future, and how community input has informed the development of these planning principles.
  - how participants could continue to be involved in the project and spread the news about the project.



Image above: Group photo of Youth Summit participants (not all students are pictured), teachers, Cairns Regional Council Mayor and Councillors.

# Summit participants

## At a glance

Between March and April 2023, the Towards 2050 Project Team invited the Cairns community and local secondary schools to register interest in taking part in the Towards 2050 summits.

Registration for the Community Summit was widely promoted through Council's various channels including social media, website, e-newsletters, print advertising and a mail-out to all residential addresses.

A total of 353 community members registered their interest, and Council randomly selected 80 participants based on demographic criteria to reflect the diversity of the Cairns community.

For the Youth Summit, Council invited 20 secondary schools from across Cairns to nominate students from Years 7, 8 and 9. The schools were very supportive, with more than half sending several student representatives. A total of 34 students attended the Youth Summit.

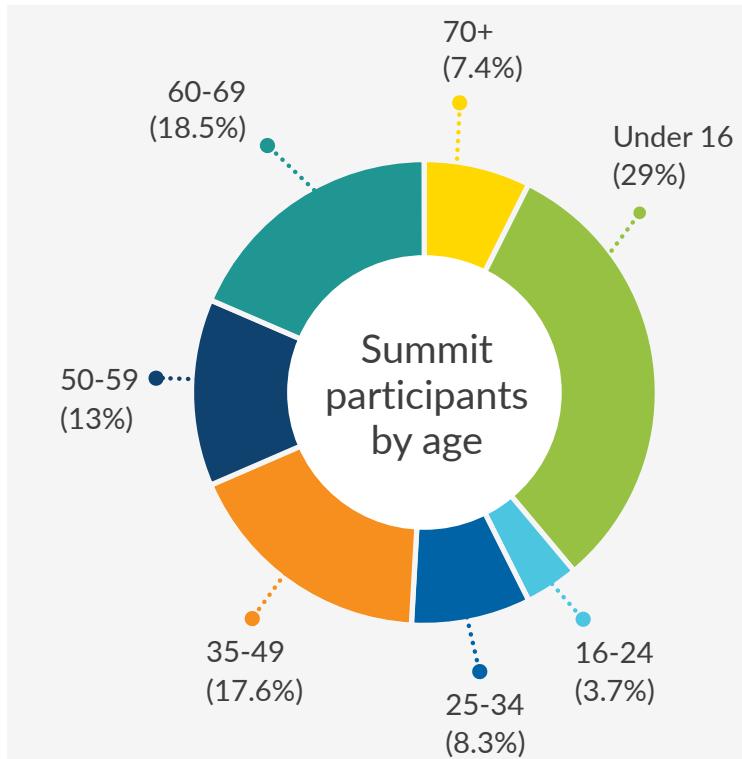


Figure 1: Snapshot of age of participants at both summits

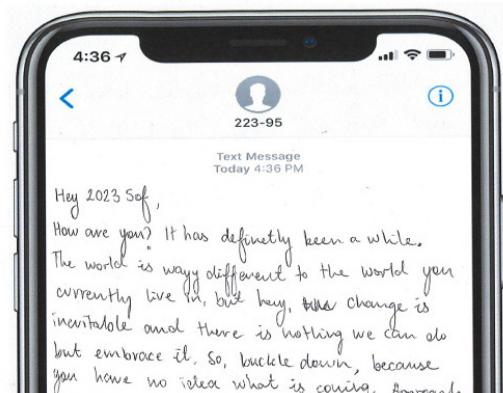
## Youth Summit at a glance

Friday 5 May 2023, 8.30am to 3.00pm  
Crystalbrook Riley Hotel on the Esplanade in Cairns

- 34 students from 10 secondary schools across Cairns gathered to explore the challenges and opportunities of future population growth.
- Most of the students were born in Cairns or had lived in Cairns most of their lives.
- To promote cross sharing of ideas, point of views and perspectives, participants sat at five tables, each with about seven students representing a mix of schools and ages. Each table was supported by a project team facilitator. The nine teachers who attended the Youth Summit with their students sat together at one table.
- Two students who attended the Youth Summit also attended part of the Community Summit on Saturday 6 May. These students represented other Youth Summit participants and shared that summit's insights and priorities with the Community Summit participants.



Image above: Youth Summit - table discussion



Youth Summit - Postcard from the future

# Community Summit at a glance



Community Summit participants around the room



Community Summit participants at small tables

**Saturday 6 May 2023, 8.30am to 4.00pm  
Crystalbrook Riley Hotel on the Esplanade in Cairns**

- 83 members of the Cairns community participated in the Community Summit. These people either represented identified community organisations or were one of the 353 community members who registered interest in attending the event.
- Participants at the Community Summit sat at 17 tables, with approximately six participants sitting at each table. Project team facilitators supported two tables each.
- Table groups at the Community Summit were designed to reflect the diversity in the Cairns community. Almost all tables had a participant who identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, there were a mix of age ranges, and participants who speak a language other than English at home or with their families.

Of the 83 participants, Council received demographic information from 77 workbooks that each participant filled in during the summit.

Analysis of this information provides a snapshot of Community Summit participants:

- All age groups between 16 and over 70 years old were represented in the room.
- 11% of workbook respondents identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (ATSI).
- 23% of workbook respondents indicated that they speak a language other than English at home or with their family.
- The most popular living situation was marked as 'I live with my partner.'



