



15 September 2020

Paul Martins
Chief Economic Development Officer
Moreton Bay Regional Council
PO Box 159
Caboolture QLD 4510

BY POST/EMAIL – paul.martins@moretonbay.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Martins

RE: Appointment as Chief Economic Development Officer

I write to congratulate you on your recent appointment as the Chief Economic Development at Moreton Bay Regional Council (council). We take this opportunity to warmly welcome you to the Moreton Bay region.

As you are aware, the Moreton Bay region is entering into an important period with unprecedented growth experienced over the last 10 years. Coupled with COVID-19, there are many issues that require careful navigation to ensure the region can achieve sustainable economic development. Our view is the Urban Development Institute of Australia Queensland (the Institute) has the capacity to play a fundamental role in this and we are more than happy to assist in anyway.

We understand that you enjoyed a strong collaborative working relationship with our Sunshine Coast branch in advancing economic development outcomes under your previous role within Sunshine Coast Council. We point towards the collaboration and your delivery of the Sunshine Coast Council's Regional Economic Development Strategy 2019-2023 which highlighted the value of the property development industry. We invite you to ensure the property development industry within the Moreton Bay region is equally recognised with council's impending Regional Economic Development Strategy (REDS).

As you would already be aware, the property development industry is a significant contributor to the Moreton Bay regional economy. Our independent research indicates that the development industry:

- delivers \$728.9 million into the pay packets of local families each year
- provides 11,328 direct jobs and supports a further 14,158 jobs indirectly and
- contributes \$3,296.3 million to Gross Regional Product.

The Moreton Bay region has an important role to play in the South-East Queensland region in accommodating a growing population. *ShapingSEQ* anticipates that an additional 88,300 dwellings and 217,700 people will populate this region by 2041. From the Institute's perspective, the region has grappled with land supply challenges which has the potential to negatively influence the affordability of housing in Moreton Bay.

COVID-19 is also presenting a number of challenges to the property industry, local government and State Government, and the community. The Institute believes the property development industry is one of few industries capable of supporting a number of local jobs and employment during these uncertain times and will be key in the region's economic recovery.

To this end, and to continue our on-going engagement and collaboration with council, we would like to extend an invitation to meet with you to discuss our branch's main priorities, go over our main points from our submission on council's REDS, and assist council to navigate COVID-19. Our Policy Executive, Robert Tily available on (07)3229 1589 or rtily@udiaqld.com.au will be in touch to arrange this.

Yours sincerely,

Urban Development Institute of Australia Queensland



Keith Cairns
Moreton Bay Branch President