



# FLOOD DETECTION PROJECT

Presented by

LGAQ Lab





Explore IoT with Telstra





CONNECT  
INNOVATE  
ACHIEVE







ROAD SUBJECT TO  
FLOODING  
INDICATORS SHOW DEPTH

1

# THE PROBLEM

A blue-tinted photograph of a flooded road. In the background, a sign reads "ROAD SUBJECT TO FLOODING" and "INDICATORS SHOW DEPTH". The road is completely submerged in water, with ripples visible on the surface. Trees and foliage line the sides of the road.

**“Can we get FTP access to store some flood images.”**

- Tom Loadsman, Electrician from Carpentaria Shire Council



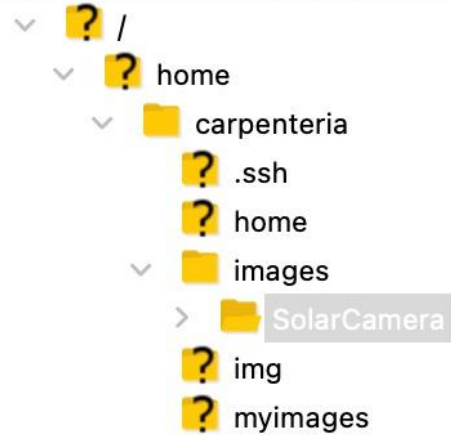
SURE, BUT WHY?

**The satellite cameras we have keep failing, so we want to store images on a server to display on our website.**

SURE, BUT WHY?

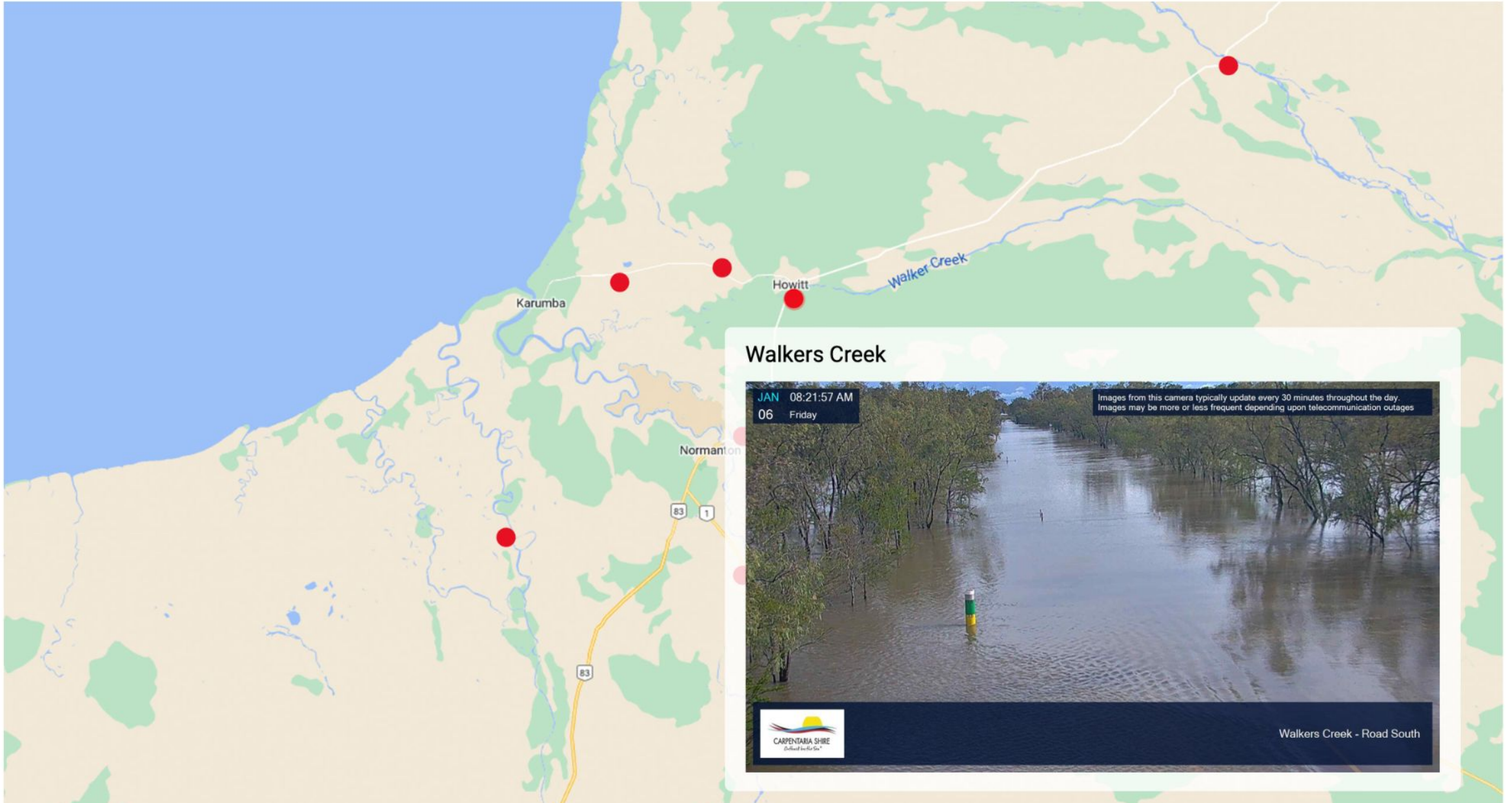
The satellite cameras we have  
**keep failing**, so we want to  
store images on a server to  
**display on our website.**

