



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PUBLIC CONSULTATION REPORT

DRAFT TULLY WALKING NETWORK PLAN

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Draft Tully Walking Network Plan

About the project

Cassowary Coast Regional Council and the Department of Transport and Main Roads are developing a Tully Walking Network Plan to encourage walking as a more desirable option and to identify future network opportunities for Tully.

The key part of this plan is to better understand community habits and needs for the transport network and how Tully's walking infrastructure can be improved now and for the future. Council's objectives for walking over the next 10 years are:

- To provide better access to active recreation and walking facilities.
- To provide a safe and connected pathway network suitable for all ages and abilities.
- To have walking as an easy choice, particularly for recreation and short transport trips.
- To develop a pathway network that improves access for locals and visitors and promotes the natural amenity of Tully.
- To deliver improved active recreation and walking facilities through partnerships in a way that maximises asset utilisation and community benefit.

Engagement Purpose

Public consultation took place from 16 January 2023 to 20 February 2023 with a community information session held in late April. Council was seeking feedback on community members' current walking habits both recreationally and everyday routes, while also seeking to identify hotspots that impact current routes due to safety, network quality, accessibility, or lack of connections.

How we engaged

To assist with the development of a Draft Walking Network Plan for Tully, Council engaged with the community to gain feedback on the community's current walking habits, and to identify any current hotspots which highlight concerns for accessibility, safety connectivity in the current Tully Walking network.

Online consultation for the Draft Tully Walking Network Plan took place from 16 January 2023 to 20 February and a face to face stakeholder and community information session was held on Thursday 27 April.

To ensure the community was aware of the project, Council ran a public campaign during the consultation period which included:

- Newspaper advertisement in Cairns Community Connect;
- Electronic direct mail to Your Say subscribers;
- Email to 36 stakeholder groups;
- Four promotional corflute signs placed in key locations around Tully which included a QR code directing users to the online project page; and
- Live read by local Radio 4KZ and Kool FM on two occasions.

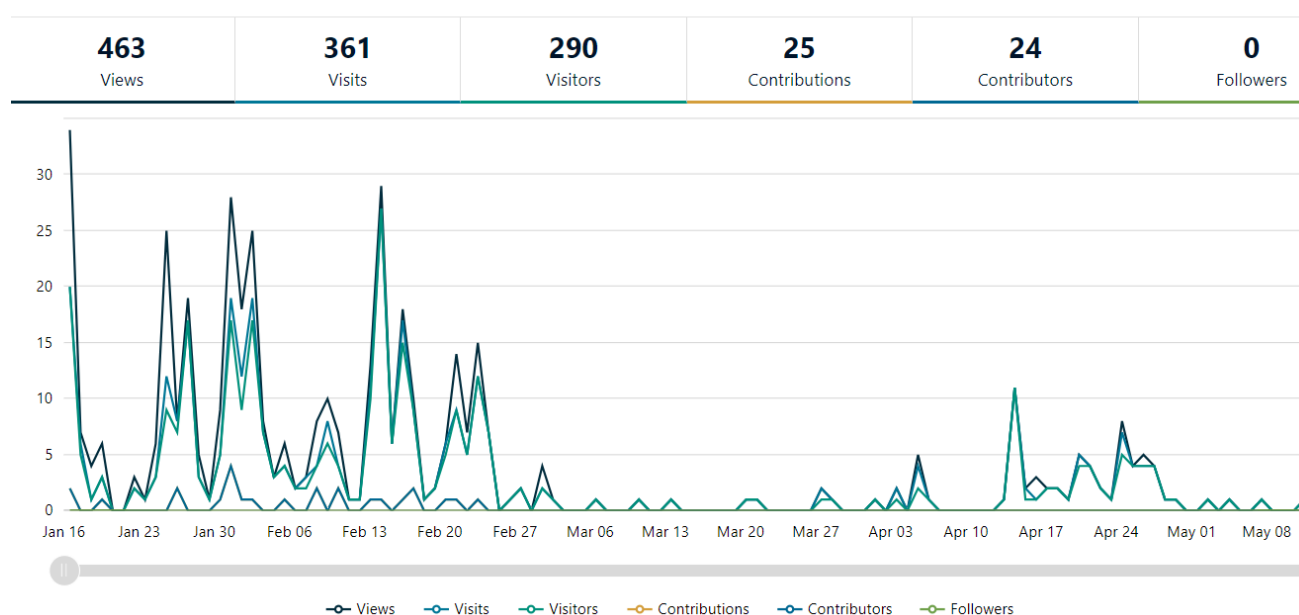
Public Consultation Outcomes

Cassowary Coast Your Say Platform

A project page was set on Council's Your Say platform, yoursay.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/Tully-walking-network-plan which included engagement tools including, a survey and accompanying interactive digital mapping tool.

