Hervey Bay Esplanade
(Point Vernon to Urangan)

Key Values

- Average value of 4.62 out of 5 (on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being 'very highly valued') — being the most valued location.
- Most popular destination for all activities on the survey (except boating)
- People love the beach – the swimming, access to sheltered beaches, bike paths, and access to parks and provision of accommodation
- Values associated with cafes and restaurants, key features like the Pier, parks including the Torquay park precinct, and the Pier

“The diversity of the waterfront along the Esplanade, that caters for all abilities and the continual improvement and upgrades to this.”

“How beautiful, clean and maintained it is – best asset in our region!”

“Keeping as many trees on the Esplanade as possible.”

Previous Engagement Findings (Hervey Bay Esplanade Engagement)

- Total of 344 responded to the Hervey Bay Esplanade project survey undertaken between March and April 2019
- The majority (74%) of respondents primarily use the Esplanade for recreation and activity, followed by exercise and fitness (49%)
- Key features valued at each of the 5 precincts along the Hervey Bay Esplanade are:
  - Point Vernon – spectacular views (33%), natural environment (22%), rock pools (10%)
  - Pialba – water park (20%), family activities (8%), native flora and fauna (7%)
  - Scarness – restaurant/dining (15%), beaches (17%), parks/playground (11%)
  - Torquay – beachfront (16%), natural environment (11%), restaurant/dining (9%)
  - Urangan – amenities (15%), spectacular views (15%), recreation/socialising (9%)

The survey feedback indicated preservation of the natural environment/vegetation as the primary vision (34%) for the Hervey Bay Esplanade over the next 20 years. Respondents also indicated they would like to see better infrastructure and amenities along the esplanade (18%) and maintaining and improving the current standard of cycling/pedestrian tracks (17%).
Point Vernon, Pialba, Eli Waters (and part of Scarness)

Values and Changes (all workshops)

VALUES
1. Beach - walking, healthy living, oval
2. Natural landscape/beauty
3. Protecting Lismore Park and turtle nesting sites/rookery
4. Active and passive recreation facilities - boat ramps, parks
5. Great development of youth precinct - family activities/environment
6. Promotion of Aboriginal, First Nations, historical/environmental influence
7. Wet-side - all abilities, park, skate park, seawater wall, free entry
8. Amazing reef ecosystem (Gatakers Bay) - sealife/fishing
9. Eli Creek - protect sea life habitat
10. Enzos
11. Eli Waters - mangroves/natural amenities/kayaking/stringrays/turtles
12. Camping/caravan parks
13. Recreational beach use/parks
14. Views
15. Playground (filled with memories)
16. Spearfishing/diving - nice reef fish
17. Shopping centre
18. Tide pools
19. Nest of the Gables - great snorkelling
20. Rock pools (invertebrates)

CHANGES OBSERVED
1. Rising seas/erosion
2. No infrastructure planning footpaths and roads
3. Sand blows onto infrastructure every time there is a strong northerly wind, where dune vegetation has been removed
4. Eli Creek - no longer a Council dump. No effluent outfall
5. Decrease in FCRC maintenance in the area (promoting weeds and non-native species of fauna and flora)
6. Creek outfall - many changes to stormwater outfall over last 50 years (no longer a dump)
7. Beach access
8. Why put a waterpark by the ocean (more benefit in another area)
9. Boat ramp sediments
10. Loss of coral/significant erosion
11. Plant more trees
12. Marine life sites, rehabilitation, protected sites
13. Artificial bunds removed - is a good thing

Other observations
- Increase of shoreline debris - people littering
- Tree poisoning
- Vandalism of beach restoration

WOULD YOU CHANGE ANYTHING? (YOUTH)
1. Maze (its a golf club)
2. Roundabouts
Urangan Boat Harbour

Key Values

- An average score of 4.31 out of 5 on the survey (with 5 very highly valued)
- Workshop feedback confirmed that the harbour was highly valued as a great location to recreate in and also for boat access
Scarness, Torquay and Urangan

Values and Changes (all workshops)

Values
1. Love our beach (swimming, access, bike, paths)
2. Pier
3. Marina is awesome
4. Torquay Park precinct - children playing, equipment, walking
5. Lagoons
6. Wide buffer/vegetation on foreshore (sand dunes, storm protection)
7. Indigenous fish
8. Fishing (boat access)
9. Urangan markets
10. Linzos
11. Parks
12. Esplanade (drive, walking)
13. Restaurants/caves
14. Locally owned business, picnic/BBQ spots
15. Vegan business
16. Forklands
17. Airport
18. Swimming, snorkelling, surf ski, jet ski
19. Dog walking with/without leash
20. Coral reef - snorkel off the mainland
21. Islands!
22. Whale watching cruises
23. 5km sheltered beaches, accommodation, van parks (good for economy)

Changes observed
1. Remove above-ground sewer pipes. Are they tested for ecoli (social media)
2. Sand blows onto infrastructure in strong northerly winds, where ever dune vegetation has been removed
3. High tides can wash onto esplanade (Elizabeth St) inadequate buffer zone
4. Declining water quality from runoff (nutrients/moving to lagoon edge)
5. Sea wall (surf club/yacht club)
6. Increase in events ie: triathlon
7. Fishing
8. Parking on esplanade
9. More information of pier history
10. Boardwalks fallen into the sea during cyclones
11. Coral death from bleaching due to temperature, sediment covering/smothering

Other observations:
- Turning into esplanade from back street
- More street lights
- Lack of Aboriginal representation
- Get rid of all esplanade caravan parks

Would you change anything?
(YOUTH)
1. Disabled access
2. Structures built less close to shoreline

Other observations:
- Harmony rocks, toilets and water taps