Remote site: /home/carpenteria/images/SolarCamera



Filename ^	Filesize	Filetype	Last modified
2022-02-11		Directory	11/02/2022 14:00:04
2022-02-12		Directory	12/02/2022 08:00:04
2022-02-13		Directory	13/02/2022 08:00:03
2022-02-14		Directory	14/02/2022 08:00:03
2022-02-15		Directory	15/02/2022 08:00:04
2022-02-16		Directory	16/02/2022 08:00:03
2022-02-17		Directory	17/02/2022 15:18:45
2022-02-18		Directory	18/02/2022 08:10:04
DVRWorkDirectory	4,016	File	17/02/2022 21:01:01

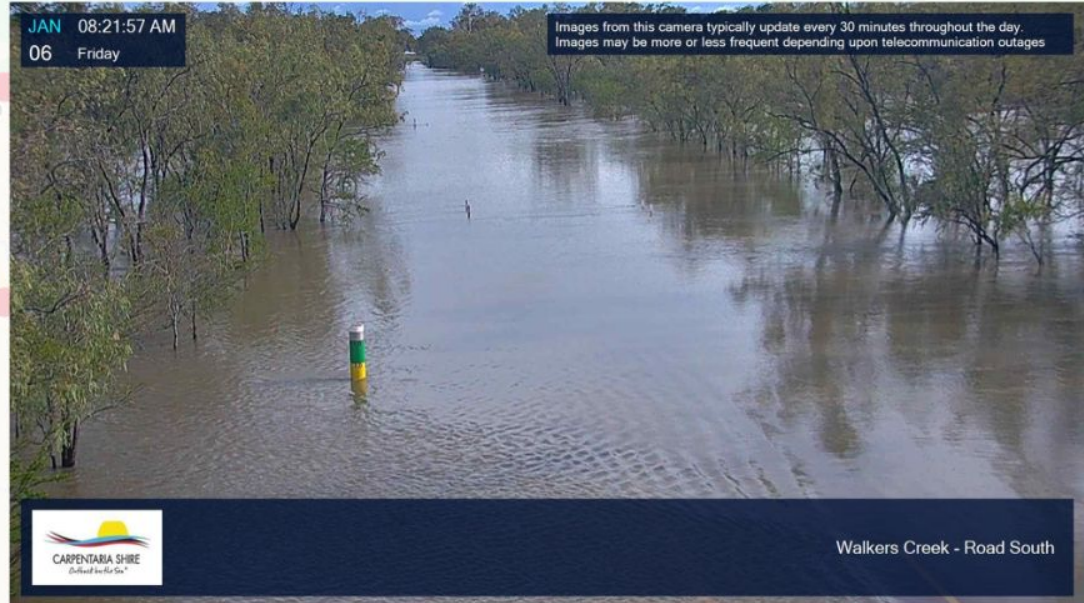
# Carpentaria Flood Map



## Walkers Creek

JAN 08:21:57 AM  
06 Friday

Images from this camera typically update every 30 minutes throughout the day. Images may be more or less frequent depending upon telecommunication outages



