



Cairns Regional Council

ReGlass Concrete Footpath Trial

In an exciting example of resource recovery, staff from Cairns Regional Council have commenced field trials using recycled crushed glass (known as 'ReGlass') for non-structural concrete projects in the Cairns Region. The first trial pour taking place on January 11th for a concrete pedestrian footpath located in front of a local southside school.

The trial involves using ReGlass sourced from Council's Materials Recovery Facility in Portsmith as a replacement for virgin sand material in non-structural concrete projects. Pioneer North Qld working with the Council in supplying the concrete mixes for the trials. The first batch was mixed to TMR design specifications with ReGlass replacing 40% of the sand.

For the first pour in early January the feedback from the concrete crew was very positive, stating that it was easy to handle and one of the "best batches they had worked with in a long time".



Getting a feel of the first batch

This same crew had previous experience working with this ReGlass product at the Cairns Performing Arts Centre project where more than 1000 tonnes of the product was mixed with sand and used as a backfill site stabilizing material. The single

difference they noticed using ReGlass as a sand replacement on this project was that the ReGlass didn't absorb water like sand did.

Mahana Tai and Mary Horseman from the CRC Waste department were also in attendance for the first pour and were pleased to hear immediate positive feedback of the concrete mix from the work crews on site as work progressed.

Mahana Tai, supervisor of the CRC Materials Recovery Facility was thrilled to see the ReGlass product he and his staff create each day, being put to use in such a beneficial way in his own city.

"I felt really reinvigorated, seeing the pour take place and hearing the great feedback from the crew, knowing that our efforts and hard work at the MRF is really helping to reduce landfill and make better use of this material locally".

Pioneer North Qld completed multiple concrete slump tests on site with favourable results. Two more batches with 40% & 60% glass replacement are scheduled to take place on Monday 14th January. The final results won't be known until the concrete has cured for 28 days. All going well Council will be able to continue using MRF ReGlass in non-structural concrete works.

Mahana went on to say "I'm sure the Cairns community will be as pleased as we all were today, knowing they we're walking on glass containers they have placed in their yellow top kerbside recycle bins....and that Council really does recycle!"



Also in this edition:

<u>Cairns Regional Council</u>	1
<u>ReGlass Concrete Footpath Trial</u>	1
<u>CQG Consulting Pty Ltd</u>	2
<u>CQG tackles Container Refund Scheme</u>	2
<u>City of Townsville</u>	2
<u>Council to continue free kerbside collection in 2019</u>	2
<u>Council 'Litter-ally' best of the best</u>	3
<u>Townsville City Council's Smart Waste journey... 12 months on</u>	3
<u>Cook Shire Council</u>	4
<u>Community shines for Coen Blitz</u>	4

CQG Consulting Pty Ltd

CQG tackles Container Refund Scheme

Queensland recently celebrated the \$10 million milestone under the Container Refund Scheme (CRS) only two months after it began - an unprecedented response by the community.

Helping contribute to the success of the scheme was regional Queensland firm, CQG Consulting who was awarded the preliminary audits for the Rockhampton and Bundaberg Regions and the second-round audits in Rockhampton, Mackay and Townsville.



CQG's Project Manager, Jason Edwards and environmental scientist Lincoln Roberts doing their bit for Queensland's CRS.

Over two weeks CQG staff worked with Council representatives, collection contractors and Material

Recovery Facility (MRF) operators to successfully audit hundreds of kerbside bins and MRF throughput – counting over 50,000 individual items totalling over 2 tonnes.

CQG's Director Patrice Brown said, "It's great to be part of such a large-scale recycling program.

To see the uptake by the community fills me with confidence that the Queensland community is ready and willing to take on the challenge of even greater waste reduction and recycling initiatives."

With such a large up take in the first two months CQG are looking forward to continuing working collaboratively with all those involved to help the scheme run smoothly into the future.

www.cqgroup.com.au

City of Townsville

Council to continue free kerbside collection in 2019

Townsville's free hard waste kerbside collection will continue next year, with a streamlined pick-up schedule.