**10.7%**

First Nations



**42.7%**

Live with a partner



**20.8%**

Live with school-aged children or younger



**16.7%**

Live alone

# Summit activities

The activities at the Youth Summit and Community Summit were designed to meet the needs of the different audiences. Some activities were run at both summits to make sure that findings could be compared. Summit activities were divided into four areas as outlined below.

## Overview of activities

### 1. The past – Looking back on the change in Cairns over the last 30 years

- appreciating the amount of change that has taken place in Cairns over the past 30 years
- considering the impact of change, both planned and unplanned
- acknowledging the long history of First Peoples in the Cairns region

### 2. The present – Thinking about the Cairns of today

*These activities mirrored the questions asked during Phase 1.*

- thinking about what we love and don't love so much about Cairns now
- describing what's special about Cairns
- understanding the outcomes of the Phase 1 engagement and the Youth Summit (Community Summit only)

### 3. The Future (Towards 2050) – Thinking about what Cairns will be like in 30 years

- imagining what different aspects of Cairns will be like 30 years from now
- articulating hopes and challenges for future Cairns

### 4. Planning for growth

- discussing urban growth and what needs to be considered as Council plans for this growth
- designing a future neighbourhood (Youth Summit only)
- prioritising a list of planning principles (Community Summit only)
- discussing the barriers to growth
- thinking about what could be personally championed as Cairns heads Towards 2050.

*Image below: Community Summit participants placing leaves representing their hopes and concerns for Cairns in 2050.*



Summit activities	Youth Summit Friday 5 May 2023	Community Summit Saturday 6 May 2023
<b>1. The past - Looking back on the change in Cairns over the past 30 years</b>		
Discussing the change that has happened using timeline for reference		
Placing participants' names on the timeline		
<b>2. The present - Thinking about the Cairns of today</b>		
Describing what is loved and not loved about Cairns now (coloured sticky notes)		
Understanding the outcomes of both the Phase 1 engagement and the Youth Summit		
<b>3. The future (Towards 2050) - Thinking about what Cairns will be like in 30 years</b>		
Hearing about the possibilities for the future		
Describing the future through the senses		
Thinking about wild ideas for Future Cairns		
Writing postcards and messages from my future self		
<b>4. Planning for growth</b>		
Discussing urban growth and what needs to be considered as Council plans for this growth		
Designing a future neighbourhood		
Prioritising a list of good planning principles		
Discussing the barriers to growth		
Thinking about what the participants could personally champion as Cairns heads towards 2050		

# Activities in detail

## 1. The past - Looking back on the change in Cairns over the past 30 years:

### Timeline discussion and placing names on timeline

The project team facilitated a conversation about the vibrant history of Cairns, exploring how the city has transformed over the past three decades.

To bring this discussion to life, we created a large-scale timeline with images showcasing Cairns from the 1950s to the present day.

The timeline discussion highlighted the 60,000+ years of connection between First Peoples and the Cairns region.

During the first activity, participants were encouraged to place their names on the year they arrived in Cairns – for lifelong residents this was the year they were born.

This interactive exercise allowed participants to mark their place in the evolution of Cairns, sparking reflections about the remarkable changes that have unfolded in Cairns and personal experiences of that change.

### What young people observed about the changes in Cairns from the 1950s to now:

"Several places in the city are more inviting and take advantage of their location (like the Esplanade)."

"The city has expanded horizontally, not vertically."

"New industrial areas are more green and more sustainable."

"Big population increase from 30 years ago to now."

"Cairns has evolved from a 'place to pass through' to somewhere one is encouraged to, and chooses to, stop."



Images above: Project team and Community Summit participants exploring the timeline.



Images above: Cairns Esplanade aerial photograph taken in 1987 (top) and in 2022 (bottom).

## 2. The present - Thinking about the Cairns of today:

### *What I love and don't love about Cairns now*

After reflecting on the changes that have occurred in Cairns, the project team asked participants to think about the present, to capture individual perspectives about what they love and don't love about living in Cairns today.

Each participant wrote up to three 'loves' and 'don't loves' on colourful sticky notes. The project team then sorted and grouped the sticky notes by themes. This activity was done on the walls, creating a tapestry of diverse viewpoints.

This activity was particularly important at the Youth Summit, as the project team was able to gather valuable insights directly from young people to compare to feedback received during Phase 1 of the project.

The team presented the findings from Phase 1 engagement and the Youth Summit of the previous day. Participants reflected on how their thoughts were the same or different from what the team had previously heard.

## 3. The future (Towards 2050) - Thinking about what Cairns will be like in 30 years:

### *Hopes and dreams*

At both summits, we asked participants to picture Cairns in 2050. We asked everyone to share their dreams, or hopes, as well as concerns for future Cairns using coloured leaves.

Healthy green leaves symbolised hopes for the future and concerns were the brown leaves placed at the base of the tree.

Following this activity, the project team gave a short presentation about the future. This presentation observed changes occurring around the world (including changes relating to climate, technology, health, transport and human connection) and how these changes related to Cairns.



Image above: Project team grouped 'love' and 'don't loves' by theme



Image above: Young people at the Youth Summit, considering their hopes and concerns for the future in Cairns



Images above and below: Youth Summit participants looking forward and thinking about the future of Cairns.



## Future Cairns wild ideas (Youth Summit only)

We asked participants at the Youth Summit to go on a journey of imaginative thinking and describe their wild ideas for Cairns in 2050.