The Tully Walking Network page received, 25 contributions from 24 contributors. The site had a total of 463 views from 290 individual visitors.

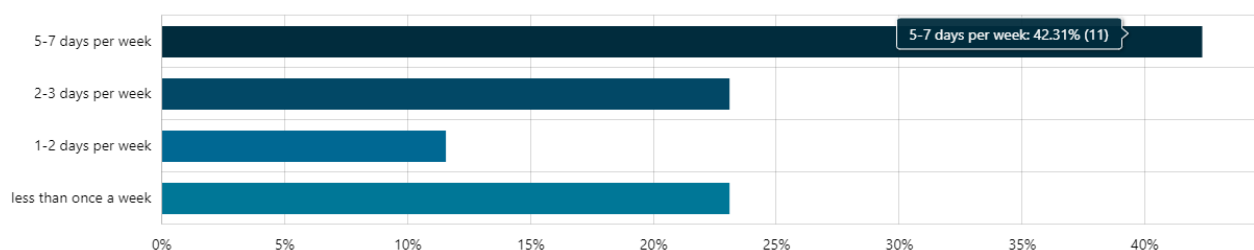
Performance Summary



Feedback from the Your say platform is collated below.

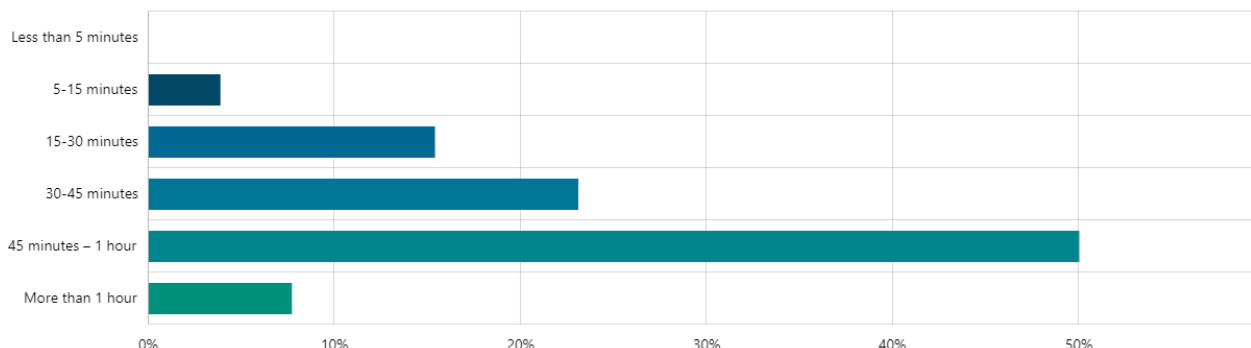
Question one – How often do you currently walk around town?

26 respondents answered this question with 42.3% (11) community members reporting they walk 5-7 days per week.



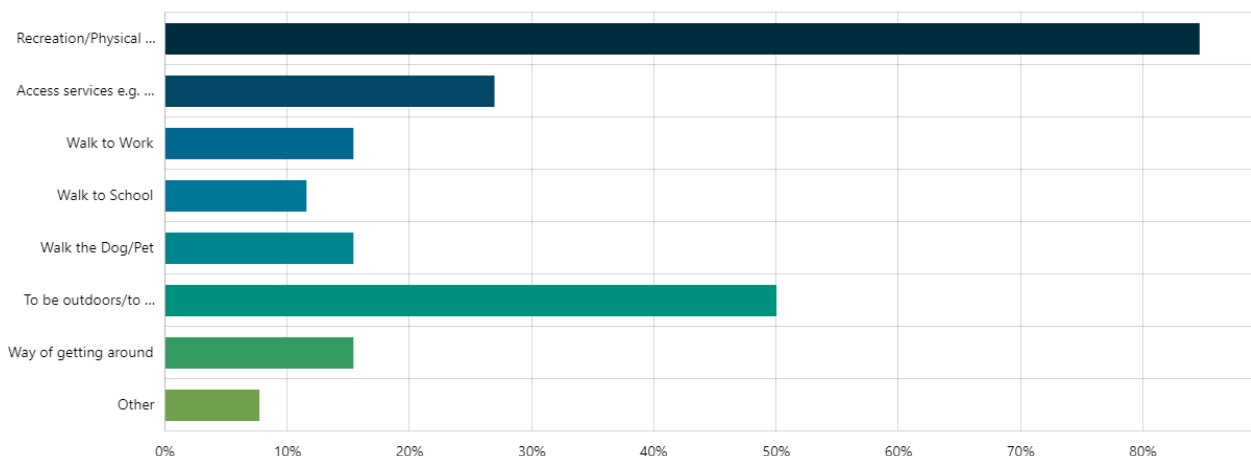
Question two – When you walk, how long do you walk for?