Walkers Creek - Road South

**From:** Mark Crawley

**Sent:** Tuesday, 3 January 2023 9:05 AM

**To:** Electrician- Tom Loadsman

**Cc:**

**Subject:** FW: Carpentaria Shire Council Contact Form

Tom

Good morning and Happy New Year

Thought I would share the information below, received via website enquiry, job well done, cheers

Kind regards

Mark Crawley

Chief Executive Officer

CARPENTARIA SHIRE COUNCIL

Ph: 07 4745 2200

PO Box 31, NORMANTON QLD 4890

<http://www.carpentaria.qld.gov.au>



Find us on Facebook



Dear Carpentaria Shire Council team

You have received an email from your Contact form.

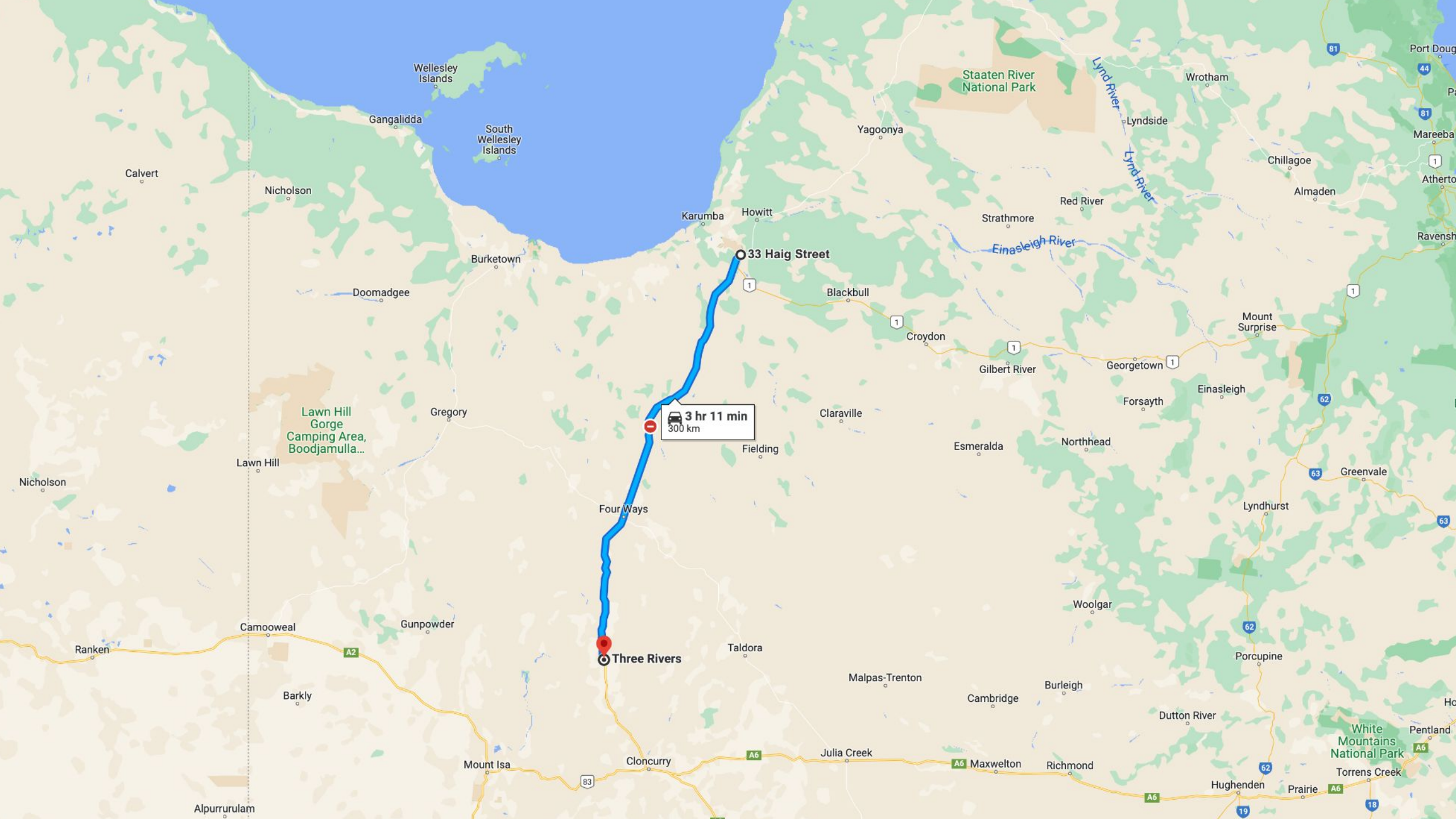
Please action accordingly.

