



**PORT**  
**of**  
**TOWNSVILLE**

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# Media Release

13 September 2006  
For immediate release

## ***Port Planning Process Commences***

TOWNSVILLE Port Authority has, today, launched its Statement of Proposal, as part of its strategic planning process. It is the first step in a process that will result in a new Land Use Plan for the Port of Townsville.

The Statement of Proposal is available for review and comment by the community and other stakeholders from ***Tuesday 12 September to Thursday 9 November***. Feedback received from the community, key stakeholders and Government agencies will be considered for inclusion in the draft Land Use Plan.

Mr. Barry Holden, Townsville Port Authority Chief Executive Officer, said: "The Statement of Proposal is primarily a consultation tool that provides the opportunity for the community to gain a clear understanding of the major issues and challenges within and surrounding the Port area.

"The public notification of the Statement of Proposal allows individuals and companies to make a meaningful contribution towards determining how the Land Use Plan will respond to those issues and challenges," he said.

"The areas shown on the plans are conceptual only. There are a number of studies currently being undertaken in consultation with the Department of the Co-ordinator General and others which will assist in refining future development options. These include a strategic port study considering the infrastructure and transport requirements to accommodate increased trade volumes for the next 30 years, a Port/City interface study to ensure the best integration of development between the Port and the adjacent city areas, and the proposed construction of a Port Industrial Precinct at the mouth of Ross River.

"Townsville Port Authority has a responsibility to pro-actively plan for the future to ensure the port can facilitate trade and economic development to adequately meet the needs of current and future customers, against a backdrop of environmental and social responsibility. This Statement of Proposal is an integral part of that process."

Townsville Port Authority has requested that all feedback be lodged by way of a written submission. Information regarding the closing time for a submission and submission procedure are outlined in the Statement of Proposal.

A copy of the Statement of Proposal is attached. Further copies can be obtained from Townsville Port Authority.

**Background**

Strategic Port lands are exempt from local government planning schemes. Townsville Port Authority is required to develop a Land Use Plan for strategic Port lands under the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994*. The Authority's current Land Use Plan was last revised in 1996. Changes to the legislative framework have resulted in a review of the Land Use Plan. The statutory changes also mean that the Land Use Plan must be reviewed at least every eight years.

→ **Note to editor/chief of staff:**

***Townsville Port Authority Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Barry Holden, will be available for comment at the Townsville Port Authority Administration Building at 2 p.m. this afternoon.***

*For further information or to arrange port access please contact Lesley McMahon, Public Affairs Officer, on (07) 4781 1551 or 0400 013 622.*

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