26 respondents answered this question. 50% (13) respondents saying they walk for 45 minutes to 1 hour.



Question 3 – Tell us the reason why you walk?

26 respondents answered this question. 84.62% (22) of respondents agreed that they walk for recreational/physical reasons.



Question 4 - Tell us the reasons you do not walk or walk more often?

26 respondents answered this question and gave suggestions as to why they do not walk or why they do not walk more often.

Notable responses:

- We avoid walking around the streets because of the traffic, so we try to utilise what walking tracks there is available. The Showground is a good route, but doesn't have a pathway leading out of the northern end.
- Lack of suitable, safe paths. The minimal current paths are not wide enough.
- I do walk but it's very dangerous on the roadside where the grass is long, and there is no paths, for example Bulgun Road, Murray Street.
- Lack of safe structured pedestrian walking paths throughout Tully and surrounds
- Lack of undercover pathways around CBD and parking lots near IGA. Meaning I can't park further away and just walk around town in wet weather so I end up driving from store to store to avoid the rain. If I can't find a park the stores lose my business
- I live in Bulgun and would like to walk into Tully if possible. It would be a nice hour walk both ways. Possibly more walking tracks around Bulgun/Tully without having to walk on the road. An

inclusive cycle track would be great as well for school kids.

- Lack of shade. Too many man-made obstacles to get around.

Question 5 – What could be done to help you to want to walk or walk more often?

26 respondents provided suggestions on what could encourage them to walk more often.

Notable responses –

- Plant more large shade trees especially as you enter Tully it looks so ugly and uninviting. An avenue of shade trees would look spectacular and reduce heat.
- A bridge can be built where the railway bridge from the station to the mill was and make walking tracks on and through the wasteland near the railway station
- Provide dedicated walking paths around Tully e.g circuit path. Would be great to continue the existing walking path from Butler Street to Tully High School towards Dean Road and along to Bryant Street and Tully Primary School. Both schools would also benefit.
- Upgrade existing pathways. Murray St. and the Keir Rd Bamber St loop is good, but no paths for most of the loop.
- Creation of a safe path suitable for walking from Tully to Alligators.
- Illumination of paths. Allowances for all types of fitness users like Coronation Drive in Brisbane. Bike lane. Foot lane. Drink stations. Occasional seating and covered areas.
- Put in walking track and mow the grass
- Adequate walking paths. Current paths to be updated & maintained to be clean & non slippery. Suggestion for families to have a Pump track similar to Babinda.
- More safe pathways to the pool and to town from back streets
- Wide safe walking tracks and undercover walking tracks between areas in and around the CBD so you can get around dry without a car
- Plant more shade trees. More shady parking areas to leave the car. More shade over pathways. Less public furniture and built environment obstacles to avoid.

Question 6 - Do you use any shortcuts to reduce you walking distance? If yes, and why?

19 (73.08%) of respondents answered this question.

Notable responses –

- Curtis Street to Richardson Street to Violet Smith Park
- Yes Murray Street
- Through IGA car park
- Past the pool into town
- Kids could walk through Showgrounds to get into high school but now the gates are locked
- I walk in a line-of-sight direction to location. I avoid concrete paths and bitumen to prevent joint damage, slippery concrete, baking hot surfaces, and dangerous crossings.

Question 7 – Which areas do you think should be prioritised for upgraded walking facilities and why?

24 (92.31%) of respondents answered this question.

