

## **COUNCIL POLICY - (CC03.02CP)**

### **SCENIC RIM INVESTMENT ATTRACTION INCENTIVES PROGRAM**

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#### **OBJECTIVES**

The Scenic Rim Regional Council supports strong sustainable economic growth within the Scenic Rim. The Investment Attraction Incentives Program is an enabler for growth, with a range of levers to suit the needs of businesses, developers and investors both. The *Scenic Rim Regional Prosperity Strategy* has set the goal of '*creating valuable jobs for locals*' with the Investment Attraction Incentives Program contributing to achieving this goal.

The objectives of this Policy are:

1. To provide a framework that will offer incentives for businesses, developers and investors to implement plans for development to existing business or new business/development operations.
2. Attract new or grow investment into the Scenic Rim region that lead to quantifiable job creation.

#### **POLICY STATEMENT**

The objectives of the Investment Attraction Incentives Program will be achieved through a two phase approach while applying a robust and transparent eligibility criteria to access the available Infrastructure Charge Incentives . A clearly defined process is to be followed that applies a client centric approach.

Council's Planning and Development and Regional Prosperity teams will work together to deliver a professional service with a transparent process.

The components of the Scenic Rim Investment Attraction Incentives Program are two-fold, a Client Liaison Service and an Infrastructure Charge Incentive Framework.

**Client Liaison** - Providing ongoing case management from initial contact to development application, an Economic Development Officer will work with the client to ensure a positive and transparent process with Council. The process will include:

- First Point of Contact Program - All enquiries in regard to development are directed to Economic Development to ascertain client needs. Providing variety of local information and market intel, including assistance to identify a suitable site or premises selection
- Facilitated assistance with development applications
- Facilitated assistance with referral agencies
- Access to concept meetings to explore opportunities without prejudice (prior to progressing to pre-lodgement meeting/development application lodgement)

**Infrastructure Charges Incentives Framework** - A suite of infrastructure charges incentives will be available to clients who meet the eligibility criteria and may include:

- Deferment of infrastructure charges
- Rebate of infrastructure charges
- Rebate of rates over a three-year period
- Provision of common user infrastructure (or contribution to it), and
- Other tailored assistance deemed appropriate by Council

The Infrastructure Charge Incentives Framework has clear criteria to ensure the objectives of sustainable economic growth and employment opportunities are achieved. The Infrastructure Charges Incentives will be made available to clients once they have met all guideline criteria and proved eligibility through the robust and transparent qualifying process.

Each project will be evaluated and assessed on a case-by-case basis on its merits and ability to help the Scenic Rim region achieve its economic development goal. All project proponents must fulfil the program eligibility criteria and lodge a formal application for assistance, providing sufficient information for Council to assess the application.

The tools for assessment criteria to be applied by Council will provide clear and definable benchmarks and triggers:

- Risk Matrix - Assessment of the clients ability to commence and complete the project, without reliance on the Incentive in proceeding with the project.
- Priority Matrix - to ensure alignment with the objectives of the Regional Prosperity Strategy the Priority Matrix will apply weighting to the core pillars and employment outcomes.

The Infrastructure Charges Incentive Framework applicable to a particular project would be confirmed as available to the client once eligibility is established and a development application has been received.

This Policy and the supporting Guidelines and Procedures will be reviewed annually to ensure relevance and adherence and alignment to Council objectives.

It is not the purpose of the Investment Attraction Incentives Program to enhance the viability of marginal and/or speculative development. As a Policy, Council reserves the right to approve or refuse applications made under the Scenic Rim Investment Attraction Incentives Program Policy at its sole discretion.

Development that is ineligible under this Policy will continue to be subject to Scenic Rim Regional Council Adopted Infrastructure Charges Resolution. Council may revoke the Investment Attraction Incentives Program Policy and is not obligated to consider any unapproved applications and an Infrastructure Agreement entered into.

**DEFINITIONS**

Council	Scenic Rim Regional Council
Region /Scenic Rim Region	Scenic Rim Regional Area identified by the Local Government Areas of Queensland

## RELATED DOCUMENTS

1. Scenic Rim Regional Prosperity Strategy
2. Scenic Rim Infrastructure Charge Deferral Guideline

This policy supports the Scenic Rim Regional Council Corporate Plan 2018-2023, in particular Theme - Sustainable and Prosperous Economy.

**Approved By:**

**SCENIC RIM REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**Adopted 20/01/2020**

### Version Information

Version No.	Date	Key Changes
V1	20/01/2020	Original Document