Townsville City Council's Water and Waste Committee recommended the kerbside collection be continued in 2019, and the program timeframe be reduced to approximately 26 weeks.

The number of zones will also be reduced from 25 to less than half the current 25 – potentially aligned with suburb boundaries and postcodes.

Acting Mayor Les Walker said re-introducing the free kerbside hard waste collection was a key election commitment from Team Hill.

"This year is the first time Council has done a kerbside collection in more than a decade so we have taken on board all the community feedback and we will make changes to improve the service," Cr Walker said.

"It was an extremely important commitment from Mayor Jenny Hill and the Team – and we're very proud to have delivered it.

"There are some areas for improvement and that's why staff have worked on a new streamlined program that will be simpler and quicker. "Importantly, everyone in the community can use the hard waste kerbside collection including renters and pensioners."

Cr Walker said more than 40 per cent of households used the kerbside collection and they got rid of an average of 100kg each.

“This has proved to be a popular service with residents, with white goods the most common items picked up,” Cr Walker said.

Cr Walker said the new schedule would begin towards the end of April 2019.

The proposal will go before the next Full Council meeting for final consideration.

Council ‘Litter-ally’ best of the best

Townsville City Council’s Public Affairs team is officially Queensland’s Government In-House PR Team of the Year.

Last night, the team received two awards at the Public Relations Institute of Australia’s (PRIA) Golden Target Awards – Best Government in-house PR team and Best Small Budget Campaign.



The subject nominated was Council’s Litter-ally Improving Waste marketing campaign, which aimed to explain changes to waste policies such as introducing a free hard waste kerbside collection, two free dumping weekends per year and implementing free dumping of green waste and recyclables all-year round.

A key feature of the campaign was Council using its own staff as talent in the advertisements.

Community and Cultural Development Committee Chair Cr Colleen Doyle – who was in Brisbane to receive the award – said she was proud of Council’s talented staff.

“It’s great Townsville has such creative talent in our Public Affairs team and also the Townsville Waste crew – this really is an amazing collaboration between the two teams here at Council.

“These ads really show what we can do for our community using our own resources and it proves

we can engage with the community creatively and speak their language.

“So many locals have loved the ads with our own waste truck drivers as the stars – and it’s important to show we can beat the best with our own local talent.

“We have so much talent in within Council and it’s wonderful to have it recognised on a state and national level.”

Cr Doyle said Council has a big customer focus and has implemented better ways to communicate to the community.

“Its ads like these where our team uses humour to get our important messages through to our local residents,” Cr Doyle said.

Townsville City Council’s Smart Waste journey 12 months on



12 months ago, Solar Bins Australia partnered with Townsville City Council which saw the installation of 12 Bigbelly General Waste and Recycling Solar Compactors along Gregory Street in the suburb of North Ward. The Bigbellys were installed with the aim of providing a smarter, more sustainable waste management system to students and visitors, assisting Townsville City in becoming one of Queensland’s smartest cities.

Since installation, the solar-powered stations have compacted their way through over 190,000 litres of recycling and general waste. Furthermore, average monthly waste collections have been reduced by 63% which has enabled huge operational savings for the Council.

So how does the Bigbelly Solar Compactor work? The Bigbelly uses the power of the sun to charge a

12-volt battery which powers a compaction unit inside of the station. This means that as waste fills up inside of the bin, it will eventually reach two, fill-level sensors that are located on either side which in turn trigger the compaction unit to squash the collected waste.

The result is that the Bigbelly can collect 5 times the amount of waste as a standard 120L wheelie bin.

The Bigbelly then notifies the collection team when it is ready for collection via text or email notification, meaning that the bins only need to be emptied when they are full.

As well creating a more efficient waste management system, Bigbellies also keep waste contained with the flagship hopper design which means waste overflow is prevented as well as pest access and wind-blown litter. The hopper design is also paramount in ensuring that members of the public are safe and without access to the internal compactor at all times.