Notable responses –

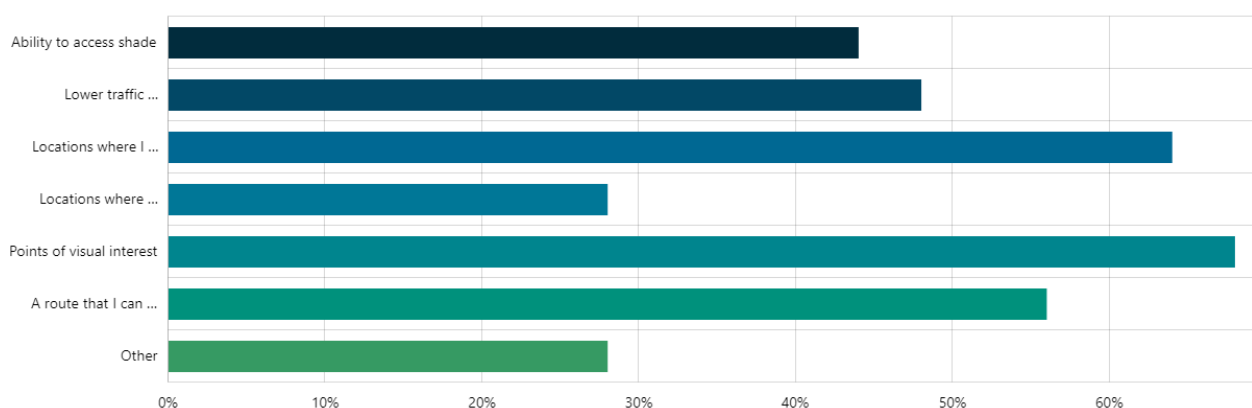
- Murray Street heading out toward alligators nest. In particular near the Girl Guides Hall. That corner is very dangerous for all who walk near it.
- Bryant Street between Tully Primary School and Dean Road is heavily used by walkers and

school children who have to share the road. It is dangerous for walkers with regular near misses between walkers & vehicles

- There should also be safe crossings in town such as Zebra Crossings across Morris Street from the Post Office to the Library, across Bryant Street from the Library to the RS crossings across Morris Street from the Post Office to the library.
- Along the Banyan. Just like Cardwell has along the beach. Futuristic upgrade to incorporate users for various reasons... fitness people. Tourists. Locals have something to show visitors and family. Social gatherings. Space-time fillers
- From the cyclone shelter gate at Tully state school along Campbell Street to the CCRC pensioner huts in Theodore Street, Tully. As the old pensioners walk to town and kids walk to/from school along Campbell Street on the road which is very unsafe
- Bulgun Road, and Feluga around Jack Drive the area is growing and lots of families are moving there
- Main Street Butler Street. The footpath in front of the mill is sub standard and dangerous. Walking from the town area to the daycare residents need to walk on the road often with young children in prams. Not everyone has the luxury of a car. Mitchell Pk
- Murray Street/Bulgun Road is a most enjoyable walk however, extremely hazardous with the quality of walking area and managing traffic in spots.
- Tully to Bulgun/Alligators Nest. Lots of kids, families and tourist walking, riding bikes, taking the dog along the road to and from the creeks
- There needs to be a footpath in front of the hospital so people do not need to be walking behind cars to get to the entry of hospital. It is dangerous
- CBD areas to make them more attractive places in summer by increasing the shade, & removing man made obstacles.

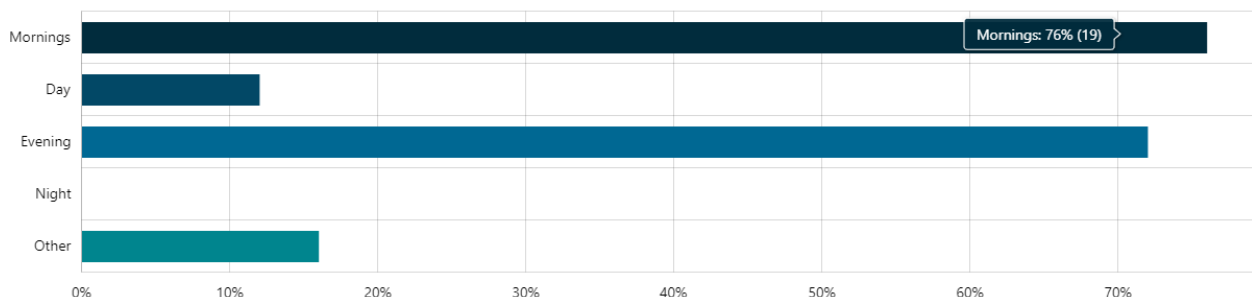
Question 8 – When walking for recreation, what things do you look for when selecting a walking route? More than one can be selected.

25 respondents (96.15%) responded to this question. Notably, points of visual interest was highly supported with 68% of respondents, locations where I can be away from vehicles by 56% of respondents and A route that I can walk in 35-40 minutes with 56% of respondents.



