



Bayview Heights to White Rock Project

POWERLINK QUEENSLAND

Project update

This project newsletter provides the following updates and information:

- new amenities proposed for the easement restoration works
- vegetation restoration zones and compatible species
- how to provide feedback

The community feedback we have received to date has shown there is mixed support for new amenities along the Crowleys Creek walking path and easement area. To help finalise our planning, we are seeking further feedback on the proposed amenities including where they are located.

Easement restoration works will start from December 2024 with the planting of compatible vegetation in the cleared cluster areas. These works will be delivered over a two-year period and residents will be kept updated on timings and activities.

Project overview

Powerlink owns and operates the 275kV underground high voltage transmission cables that run between the Bayview Heights and White Rock transition stations in Cairns. Installed in 1997, the 2.7km of underground cables are critical to maintaining a reliable and secure power supply for residents and businesses in Cairns and the Far North Queensland region.

Powerlink maintains an easement along the length of the underground cables so we can safely operate and maintain the transmission cables.

Essential works to ensure the continued secure supply of power are required along sections of the underground cables and easement located in Mount Sheridan's Forest Gardens Estate. These works involve:

- vegetation management along the easement, including selected removal of approximately 385 trees identified as being a high or future risk to the underground cables
- easement restoration, including replanting with compatible vegetation
- refurbishment works at two cable joint bay sites located near Alpinia Terrace and Amazon Close

Powerlink acknowledges the Traditional Owners and their custodianship of the lands and waters of Queensland and in particular, the lands on which we operate. We pay our respect to their Ancestors, Elders and knowledge holders and recognise their deep history and ongoing connection to Country.



powerlink.com.au/bayviewheightswhiterock



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Easement restoration planning

We have been working with Cairns Regional Council to appropriately plan for the easement restoration. Along with community feedback, the planning process has considered:

- clearance requirements for the underground cables and easement
- Council's policies and standards for public open spaces
- compatible species types and availability of locally propagated stock
- users of the Crowleys Creek walking path
- opportunities for new amenities and vegetation to address shade loss
- ongoing vegetation management and maintenance requirements

Vegetation restoration zones

As part of the easement restoration planning, we have been consulting with local nurseries in Cairns to seek feedback on compatible species types and understand the variety and availability of stock.

An indicative species list for the easement restoration works is available on the project website at powerlink.com.au/bayviewheightswhiterock. This is not a definitive list and is subject to change based on availability.

While the species list is still being refined, the species used for the restoration works will be:

- compatible with the underground cables and the easement in their mature state
- locally propagated from local provenance seed and cuttings
- determined by the availability of stock at the time of planting

Vegetation restoration zones will guide what is planted based on the species type and the zone's proximity to the underground cables. The zones are measured from the distance of the centre of the two underground cables.

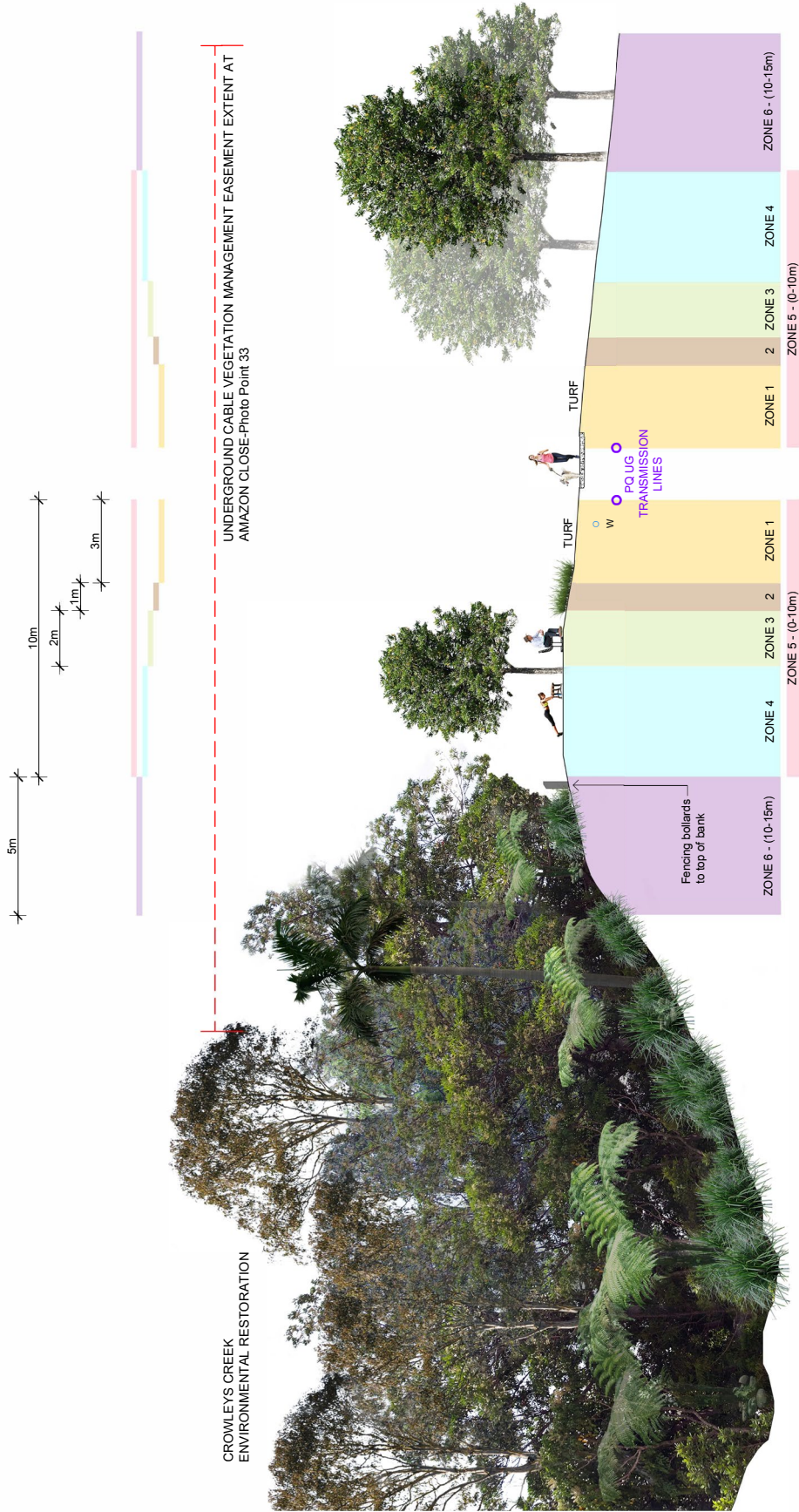
This approach of planting within zones will support a diversity of species while maintaining clearance requirements for the underground cables and easement.