This included thinking about how Cairns would look and feel, and how residents would go about their daily lives.

*"New ways to travel (teleportation, jetpacks). Travel will move upwards and provide ground space."*

*Recognition of First Nations People.*

*"We will rely on community-owned food supply."*

*Affordable housing that is vertical and dense. No more urban sprawl. The city is up to 26 storeys high.*

*Farming will become vertical and shared.*

*"Socialising will happen in the metaverse."*

## A message from my future self (Youth Summit only)

After hearing more about the young people's wild ideas, we asked them to imagine their day-to-day lives in 2050 and write a message to their current selves from the future.

After creating these individual messages from the future, we asked each table to discuss these messages from the future with a focus on the differences.

These activities ensured that the power of imagination took centre stage, empowering participants to shape their future of Cairns using their own voice.

## **Describing future Cairns through the senses** (Community Summit only)

To help participants at the Community Summit visualise Cairns in 2050, we asked them to move into an immersive activity where they imagined and described the essence of future Cairns.

Community participants were asked to describe sights, sounds, and sensations of their imagined future in their home neighbourhoods as well as the wider region.

Each table then discussed the ideas that each participant at the table had captured.

## **A postcard from the future** (Community Summit only)

The project team asked Community Summit participants to stay immersed in their vision of Cairns in 2050 as we moved to the next activity.

Here, we asked participants to write postcards from their future selves in the year 2050 to their current selves in 2023, sharing a snapshot of their future life in Cairns.

"There will be so much change and many unknowns, however I am optimistic of our ability to adapt."

"Happy to live somewhere so naturally beautiful with everything I need so close."

"I see an established urban environment, green and distinctively tropical. Streets are beautiful and utilised for leisure and connection."

"Cairns has grown in size and density but retains and maintains the green spaces, the rainforest and the reef."



Images above: Community Summit participants planning for the future

## 4. Planning for growth



### Designing a future neighbourhood (Youth Summit only)

While young people were focused on the future, we asked them to step into the shoes of an urban planner. After the project team described how urban planners navigate a maze of opportunities and constraints to plan for vibrant cities, we asked participants to design a neighbourhood in future Cairns.

Guided by the principles shared by the project team, participants immersed themselves in this hands-on activity. Each table carefully crafted an ideal neighbourhood with a critical eye. They considered many competing interests, including the needs of the different groups, integration of green spaces and efficient use of resources, all while fostering a sense of place and community.

With the design phase complete, the whole group came back together for a discussion about each table's reflections and considerations.

### Discussing urban growth and what needs to be considered as Council plans for this growth

(Youth Summit and Community Summit)

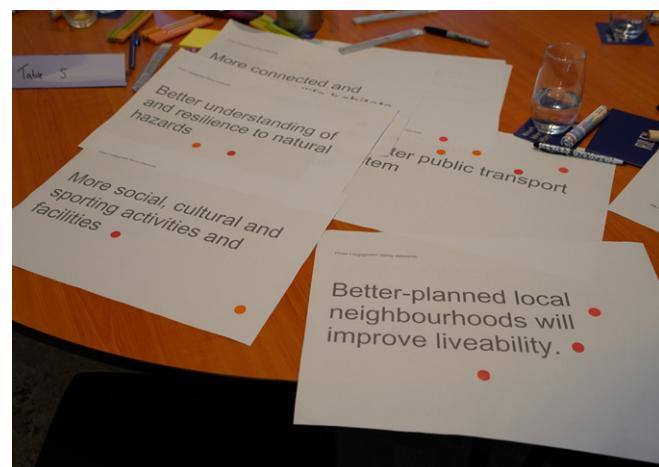
The next presentation at the Community Summit explored the idea of urban growth and provided insight into the world of urban planning, including the complexities that need to be considered to shape a dynamic city.

### Good planning principles: prioritising a list of planning principles (Community Summit only)

Building on this foundation, the project team presented draft planning principles that will guide the project team as the Towards 2050 project progresses.

The project team facilitated a discussion with whole room about the planning principles, with Summit participants describing the principles they thought were missing.

Following this discussion, participants were asked to prioritise the new list of planning principles. Each participant was given three sticky dots to mark the principles that they thought were most important to shape the future of Cairns.



### Discussing the barriers to growth (Youth Summit and Community Summit)

The project team briefly outlined the barriers and opportunities to growth and asked participants to consider what would be good outcomes as Cairns heads Towards 2050.

### Thinking about what they could personally champion as Cairns heads Towards 2050 (Youth Summit and Community Summit)

The project team asked each participant, at both summits, to consider what they would individually do to champion the project, and how they might further shape the future of Cairns.

# Key findings

Thanks to the hard work of Youth Summit and Community Summit participants, the project team received valuable feedback and insights to inform the Towards 2050 Project.

These key insights build on the findings from the Phase 1 engagement and relate to:

- young people's perspectives about priorities for the future (i.e., what they love and don't love about Cairns today, and their hopes and concerns for the future)
- perspectives about the opportunities and challenges that growth presents
- ideas for the future
- draft planning principles that will help to shape Cairns in 2050.

To capture these key findings and insights we analysed all the data provided to us during the summits. We:

- read all the post-it notes, leaves, workbooks and comments that participants provided
- determined the common themes
- allocated every comment to one or more of the common themes
- analysed the data according to these themes.



