



Gladstone Ports Corporation

Growth, Prosperity, Community.

GPC Ref #1542237

MEDIA RELEASE – PORT VISION TO GROW TO MEET TRADE DEMAND For Release 27/09/2019

Gladstone Ports Corporation has outlined its 50-year vision to develop the Port of Bundaberg as a key agricultural trade connection to growing economies.

The Port of Bundaberg Draft Precinct Outlook released by Gladstone Ports Corporation (GPC) on Wednesday acknowledged the Wide Bay Burnett region's agricultural output would become increasingly valued as food security became a major issue in emerging markets.

Transport and Main Roads Minister Mark Bailey said Bundaberg's publicly-owned port was well-positioned to capitalise on the expected trade growth in agricultural exports.

"The Wide Bay Burnett region accounts for about 10 per cent of Queensland's agricultural production," Minister Bailey said.

"Fast-growing economies like Indonesia, India and, most significantly, China, are expected to compete for aggressively for Australian products in the coming decades.

"One of the Wide Bay-Burnett region's best assets is its agricultural diversity in terms of produce and processing, whether its sugarcane, timber, beef, pork and poultry, fruit or vegetables.

"There is also plenty of opportunity to develop tourism through the Port of Bundaberg too, so we need a vision that sets out priorities for how we develop the land and attract business and investment to make the most of that opportunity."

GPC Acting CEO Craig Walker presented the vision for the port at the Port of Bundaberg Trade Development Group Meeting attended by representatives from Bundaberg Regional Council, Department of State Development, Transport and Main Roads and key industry leaders in Bundaberg on Wednesday.

Mr Walker said the draft outlook would harness the unprecedented opportunities offered by the next wave of globalisation, new energy and technology.

"The Draft 50 year Port of Bundaberg Precinct Outlook focuses on creating the right infrastructure, opportunities and connections to address future domestic trends and global shifts," Mr Walker said.

"Since GPC became responsible for the Port of Bundaberg in 2009, throughput has more than doubled to more than 550,000 tonnes a year.

"We achieved this by diversifying trade, investing in infrastructure and working alongside local Councils and industry.

"To continue that growth, the Port of Bundaberg must evolve in conjunction with incremental improvements in infrastructure to service domestic trends and global shifts."



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Mr Walker said the Draft Port of Bundaberg Precinct Outlook reinforced GPC's commitment to the Bundaberg and Wide Bay Burnett regions

"We are resolute in our commitment to the Port of Bundaberg," Mr Walker said.

GPC Port of Bundaberg Manager Jason Pascoe said the joint study, with the Bundaberg Regional Council and the Wide Bay Burnett Regional Organisation of Councils, into the region's trade potential, demonstrates our commitment as a community member and facilitator.

"GPC will be engaging with key Port of Bundaberg stakeholders, including government representatives, industry, business, partners and Port tenants," Mr Pascoe said.

More information on the Draft Port of Bundaberg Precinct Outlook is available on the GPC website at www.gpcl.com.au/operations/port-of-bundaberg

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