## **Page: Contact Carpentaria Shire Council**

- Name 
- Phone 
- Email 
- Rating Excellent
- Comments Congratulations on the new Carpentaria Flood Map feature on your website. It is far better than what was previously available.

Kind regards,

Carpentaria Shire Council



3 hr 11 min  
300 km

33 Haig Street

Three Rivers

Wellesley Islands

Gangalidda

South Wellesley Islands

Calvert

Nicholson

Karumba

Howitt

Staaten River National Park

Yagoonya

Lynd River

Wrotham

Lyndside

Port Douglas

Mareeba

Chillagoe

Almaden

Ravenshoe

Burketown

Doomadgee

Blackbull

Strathmore

Red River

Einasleigh River

Mount Surprise

Gregory

Lawn Hill Gorge  
Camping Area,  
Boodjamulla...

Lawn Hill

Claraville

Fielding

Forsyth

Einasleigh

Nicholson

Esmeralda

Northhead

Greenvale

Four Ways

Lyndhurst

Woolgar

Ranken

Camooweal

Gunpowder

Taldora

Malpas-Trenton

Burleigh

Porcupine

Barkly

Cambridge

Dutton River

White Mountains National Park

Mount Isa

Cloncurry

Julia Creek

Maxwellton

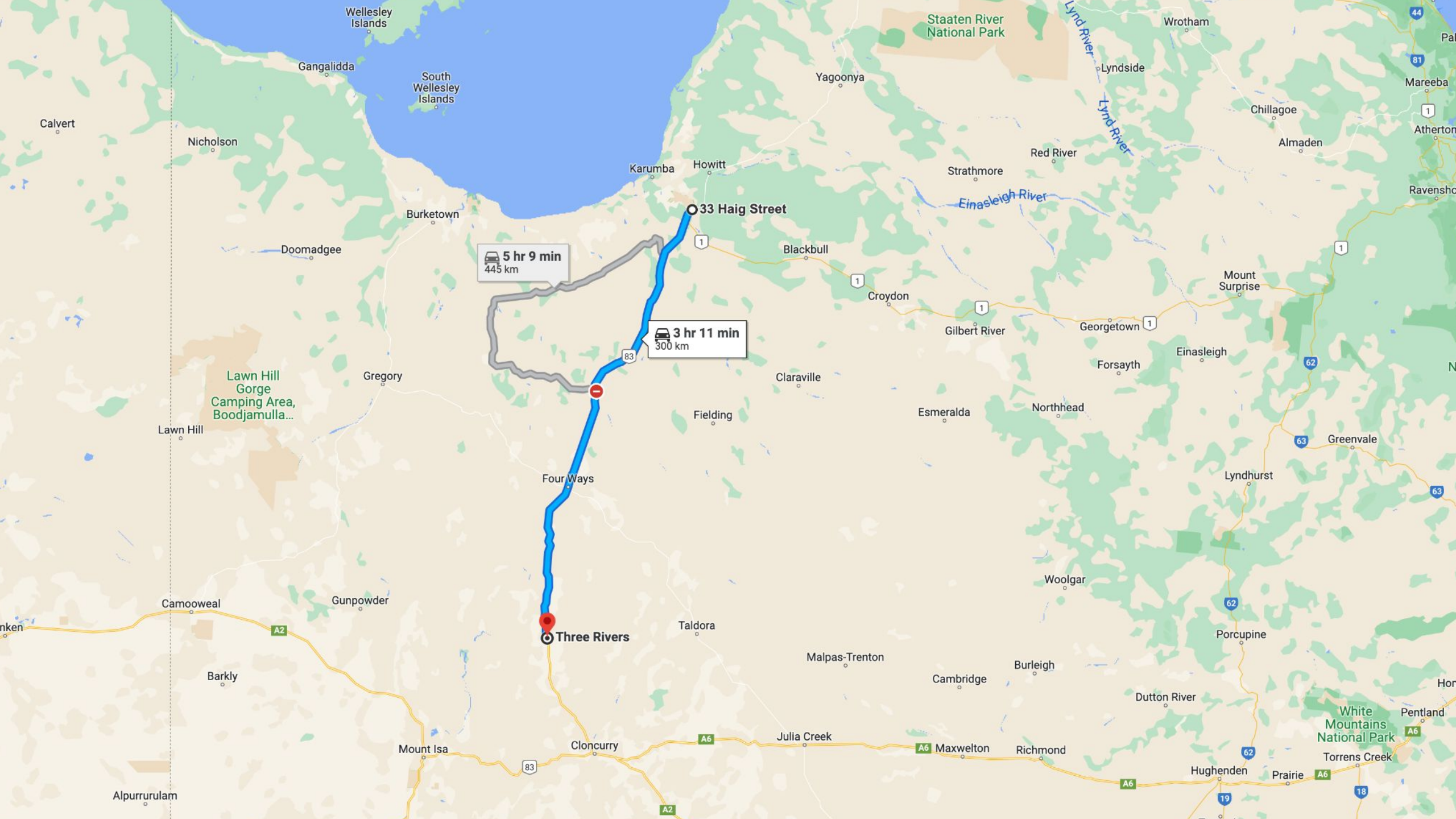
Richmond

Hughenden

Prairie

Torrens Creek

Alpururulam



 5 hr 9 min  
445 km

 3 hr 11 min  
300 km

33 Haig Street

Three Rivers

Four Ways

Karumba

Burketown

Gangalidda

South Wellesley Islands

Wellesley Islands

Yagoonya

Staaten River National Park

Wrotham

Lyndside

Red River

Strathmore

Chillagoe

Almaden

Blackbull

Croydon

Gilbert River

Georgetown

Mount Surprise