## Young people's perspective about priorities for the future

At the Youth Summit, it was important to check and verify the insights we captured during the Towards 2050: Shaping Cairns Phase 1 engagement.

We needed to hear from young people, a demographic that was not represented during the Phase 1 engagement. The Youth Summit provided an opportunity to add their voice and ensure it was represented in the overall feedback.

When we asked participants at the summits to tell us what they love and don't love about Cairns now and their hopes and concerns for Cairns in 2050, a number of themes emerged.

We have also compared what we were told at the summits with what we were told in responses to the online survey in Phase 1.



# Common themes

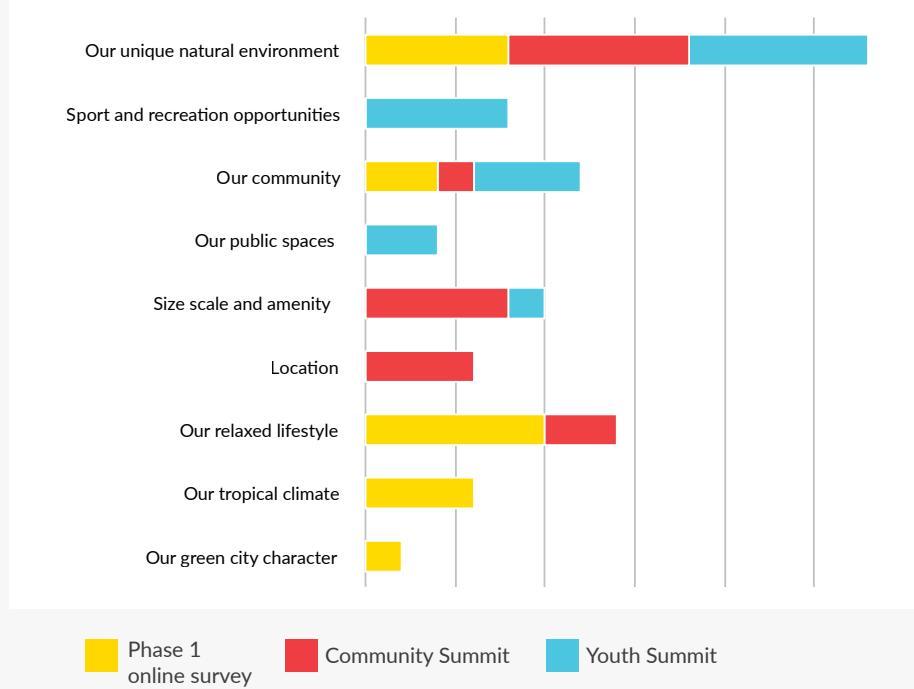
The following graphs present the themes that were mentioned most frequently by summit participants and people who responded to the online survey during the Phase 1 engagement. There were over 50 themes captured in total through these three engagement activities.

The top five themes from each engagement activity are listed below. The graphs show that some themes were ranked commonly in the top five, whereas other themes were prioritised differently between the online survey, Youth Summit and Community Summit. For example, “Sport and recreation” was ranked as a top theme only by Youth Summit participants, whereas all three groups ranked “Our community” as one of their top five themes.

## What do you love about living in Cairns?

The unique natural environment was highly valued across both summits and the Phase 1 online survey.

While young people also loved the Cairns community and the amenity that comes with being a regional city, they offered-up some attributes of Cairns that other community members had not mentioned i.e., sport and recreation opportunities and public spaces.



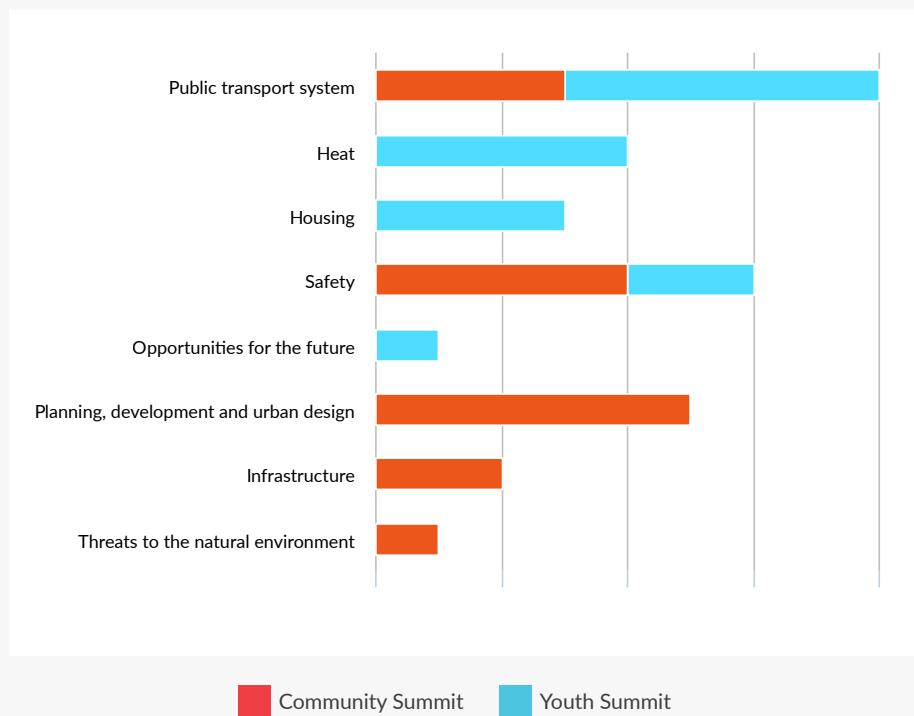
## What don't you love about living in Cairns?

