

Thuringowa - Pioneer Park Riverway Feasibility - Concept Plan

Project Outline

The Riverway Project is a major initiative being undertaken by Thuringowa City Council. Riverway is designed to open up 11 kilometres of river habitat to both residents and visitors by providing access to enhanced leisure, recreational and sporting pursuits, while protecting the natural environment.

The development of Pioneer Park was identified through public consultation as a priority area for development within the overall project. The report focuses on the feasibility of three specific facilities included in the concept planning for Pioneer Park. These are a Cultural Arts Precinct, a Children's Attraction and an Observatory with the report specifically reviews the demand for, feasibility of and required macro design criteria for each facility.

Whilst the report presented a number of potential funding options for the afore mentioned facilities, an additional option is that independent commercial market forces identify and potentially establish concepts and facilities within Pioneer Park which they believe to be commercially viable.



Key Findings

- The forecast usage for a Cultural Arts facility by a selected market as determined through the needs analysis is strong.
- The affordability for potential users to use the facility will be a major determiner in the actual use.
- A Cultural Arts facility will require ongoing operational funding.
- Whilst a potential market exists for the Children's Attraction (NQDC) as outlined in this report, the attraction would require ongoing operational funding that potentially has the capacity to escalate if visitation numbers are not achieved.
- That an Observatory concept be formulated into an expression of interest document for a potential commercial operation within the park. The risk factors revolve around the financial sustainability of a stand alone Observatory.