

## ***HEALTHY AND ACTIVE TRANSPORT PROGRAM – Sample Project***

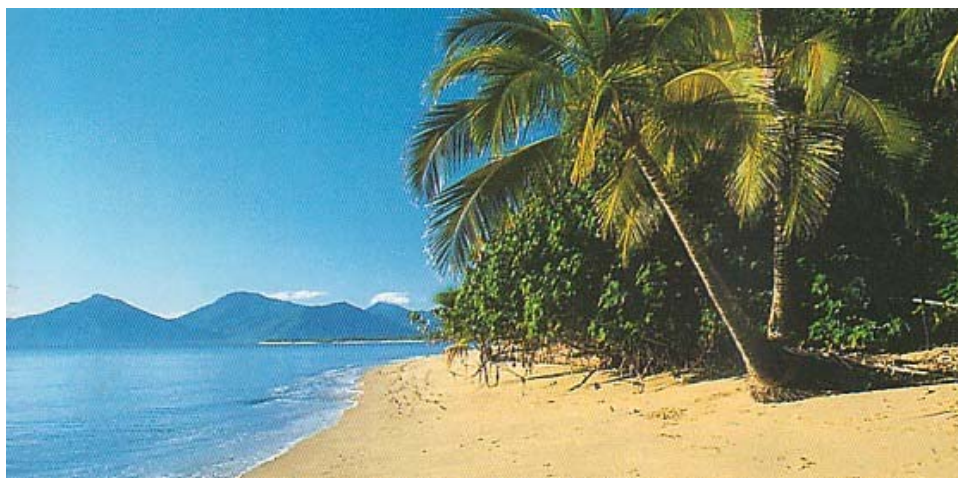
### **MACHANS BEACH TO HOLLOWAYS BEACH FOOTBRIDGE, QLD**

**Cairns City Council**

**Federal electorate: Leichhardt**

#### **Description of the Project**

A bridge to connect Holloways Beach and Machans Beach would provide an important link for the local community. For visitors it would help complete the first stage of a cycling and walking route from Cairns to Palm Cove.



**Holloways Beach**

#### **The Benefits**

The project would bring a range of benefits:

- Recreation – the local community would have a quiet path, away from the busy main road to walk or to visit friends, to fishing spots or for access to the local BMX track
- Tourism – an important first stage of a bike route from Cairns to Palm Cove
- Local business – services such as the Post Office and restaurants can be shared by both beaches more readily
- Commuters - affordable transport ,faster trip times, no need to use the car
- Pedestrians – much improved access that avoids the long a distance of the road route
- Residents - access to shops and services, post office, doctor, stinger net beach with reduced traffic and air pollution and more health and fitness
- Parents and children - access to schools, day care, kindergarten, play groups
- Road safety and traffic relief for drivers as well as for bike riders and pedestrians, if bicycles and walkers, especially children, had quiet, safe access to each beach as an alternative to the busy Captain Cook Highway.

#### **Support for the Project**

A 1999 Cairns City Council survey of residents found 78% of respondents were in favour. The Machans Beach Progress Association and many residents have written letters of support. This extract is typical: ‘... I am a mother to a 4 year old child who goes to the Community Kindergarten at Holloways Beach. I am also the co-ordinator

of the “Machans Beach Play Group”. There are several Machans parents who take their children to the Holloways Kindergarten. There would be more parents doing so if there was a bridge between the suburbs, particularly those with less access to transport’.

### **Status of the Project**

T.I.D.S funding was approved at one stage, but presently the project is on hold. Lack of funds makes the project prohibitive for council.

### **Costing**

The options are for two foot bridge sites and one road site. The most cost effective option is the foot bridge closest to the coast. This would also be the best option for pedestrians that would have the least travelling. GHD has reported that the most cost effective option is \$1.49 million. The alternative option is \$3.53 million.

### **PLAN OF OPTIONS INVESTIGATED FOR BARR CREEK PEDESTRIAN CROSSING LINKING MACHANS BEACH AND HOLLOWAYS BEACH**



Thanks go to Cairns Bicycle User Group for this sample HEAT project