This question was not part of the Phase 1 online survey.

A comparison between the Youth Summit and the Community Summit shows that young people have a different perspective about what they don't love about Cairns today.

Youth Summit and Community Summit participants both noted safety and the public transport system, but with different frequency.

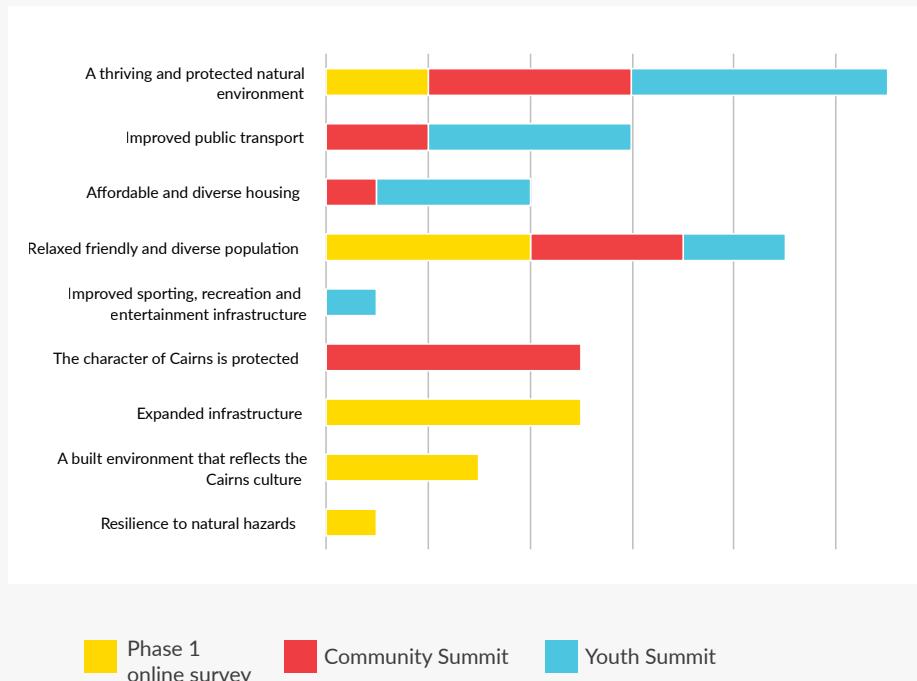
Access to public transport may be more impactful on young people if they can't rely on private vehicles.



## What are your hopes for Cairns in 2050?

Youth Summit participants identified similar themes to participants from the Community Summit and Phase 1 online survey respondents, but with different frequency.

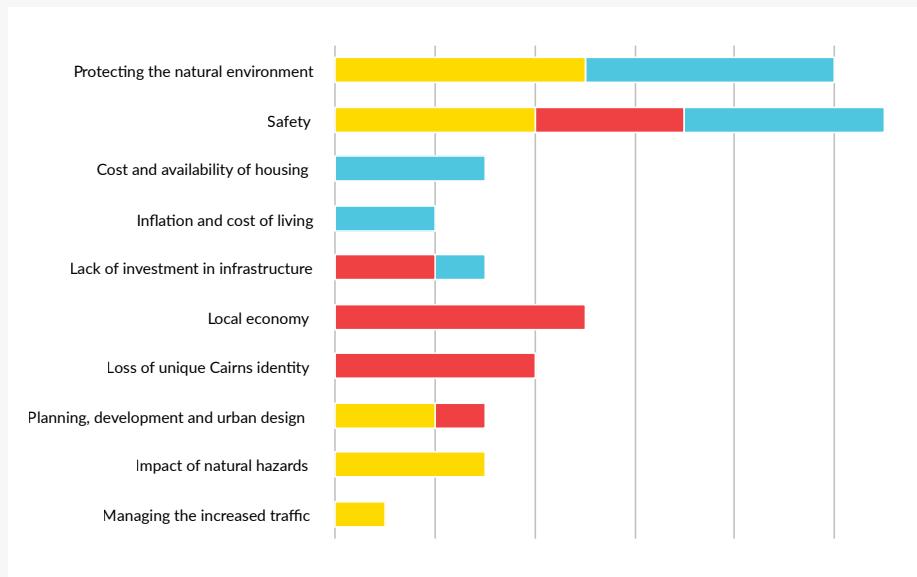
Hope for improved sporting, recreation and entertainment infrastructure is a distinction from feedback received from the Community Summit and the online survey.



## What are your concerns for Cairns in 2050?

The top two concerns from Youth Summit participants reflect the feedback received from the Phase 1 online survey.

The Youth Summit participants are more concerned about housing, inflation and cost of living. These concerns had lower frequency or were not identified in other feedback.