Einasleigh

Forsayth

Gregory

Lawn Hill Gorge  
Camping Area,  
Boodjamulla...

Lawn Hill

Claraville

Fielding

Claraville

Esmeralda

Northhead

Greenvale

Lyndhurst

Woolgar

Porcupine

Camooweal

Gunpowder

Taldora

Malpas-Trenton

Cambridge

Burleigh

Dutton River

Barkly

Mount Isa

Cloncurry

Julia Creek

Maxwelton

Richmond

Hughenden

Prairie

White Mountains National Park

Pentland

Torrens Creek

Alpurrurulam



**How can we make it  
even better?**



ROAD SUBJECT TO  
FLOODING  
INDICATORS SHOW DEPTH

2

# THE OPPORTUNITY

**Build an AI model that  
can automatically detect  
flooding over roads.**



Flood cameras are a critical disaster communication tool. The AI will help us greatly in increasing the **safety of road users** and the **efficiency of council operations**.

Tom Loadsman, Carpentaria Shire Council

# PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

WHAT THE PROJECT AIMS TO ACHIEVE FOR COUNCILS



## Reduce travel time

Flooding over roads can be determined remotely without 8 hour round trips needing to be taken.



## Introduce automations

Introduce new automation opportunities, such as email notifications, website updates and SMS.



## Improve communication

Provide clear and specific flooding updates to more people through a range of channels.



## Improve camera reliability

Deploy modern cameras with higher resolutions that provide a greater level of detail and reliability.

