Gold Coast’s Transformation to a Water Sensitive and Sustainable City

Paul Heaton – Director Gold Coast Water and Waste

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The Gold Coast already is a “Water City”

- Water adds $1.4b annually to Tourism Sector
- Approximately 17-25% recycled water reuse (highest in SEQ)
- 300km of navigable watercourses
- Proximity to waterways contributes $3.6b to Gold Coast property values
- 3200 ha of lakes, dams and canals
- Ramsar-listed wetlands and five declared fish habitats
- Extensive infrastructure and operations to minimise impacts of recycled water releases on environment
- 900km of built residential waterfront in the City
- Integrated catchment management, water, sewerage and solid waste management in single commercial business
Is it a “Water Sensitive City”? (Benchmark)
Is a “Water Sensitive” City “Sustainable”? (UNSDG)

*Water Logic (1993), Edward de Bono, Penguin Books
How to make it “Water Sensitive” and “Sustainable”?  

- Stable Climate
- Safe Countries
- Sustainable Communities
- Systems Capability
- Smart Citizens

Climate Resilience
Sustainable Development
Productive Economies
Integrated Thinking
Creating Champions
How to make it “Water Sensitive” and “Sustainable”? 

Source: Island Earth
The Gold Coast is a world leading water sensitive city.

- Water and land environments and resources are well-protected.
- Water infrastructure systems are innovative and support a diverse and sustainable economy.
- Urban areas have abundant beautiful well designed spaces that celebrate water.
- Water environments are shared by everyone and accessible to all.
- Water systems and land-use planning are multi-purpose, integrated and adaptive.
- Water infrastructure systems enable efficient and sustainable use of resources.
- People understand, cherish and protect their surrounding water environments.
- Stakeholder collaboration delivers sustainable goals and supports stewardship.
- Informed decisions are made through inclusive processes to support sustainability.
- The Yugambeh and Kombumerri people are actively engaged in decision making and stewardship.

Beginning of Gold Coasts’ Water Future.
Contact details

PO Box 5042  Gold Coast MC  QLD  9729
P 1300 GOLDCOAST
E mail@goldcoast.qld.gov.au
W cityofgoldcoast.com.au