# Prioritising opportunities

We asked the Youth Summit participants to let us know how they would prioritise opportunities that can come with growth. This was a question included in our Phase 1 online survey. Here's how they responded:

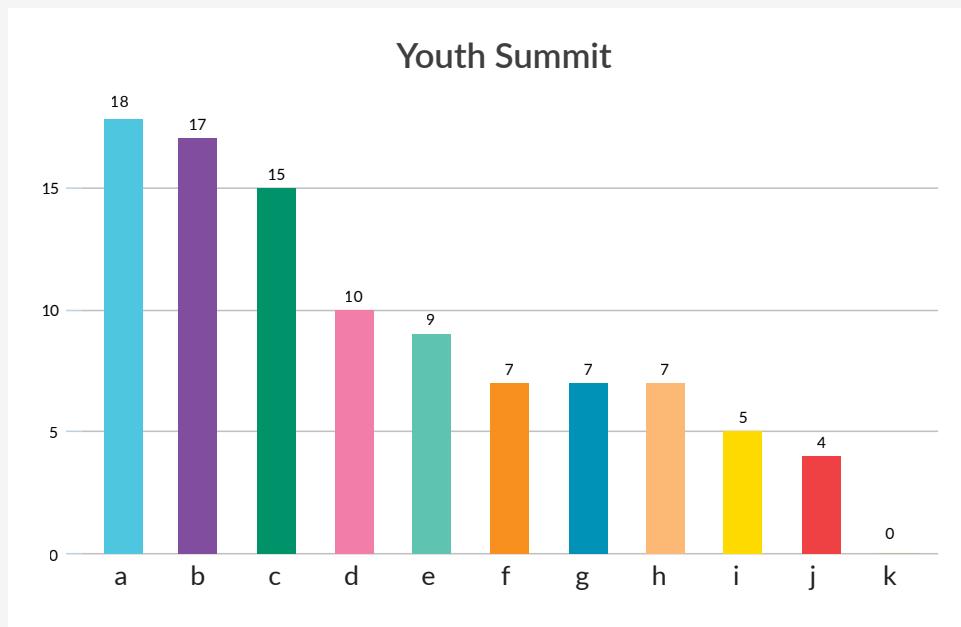


Figure 2: Youth Summit priority of opportunities

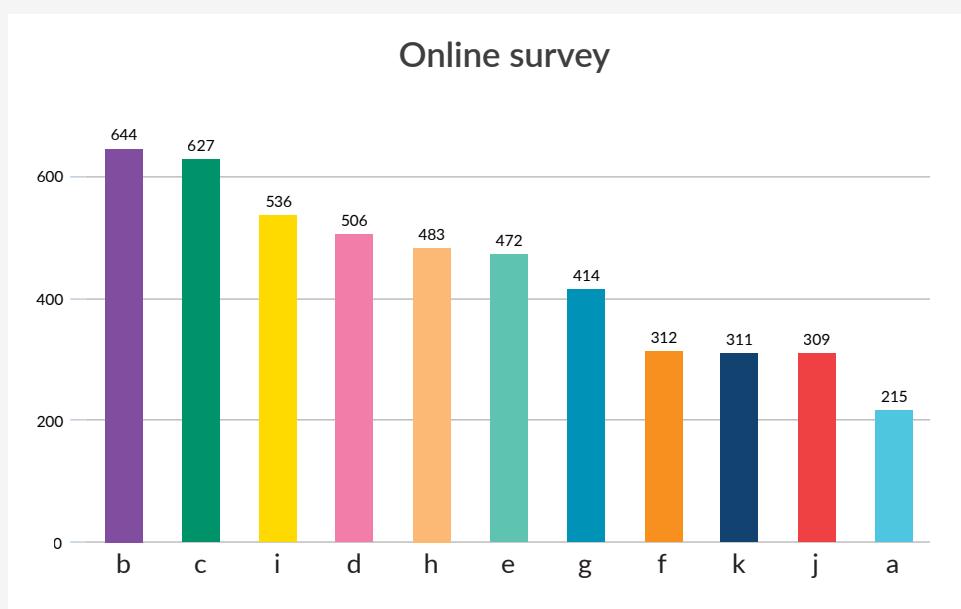


Figure 3: Phase 1 survey priority of opportunities

## Key priority areas

- a** Better range of housing types and prices
- b** Better public transport
- c** More connected and protected wildlife habitats and green open space
- d** More investment in community services, facilities and essential infrastructure
- e** Stronger and more diverse economy with greater employment opportunities
- f** Better access to services and facilities within my neighborhood
- g** More social, cultural and sporting activities and facilities
- h** Better planned local neighborhoods
- i** New buildings designed to be sustainable and suit our tropical climate
- j** Better understanding and resilience to natural hazards
- k** New development will compliment our unique heritage character and lifestyle

We can see that Youth Summit participants have ranked 'A better range of housing types and prices' as their top priority, followed by 'A better public transport system' and 'More connected and protected wildlife habitats and green open space'.

Housing was marked as the lowest priority by Phase 1 online survey respondents.

# Opportunities and challenges of growth

## Prioritising opportunities

When we analysed the individual postcards and messages that summit participants wrote about their ideal Cairns future, there were a number of common themes. This analysis has enabled us to write the following postcard from the future, pulling together the most popular themes mentioned in summit participant postcards.

Dear 2023 Me

Greetings from the vibrant city of Cairns in the year 2050! Let me tell you about the city I love ...

Cairns is a very **safe** city. I am secure and comfortable in public spaces and in my home. Cairns thrives on a strong sense of **togetherness**, where neighbours become friends. Cairns is a place where happiness and equality thrives. We have a warm and inclusive community spirit, where diversity and family is embraced, and an inclusive society is fostered for all.