Two of the zones have limitations for vegetation:

- Zone 1 (within 3m) limits vegetation to groundcovers only, such as grasses and rushes
- Zone 5 (within 0 – 10m) prohibits the planting of any trees identified as having intrusive root systems

In the other vegetation restoration zones, there will be opportunities to diversify the planting with palm lilies, shrubs, palms and trees. The image on the following page shows the restoration zones and indications of compatible species types.

CROWLEYS CREEK ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION



LEGEND

- VEGETATION RESTORATION ZONE 1 (<3m)
- VEGETATION RESTORATION ZONE 2 (3-4m)
- VEGETATION RESTORATION ZONE 3 (4-6m)
- VEGETATION RESTORATION ZONE 4 (6-10m)
- VEGETATION RESTORATION ZONE 5 (0-10m). No trees identified as having vigorous root systems are to be planted in this zone.
- VEGETATION RESTORATION ZONE 6 (10-15m)
- PATH/KERB
- WATER
- USC UNDERGROUND POWERLINE



Proposed amenities

Initial feedback and easement restoration planning has identified potential opportunities for new amenities along the Crowleys Creek walking path and easement.

We are now seeking community feedback regarding the proposed amenities and their locations along the easement, to finalise the easement restoration plans.

To address some of the shade loss and enhance amenity for walking path users, three shelters are proposed at regular intervals along the easement near Alpinia Terrace, Blueberry Close and Matisia Close.

The proposed shelters would be positioned to maximise shade throughout the year and for the convenience and accessibility of users.

Features of the shelter could include:

- bench seat with arm rests
- water bubbler with dog bowl
- steel shade structure with trellis at the back of the roof to enable climbing plants to provide dappled shade and amenity
- new shade trees and amenity plantings could be planted adjacent to the walking path where the shelters are proposed.

How to provide feedback

We are seeking feedback on the proposed amenities and their locations.

You are encouraged to provide your feedback by:

- visiting one of our community information drop-in sessions
- contacting our project team on 07 4034 7600 or fnqprojects@powerlink.com.au
- completing a resident survey available on our project website at powerlink.com.au/bayviewheightswhiterock or by scanning this QR code



We will provide the community with an update on the feedback received and how it is has informed the final plans for the easement.

To assist the community with providing feedback, visual materials have been prepared to show how the proposed amenities may look three to five years after the restoration works are completed.