Our latest BB5 models are now also being shipped with a hopper sensor as standard. The addition of a hopper sensor means that that the hopper is now able to collect critical data about the station such as how many times the hopper has been opened each day, or if there have been any hopper jams etc.

We look forward to our continued partnership with Townsville City Council and for assisting them in maintaining an optimised, smart waste management system for many years to come.

If you would like to find out more about how our smart waste technology could benefit your business or organisation, feel free to speak with our friendly team on 1300 893 610 or via email at sales@solarbins.com.au.

We look forward to hearing from you. Thanks in advance.

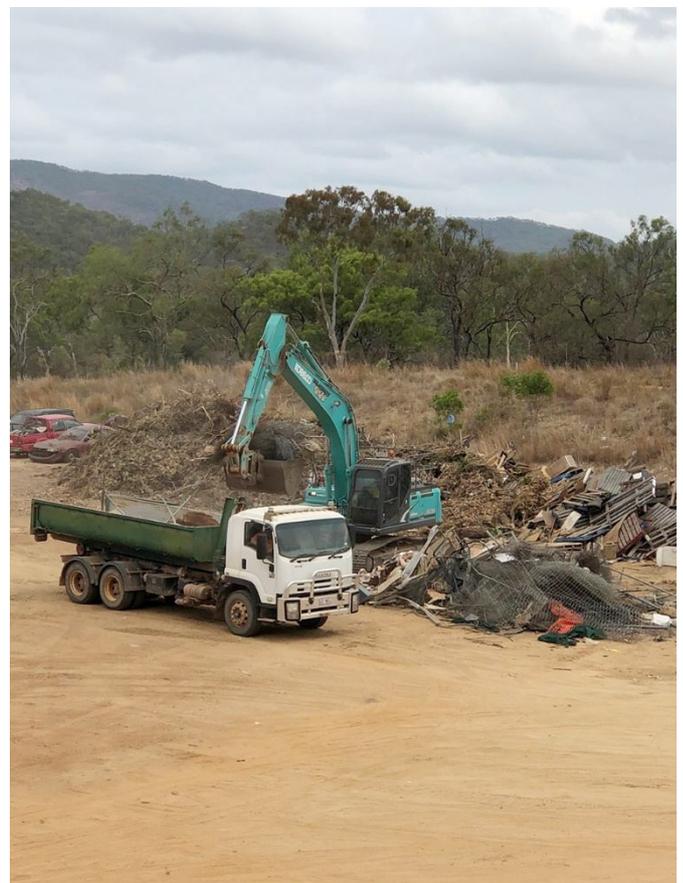
Cook Shire Council

Community shines for Coen Blitz

The streets and facilities at Coen have a new lease on life after Cook Shire Council's first

community blitz program swept through the town last week.

The community improvement program resulted in more than 40 abandoned vehicles being removed and repairs, re-painting and cleaning of community buildings. "There was a real sense of community during the project," Cook Shire Council Chief Executive Officer Linda Cardew said. "We had overwhelming support from the community and our Council team was brilliant. Coen is the second biggest community in our Shire, and although it's so far away from our main service centre in Cooktown, Council is committed to ensuring our communities receive the level of services they expect."



Council crew and contractors cleaning up the Coen Landfill during the Coen Blitz.

The program also included a Cleaner Brighter Healthier Community competition at the Coen school, with gardening tools and plants donated by Council and the Cooktown community as prizes. "It was wonderful having the involvement of the school, and the whole community. We consulted with the residents and traditional owners before and during the Blitz, and had the full support of

ministerial champion, Minister Cameron Dick, and government champion, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner Katerina Carroll, which Council was very grateful for.”

Other works completed by the team of more than 20 Council staff, including Ms Cardew and Community, Economy and Innovation Director Lawrence Booth, were civil and drainage repairs, significant improvements at the Coen Landfill, street numbering to improve emergency services identification, a clean up at Port Stewart and repairs and re-painting at the Coen Aerodrome, Town Hall and public toilets. The Community Blitz program is planned to be rolled out to other communities around the Shire as needed