Our city is filled with majestic **trees**, creating a green and serene atmosphere that celebrates the landscape's tropical beauty. Surrounded by breathtaking landscapes, Cairns captivates with its sustained **natural beauty**, reminding us to appreciate and protect the world around us. We cherish our **environment**, with sustainable practices at the core of our city's identity, ensuring a healthy and vibrant future for generations to come.

Cairns is a hub of opportunity, offering a **diverse range of employment options** and a thriving economy that supports personal and professional growth. The city provides a nurturing environment with exceptional **educational and recreational resources**, empowering your family to thrive and flourish.

Efficient **public transport** networks connect every corner of Cairns, making commuting convenient and reducing traffic congestion. **Cycling and walking** are also integral parts of daily life, promoting health, well-being, and a connection to our community and bodies. Our city boasts modern **infrastructure** that supports our evolving needs, blending seamlessly with the natural beauty that surrounds us.

Embrace the journey and get ready for a future in Cairns that you will be proud of.

All my love,  
2050 Me

# Wild ideas for the future

We asked the Youth Summit participants to tell us their wild ideas for the future. Here's a summary of their wild ideas for opportunities that could come with growth in Cairns.



## Housing

More affordable housing with access to green spaces, diversity in house designs, and renewable energy-powered homes.



## Transport

Electric, solar or hybrid cars, scooters for pick-up and drop-off, ride-sharing, and improved public transport with electric vehicles.



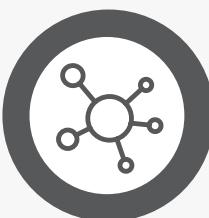
## Urban design

Skyscrapers, vertical gardens, efficient climate control, underground infrastructure, roads with built-in solar panels, and housing on water.



## Sustainability

Hybrid energy systems (wind, water, solar), more robots and AI for manual tasks, farming changes for food supply, reduction of invasive species, and self-sustaining cities.



## Technology

Teleportation, AI-controlled jobs, defensive domes, more online jobs, virtual reality experiences, and improved devices and robotics.



## Environmental protection

Healthy Great Barrier Reef, community gardens, green roofs and walls, wind farms, solar farms, and hydroelectric dams.



## Liveability

More public parks and green spaces, walkable places, pedestrian streets, affordable and comfortable apartment buildings, and net-zero buildings.



## Society and economy

Government subsidies, universal basic income, reduced demand for physical stores, online platforms and businesses, and a focus on sustainability-related jobs.



## Future travel

Hydrogen-powered aircraft, electric trains for freight, high-speed rail connections, and elevated living due to limited land availability.



## Cultural recognition

Recognition and inclusion of First Nations voices, place names, and cultural artefacts in communication and decision-making processes.

# What will not have changed in Cairns in 2050?

We asked Community Summit participants what they think is most important to protect as Cairns grows. These are the elements of Cairns today that they would still like to see in 2050.

The word cloud below shows mentioned topics from most (largest) to least (smallest).



Figure 4: Breakdown of elements that Community Summit participants think most important to protect as Cairns grows.

## How do you feel about change?

We asked Community Summit participants how they feel about change.

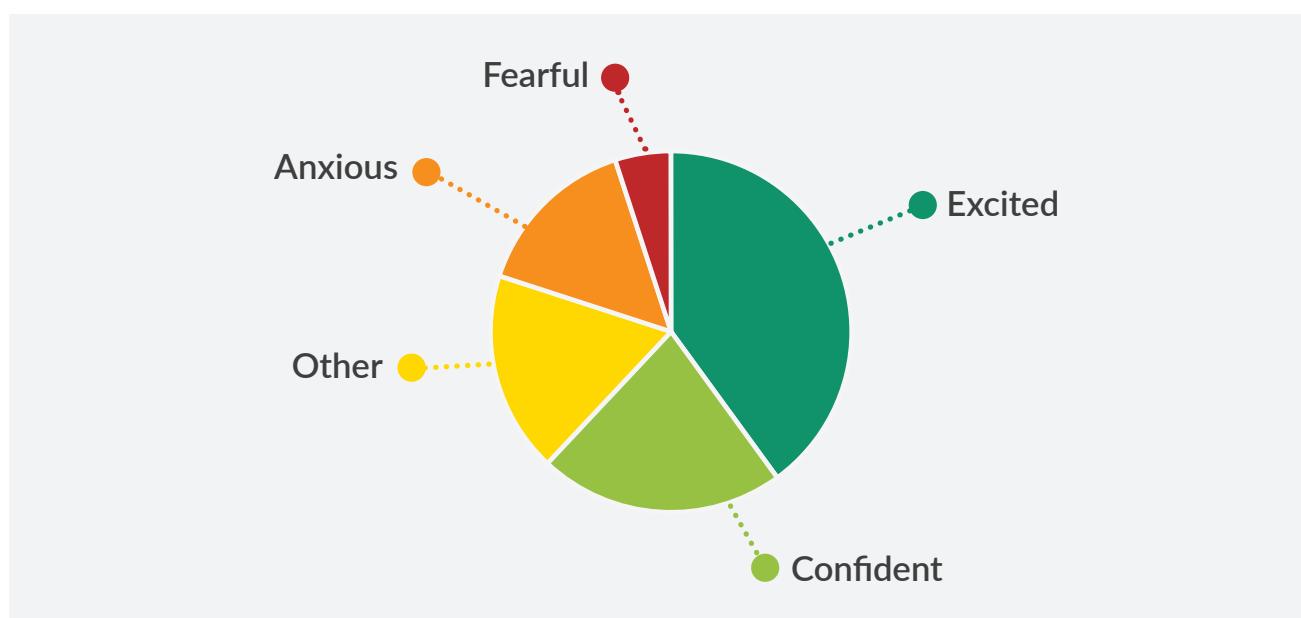


Figure 5: How Community Summit participants feel about change.

