

Cairns Hospital Campus Master Plan

Statutory consultation for Stage 1b
Ministerial Infrastructure Designation | June - August 2026



A Ministerial Infrastructure Designation (MID) application has been lodged to allow for the delivery of Stage 1b of the Cairns Hospital Campus Master Plan (Ref: MID-0526-1027). The Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning has now released the MID proposal for public consultation.

The Master Plan will modernise Cairns Hospital, expand services, increase its capacity, and integrate health, education, and research facilities to meet the growing healthcare demands of Far North Queensland communities.

Delivery of the Master Plan will be staged as follows:

- **Stage 1a** – Delivery of a new rooftop helipad at the existing hospital and expansion of support services, e.g. kitchens (underway).
- **Stage 1b** – Delivery of a new integrated Health Innovation and Surgical Centre, a new Health Management Hub, and a new staff multi-storey car park (planned).
- **Future stages** – Proposed new Acute Services Building; refurbishment, demolition, redevelopment, and expansion to select parts of the existing hospital; and precinct connectivity and improvement works.



Artist impression of the new Health Management Hub.



Artist impression of the new multi-storey car park.

What is a Ministerial Infrastructure Designation?

A MID is the development approval used for essential community infrastructure, such as hospitals, schools, and emergency services.

A MID application explains why the infrastructure is needed, how it benefits the community, and how potential impacts, such as traffic, parking, noise, and amenity, will be managed.

The Stage 1b MID process has two consultation phases:

- **Preliminary consultation (completed in March 2026)** – provided early feedback to inform the MID application.
- **Public exhibition and submission of formal feedback (open between 7 July and 5 August 2026)** – the MID application is being exhibited for review and final feedback from the community, and local and state government agencies.

Next steps

After considering the planning assessments prepared for the MID application and submissions received during public consultation, the Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning then makes a final decision on the MID.

What is being proposed?

Stage 1b of the Master Plan includes:

- **A new Health Innovation and Surgical Centre** at the corner of Lake, Grove and Grafton streets, connected to the existing hospital via link bridges. It will feature four new operating theatres, 16 day surgery spaces, 40 overnight beds, specialist outpatients department and support services (such as medical imaging, pathology, pharmacy, sterilising and kitchen), co-located with clinical trials, simulation and collaboration spaces.
- **A new health office building (the Health Management Hub)** will be co-located with the James Cook University Dugurrdja development on the corner of Digger Street and Charles Street. The Health Management Hub will consolidate health management and hospital support functions into a single, purpose-built facility.
- **A new staff multi-storey car park** on the corner of Grove Street and Digger Street with around 950 spaces, to address the deficit in parking for hospital users and service growth from the hospital expansion. The existing 667 space Block E multi-storey car park will become a public car park.

Where can I view the MID?

The full documentation related to the Cairns Hospital Campus Master Plan MID application (Ref: MID-0526-1027) is available at:

<https://www.planning.qld.gov.au/planning-framework/infrastructure-planning/ministerial-infrastructure-designations>

Scan the
QR code to view
the application



General enquiries

Call the Cairns Hospital Master Plan project team on 1800 312 777.

Or email: HIQ_Cairns@health.qld.gov.au

Making a submission

You can make a submission, on or before **5 August 2026**, about the MID to the Infrastructure Designation team, Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning via:

- **Email**
infrastructuredesignation@dsdip.qld.gov.au
- **Post**
PO Box 15009, City East QLD 4002

If you wish to discuss the proposal, please contact the Ministerial Infrastructure Designation team on 1300 967 433 or via the email address above.

What do I need to include in my submission?

All submissions should:

- be clearly marked as Proposed Ministerial Infrastructure Designation of the development of the Cairns Hospital Campus Master Plan Stage 1b
- be in writing, dated and signed by each person who made the submission
- state the name and residential or business address of all submission makers
- state one postal or electronic address for service relating to the submission for all submission makers
- state the grounds (or reasons) for the submission and the facts and circumstances relied on in support of these grounds.



Artist impression of the new
Health Innovation and Surgical Centre.

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters that Cairns Hospital serves and cares for, and we pay our respects to Elders past and present.

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