Alpinia Terrace viewpoints



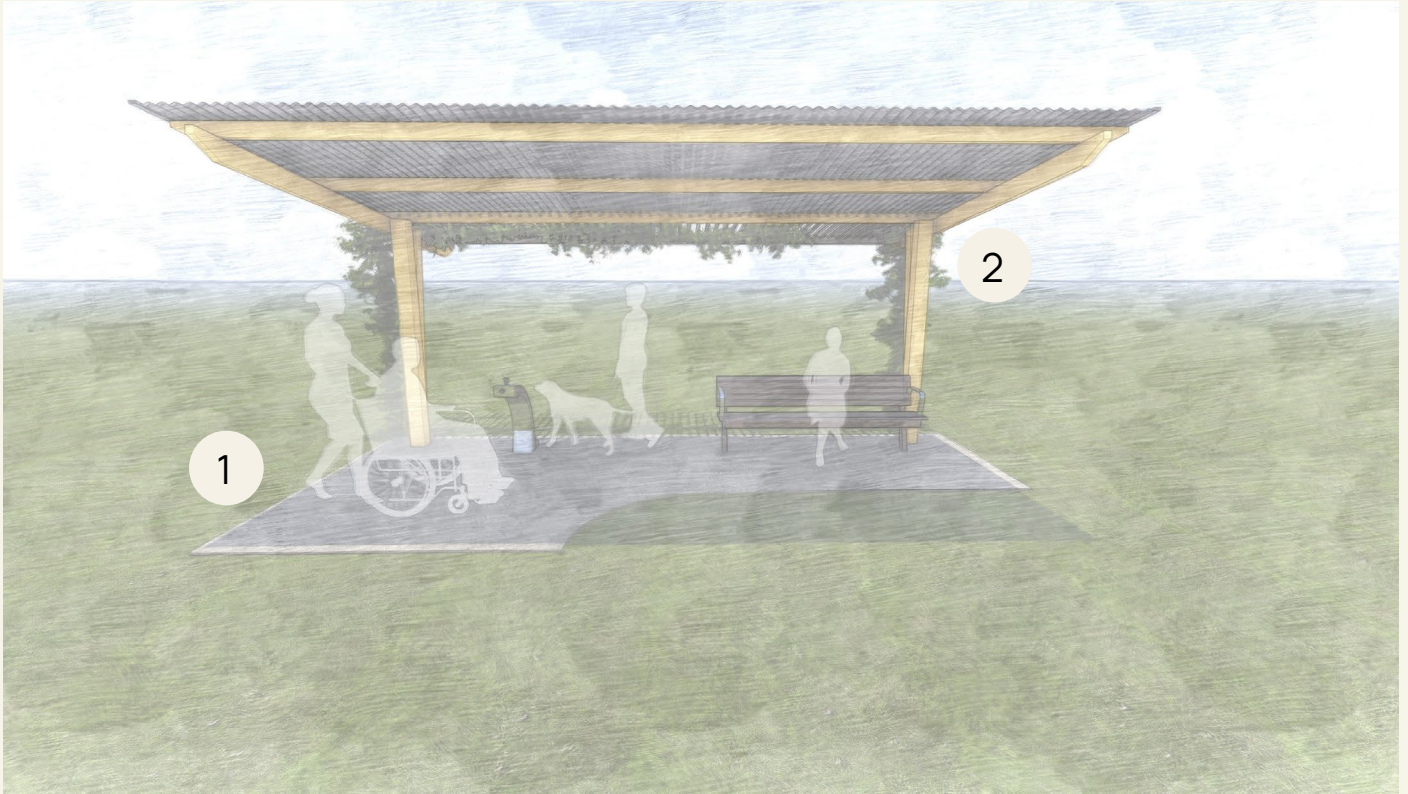
1. Vegetation restoration planting, including new shade trees and amenity plantings adjacent to the walking path where amenities are proposed.
2. Proposed shelter with a bench seat and water bubbler with a dog water bowl.

Matisia Close viewpoint



1. Vegetation restoration planting including new shade trees and amenity plantings adjacent to the walking path where amenities are proposed.
2. Proposed shelter with a bench seat and water bubbler with a dog water bowl.

Proposed shelter sketch



Shelters are designed and proposed for locations near Alpinia Terrace, Blueberry Close and Matisia Close to provide shade and a resting point for walking path users.

1. Proposed shelters would provide access to all users with a sealed connection to the footpath.
2. Opportunity for a trellis on the back of the shelter structure to enable climbing plants to provide dabbled shade and amenity. Shelters would be oriented to maximise shade throughout the year.



Community information drop-in sessions

We will be hosting community information drop-in sessions to provide residents and the community with an opportunity to meet with our project team, ask questions and provide feedback.

Mount Sheridan Plaza (near Coles) 106 Barnard Drive, Mount Sheridan

- Thursday 3 October – 10am to 12pm

Powerlink Easement (near Matisia Close) Forest Gardens Estate

- Tuesday 8 October – 4pm to 6pm
- Wednesday 9 October – 7.30am to 9.30am
- Saturday 12 October – 2.30pm to 4.00pm

Keeping the community informed

Local residents, the wider community and other stakeholders will be kept updated about our works through:

- letterbox drops to properties in the project area
- door-knocking residents directly neighbouring the easement
- project newsletters
- community information drop-in sessions
- signage along the easement
- website updates
- social media posts

About Powerlink Queensland

Powerlink is a leading provider of high voltage electricity transmission network services, combining innovation with insight to deliver safe, cost effective and reliable solutions. We own, develop, operate and maintain the high voltage electricity transmission network in Queensland. Our network extends 1,700km from north of Cairns to the New South Wales border. We aim to connect Queenslanders to a world class-energy future, providing electricity to more than five million Queenslanders and 253,000 businesses.

Further information

For more information on the Bayview Heights to White Rock Underground Cable Project, please contact our project team on **07 4034 7600** or fnqprojects@powerlink.com.au



Use the QR code to access our project website or visit powerlink.com.au/bayviewheightswhiterock