# The planning principles that will help shape the Cairns of the future

We asked Community Summit participants to prioritise a series of draft planning principles that will help shape the future of Cairns.

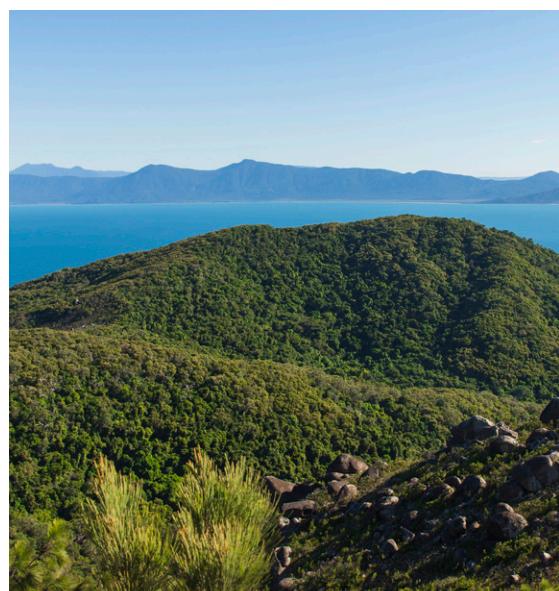
The project team brought 14 draft principles into the summit. These principles broadly related to:

- design to reflect the tropical climate
- green spaces
- natural hazard resilience
- housing
- natural environment and biodiversity
- community networks
- First Peoples culture
- heritage and traditional places
- active and public transport
- local economy
- farmland
- infrastructure



Before we prioritised the draft principles, Community Summit participants added a number of principles that they thought were missing. These principles related to:

- waste management
- accessibility
- energy security
- integrating innovative design and planning for future technology
- local industry
- recognition of the aging population
- importance of water
- prioritising locally grown produce
- geopositioning
- art in communities
- community wellbeing
- safety
- stabilising population rates
- road design
- community engagement in the growth strategy
- reef and rainforest village design
- consideration of urban footprint
- sense of community
- achieving net zero emissions
- balancing impacts



# Prioritised planning principles



This gave us a list of 38 principles that were then prioritised by Community Summit participants. Here's the top 15 principles, as prioritised by participants.

*Note: Text in blue indicates that the planning principle, or part of, was developed by Community Summit participants. Text in black indicates planning principles developed by the Towards 2050 project team.*

1. A wide range of housing types, sizes, and tenures are provided at a range of affordability to meet the diverse and changing needs of our community.
2. Our unique natural habitat areas and biodiversity corridors are connected and protected and **maintain traditional knowledge**.
3. Cairns has a strong diverse economy that retains and attracts businesses and workers and offers a wide range of jobs.
4. Consolidate urban growth with higher density, well-located apartments supported by public transport, and recreational and social facilities and **limit urban sprawl**.
5. Reliable and efficient infrastructure (water, sewerage, roads and digital connection) that are sustainable and accessible for everyone.
6. Cairns is well connected and easy to move around with efficient public transport and suburbs that are connected by cycleways and pedestrian paths to reduce reliance on private vehicle travel.
7. Planning should minimise risk from natural hazards and improve resilience to the impacts of climate change. **The project should attempt to stop climate change and reverse the impacts**.
8. Buildings should be designed to be sustainable and suit the tropical climate.
9. Our neighbourhoods and urban areas should have welcoming and accessible green spaces that engage the senses, facilitate social interactions, and foster wellbeing.
10. Our neighbourhoods provide easy access (walk, cycle or public transport) to employment, shopping, education, recreational and social needs.
11. **Our neighbourhoods are accessible for people with mobility challenges**.
12. Our coastline, scenic landscapes, significant views and mountain ranges are protected.
13. **Cairns will work to minimise and appropriately manage waste**.
14. The diversity of our community and First Peoples culture and connection to country is recognised in the planning framework.
15. High value rural land is protected from urban development and retained for rural uses **and supports a community who prioritises locally grown food**.

# Next steps

The Youth Summit and Community Summit were key elements of Phase 2 of community engagement for the Towards 2050: Shaping Cairns Project. A key outcome has been the testing and enhancement of the prioritised planning principles.

Next, we will shape these into a set of key Guiding Principles.

A suite of 12 technical studies is also being developed to inform the Growth Strategy. These studies will test the Guiding Principles, identifying current issues and key implications for Cairns.

As the technical studies are finalised, the key findings and implications will be explored and considered holistically.

The Guiding Principles will continue to help shape the Cairns of 2050, being guided by the community on what is important as we accommodate this growth.

At the end of Phase 2, the project team will have developed a Growth Strategy Framework document.

This document will describe the process from all the technical studies adopted for the project and how this will inform the options for growth in Cairns.

The project team will continue to provide opportunities for community members to participate in the Towards 2050 Project.

If you would like to be involved in the project, visit [haveoursay.cairns.qld.gov.au/towards2050](http://haveoursay.cairns.qld.gov.au/towards2050)



# Towards 2050

## Youth and Community Summits

### Summary Report

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