



Media release

19.03.04

Citiworks creates carbon sink and Parks show off their biking skills

Two departments of Townsville City Council, Citiworks and Parks have responded to the call to be involved in CARbon Busters week this year.

Citiworks have committed to planting 100 trees to help offset its business unit vehicle emissions in a “trees for fleet” move, and Parks Services staff will be cycling the newly upgraded Ross River bikeway to promote alternative sustainable transport work routes.

CARbon Busters week activities form part of Councils Sustainable Townsville Program and seek to encourage Council staff and residents to travel greener, reduce greenhouse emissions and improve air quality. The activities are being coordinated by Environmental Management Services on behalf of Council and the challenge was sent out across the council and city to high profile business organisations.

Citiworks Environmental Engineer Adam Sadler said Citiworks managers and staff were motivated to embrace the CARbon Buster opportunity for two reasons.

“Firstly the environment is increasingly becoming more a part of our business be it in either design or construction activities.” Mr Sadler said.

“Citiworks is also in the process of developing an environment management system. We currently have large fleet of trucks, graders and other construction plant and can offset some of our carbon signature by planting trees.”

It was one of several leading corporate sustainability initiatives that the council was undertaking to encourage Townsville as a whole to reduce our “whole of city” carbon footprint said Townsville Mayor Tony Mooney.

“Citiworks and Parks should be praised for being proactive,” Cr. Mooney said. “They are leading northern region in many aspects of their environmental work, including the Citiworks bitumen recycling project and Parks greenwaste recycling.”

“Our Parks Department has also been proactive with the Ross River Bikeway which opens up access to the city and provides safe passage between suburbs for riders”.

“We are also being proactive with our Greening Townsville campaign to which we have committed \$1 million over two years to plant 100,000 trees and shrubs”.

“Apart from making Townsville a greener place to live, we believe it will provide a substantial carbon sink representing a big step towards a carbon neutral community said Cr Mooney.”

Council extends the CARbon Buster challenge to other organisations and community and if you would like to be involved in the weeks activities please contact the coordinator Mark Davis at Environmental Management Services on 47279313, or email mpd@townsville.qld.gov.au for more information on how to be involved.

CARbon Buster week is complimentary to Smogbusters in Brisbane.

Media Information: TCC Mark Davis 47279313

Media information:

Citiworks staff planted 100 trees at 8.30 am this morning, Friday (19/03/04) at Dalrymple Road Depot and at 10.00am this morning, Parks Services staff conducted a group ride along the Ross River Bikeway starting at Charles Barton Bridge, through Rossiter Park and Lou Lister Park .