**Please change the suggested text in blue below to your own words**

**October 2023**

**To;**

The Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning

Via email FNQRP@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au

**Re: FNQ Regional Plan 2023 Survey**

**Please accept the following as my response to the Regional Plan survey.**

**1**  How well do you understand the existing Far North Queensland Regional Plan 2009 and how it affects you?

Not very well

Not well

Average

Well

Very well

**2** Please rank the themes from the existing Far North Queensland Regional Plan 2009 from most important to least important.

Natural environment

Regional landscape and natural resources

Strong communities

Urban development

Economic development

Infrastructure

Water management

Transport

**3**  The existing Far North Queensland Regional Plan 2009 sets a vision for how the community sees the region in 2029 (see outline below).

A stronger, more liveable and sustainable community, where:

* outstanding biodiversity and landscape features are valued and protected
* residents have a strong sense of community, and enjoy a relaxed tropical lifestyle in urban and rural settings
* the region attracts national and international residents and visitors who seek a variety of lifestyle, employment, investment and holiday choices
* the economy is robust and diverse based on the principles of ecologically sustainable development
* Cairns forms the heart of an efficient and sustainable settlement pattern that protects natural, cultural and agricultural values, supported by infrastructure, facilities and services
* Traditional Owners of the region and their cultural values are acknowledged and respected
* people are well educated, well informed and resilient to the anticipated impacts of climate change.

How well does this vision reflect your aspirations for the region?

Not very well

Not well

Average

Well

Very well

**4**  When you think of the broader Far North Queensland region (not just your local area), what do you value most?

* The rural amenity surrounded by World Heritage rainforests and the reef.  Close access to the services and facilities of two cities while enjoying a low key relaxed village lifestyle.

**5** Please describe your vision for the region’s future over the next 20-25 years in 100 words or less.

For example, prosperous, sustainable, attractive, green, healthy, safe, self-sufficient, creative, smart, skilled, diverse, inclusive, connected, welcoming, multicultural etc.

* Consistent, long term vision to protect the intrinsic values of the region.
* The natural and village amenity of Mission Beach is protected to maintain ecological sustainability, tourism appeal and community laid back lifestyle.
* Mission Beach continues to be designated a village activity centre, keeping building heights and densities low to maintain village amenity and reduce traffic generation through cassowary habitat. Tully and Innisfail designated growth centres.
* Develop a long term stable economy through innovative approaches to farming and tourism i.e;

**1)** Encourage high value niche farming for job creation, food production and boutique tourism opportunities.

**2)** Protect local cassowary corridors to maintain the 'villages separated by rainforest and farmland character.

**3)** Develop a low impact, unique to the region tourism industry with a focus on being cassowary positive and ecologically sustainable.

**6**  In terms of land use planning, what is a key catalyst of change that will benefit the region the most over the next 20-25 years?

* Develop Local Area Plans for areas where there may be conservation/development conflicts.
* Clearly define *village* and *growth* activity centres and protect with strong local planning laws.
* Protect all Good Quality Agricultural land (GQAL) at Mission Beach against rezoning for urban expansion (including blocks from 2 acres).
* Encourage diversification of rural land to high value niche farming with tourism potential.

**7** Postcode

**8**  Do you live in an urban, rural or remote community?

**9**  Are you of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin?

**10** Age

Your Name