Question 9 - For those of you who walk for Recreation/Physical health/Fitness, what time of day do you prefer to walk and why?

25 respondents answered this question.



Question 10 - Provide a list of places and points of interest around town that you visit on a regular basis?

12 respondents answered this question. Respondents made mention of Banyan Park, connection to Alligators Nest and walking from location for interest purposes.

Notable responses –

- Murray Street and Bryant Street. Maintenance of walking track in Bamber Street is required. Track is slippery and very over grown
- Banyan could be the new attraction in town incorporating beautiful social settings. Fitness/ leisure paths. Iconic random works of art along it. Foot viewing Bridge over river. Think outside the square
- Alligators Nest. Cemetery. Loop past nursing home. Bamber street nature area.
- I play Pokemonn Go while I walk so I visit points of interest on the Pokemon map. Tully MPC, Gumboot, Cenotaph, and Tully Cemetery. Base of the Mt Tyson walking track etc.

Question 11 - Tell us about any areas where you may feel unsafe when walking? Include where and why you do not you feel safe?

16 respondents answered this question. Comments highlighted Murray Street, Dean Road to Bruce Highway section, Bryant Street and residential areas. Respondents made mention to the quality of the current footpath being slippery during wet season and current networks not providing adequate connections.

Notable responses –

- Murray Street. There are no footpaths and cars travel at high speeds along there. Children often use this route to commute to school as well
- Some roads are incredibly slippery in the wet season. Walking to Alligators Nest is unsafe
- Bulgun Road has many points which become very unsafe with the negotiation of traffic e.g. Horan Close to Ruby Crescent a particular bad spot.
- The Lions Park & Bus shelter area. There are often people consuming alcohol on a regular basis. This is not safe for families or general public. Appalling aspect to welcome people to Tully.

Question 12 - Tell us about any areas where you have issues when you walk around town? What

factors stop you from getting around more easily?

14 respondents answered this question.

Notable responses –

- Nature walk at Keir Road. It's a beautiful walk but very poorly maintained
- Places with no paths and a lot of foot traffic which happens on a regular basis
- What pathways we have in Tully are generally quite narrow and have poor drainage so in the wet weather they're quite often covered with rainwater or mud.
- Lack of covering around town for staying dry. Anywhere I need to walk on the road rather than a path
- Not enough shade for car parking and walking. Unsafe and excessive crossings. Too many obstacles eg bins, signs, reverse parking stops, business footpath paraphernalia, unused public furniture. Treeless planter boxes.

Question 13 – Please provide us with your address or at minimum the street you live on.

23 respondents answered this question. All respondents lived within the Tully Area or within a ten kilometre radius.

Feedback from Community Information session – held at Tully Grandstand, Thursday 27 April 2023.

Session location: Tully Grandstand

Session date/time: Thursday 27 April 2023 at 5:00pm

Attendees: Shepherd Consultant and Council officers.

Objective: Provide community members with:

- A summary of the Walking Network Plan development process and findings to date
- A summary of the feedback that has been obtained through the community survey
- An opportunity to provide additional input that will help improve the walking network

Engagement number – 9 community members were engaged with

Engagement demographics – all community members would be middle aged to senior citizens and all identified as residents of the Tully area.

Feedback from the community information session has been summarised below:

- Mowing LOS in rural residential areas. Community generally supportive. Shoulders/ off shoulder (separation) mowed strip
- Deco gravel sections (no expectation for concrete), community mentioned Kurrimine as a good example.
- Understand and support upgrades will be progressive and supported prioritisation draft criteria.
- Supported the draft objectives which were discussed.
- Discussion around the consideration of connection to Mt Tyson.
- Flagged the habits of backpackers who often walk and ride to Alligators Nest.
- Also flagged, kids who live near Bulgan ride into town.
- Discussed lighting to come at a later stage, need to avoid making false sense of security with some sections lit some not.
- Flagged the bridge on the Bruce Highway near BP – no access to cross.

Next Steps

The Stakeholder Engagement report reach key internal and external stakeholders. Council Officers will Draft the Walking Network Plan for Council consideration and adoption and develop a priority works program.

Acknowledgement

This document has been prepared by Cassowary Coast Regional Council – Communications Team. All information presented in this report has been presented in an accurate and unbiased manner and makes no recommendation on any project actions going forward. This report has been approved by the Chief Executive Officer. For further information, please contact Council at 1300 763 903 or email enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au.