CAUSEWAY LAKE RESTORATION PROJECT $1M

Funding is needed to complete a series of due diligence and design studies in support of restoring Causeway Lake to its former glory as a major regional recreation asset.

Traditionally the lake has been used for multiple recreation purposes, but activity on and adjacent to the lake has declined significantly in recent years due to shallowing of the lake from upstream and ocean sedimentation.

The lake was created in the 1930s by the construction of a causeway to connect the southern and northern sectors of the Capricorn Coast. Located on the Capricorn Coast half-way between Yeppoon and Emu Park, the lake is the only calm water asset in the region and therefore is essential for a multitude of training and safe water recreation functions, including sailing, paddle-boarding, boating, water skiing, boat licensing, fishing, canoe and kayak, etc.

The community has a long relationship with the lake and has for several decades expressed their desire for action to be taken to restore the lake's functionality.

The benefits from this project include:

- Improved water safety, multiple new and restored recreation opportunities, increased numbers of individuals participating in water-based sports, improved accessibility and quality of life/health.
- An enhanced regional tourist destination that creates local jobs connected to hire equipment, eco-education and new commercial enterprises.
- Multiple new engagement opportunities such as lake/coastal ecosystem-based education and water sports competitions and carnivals.
- Private investment leveraging off the proposed improvements and feasibility studies.

Achieving optimal lake activation will take several years, but having a plan, supported by market verification, will guarantee that it happens and much sooner. An exercise of this scale mandates government involvement to catalyse action and provide the surety that the private sector requires to be able to respond.

Success looks like …

If funding is secured, all the necessary due diligence work regarding lake restoration, environmental protection, economic enhancement and lake recreational functionality can be completed along with detailed designs for shoreline improvements. This will enable Council to then secure private and community partners to finance and construct necessary shoreline improvements.

Support and commitment:

There has been a decades-long public conversation about the need for action to restore Causeway Lake. Recent community engagement regarding the future of the lake precinct garnered a substantial response (763 completed surveys) with an overwhelming 91% of respondents supporting improvements to the lake precinct and 81% of respondents indicating that they would visit the precinct more often if it were dredged and shoreline improvements undertaken.

Optimising the recreational and environmental functionality of the lake has long been a priority for the regional community. Causeway Lake ranks #1 on the list of Council's priority projects for this reason.

KEY TO SUCCESS

Council is seeking $1 million to undertake the necessary due diligence and design work to develop this project to the point where we know precisely:

- what work will need to be done to deliver on community expectations and achieve the best outcomes, and
- what it will cost to fund this work.

CONTACT

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Welcome to
Causeway Lake