ROAD SUBJECT TO  
FLOODING  
INDICATORS SHOW DEPTH

3

# THE TEAM

# THE TEAM

WHO MADE THE AI MODEL

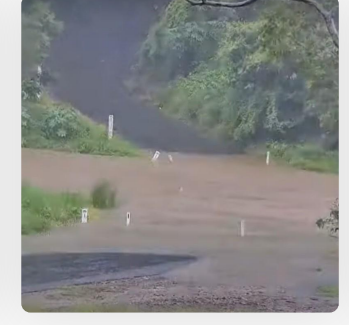
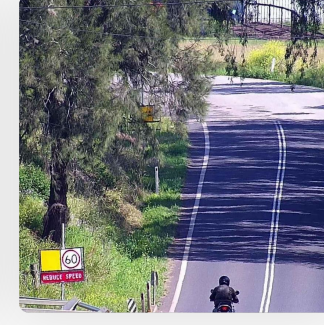
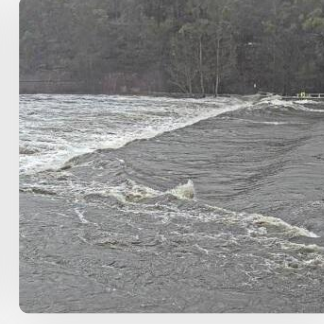
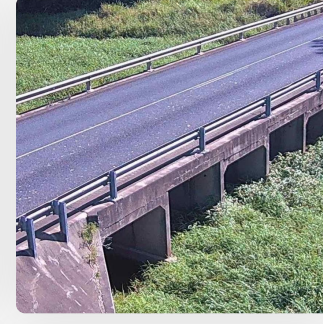
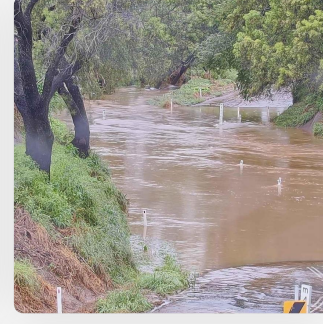
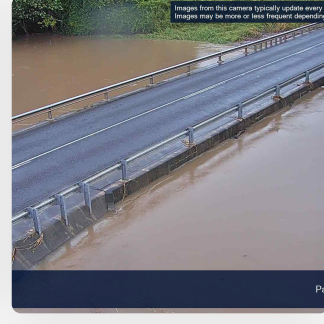
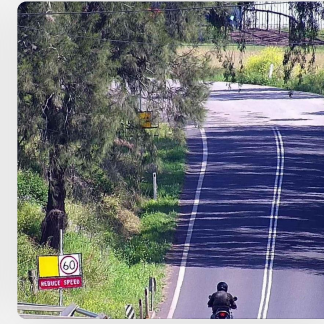
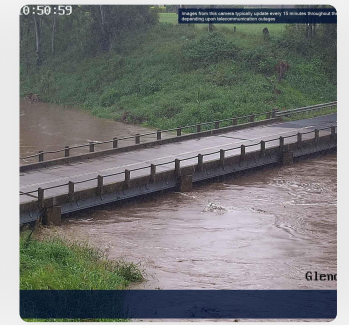
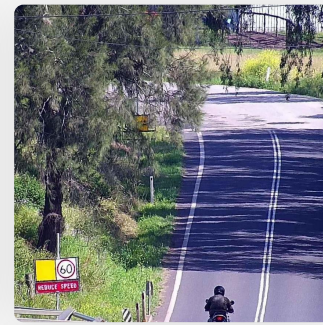



ROAD SUBJECT TO  
FLOODING  
INDICATORS SHOW DEPTH

4

# THE SOLUTION







**WE GRABBED IT ALL  
AND BUILT AN  
AI MODEL**

**Images used to train**

**500+**

**Current model's accuracy**

**98.6%**



**Super clear 4k camera that uses 100% green energy.**



**Jenny Lind, Carpentaria Shire Council**

2023-01-04 08:15:38



**Jenny Lind, Carpentaria Shire Council**

v Lind

2023-01-05 08:45:35



**Jenny Lind, Carpentaria Shire Council**



04-01-2023 14:04:24



**Corduroy, Carpentaria Shire Council**

05-01-2023 14:30:05



**Corduroy, Carpentaria Shire Council**

06-01-2023 12:00:05



**Corduroy, Carpentaria Shire Council**

04-01-2023 19:45:29

**Little Bynoe River, Carpentaria Shire Council**

Little Bynoe River

08-01-2023 20:15:29

**Little Bynoe River, Carpentaria Shire Council**

Little Bynoe River



Jenny Lynd



Brannigans



Corduroy



Bynoe River



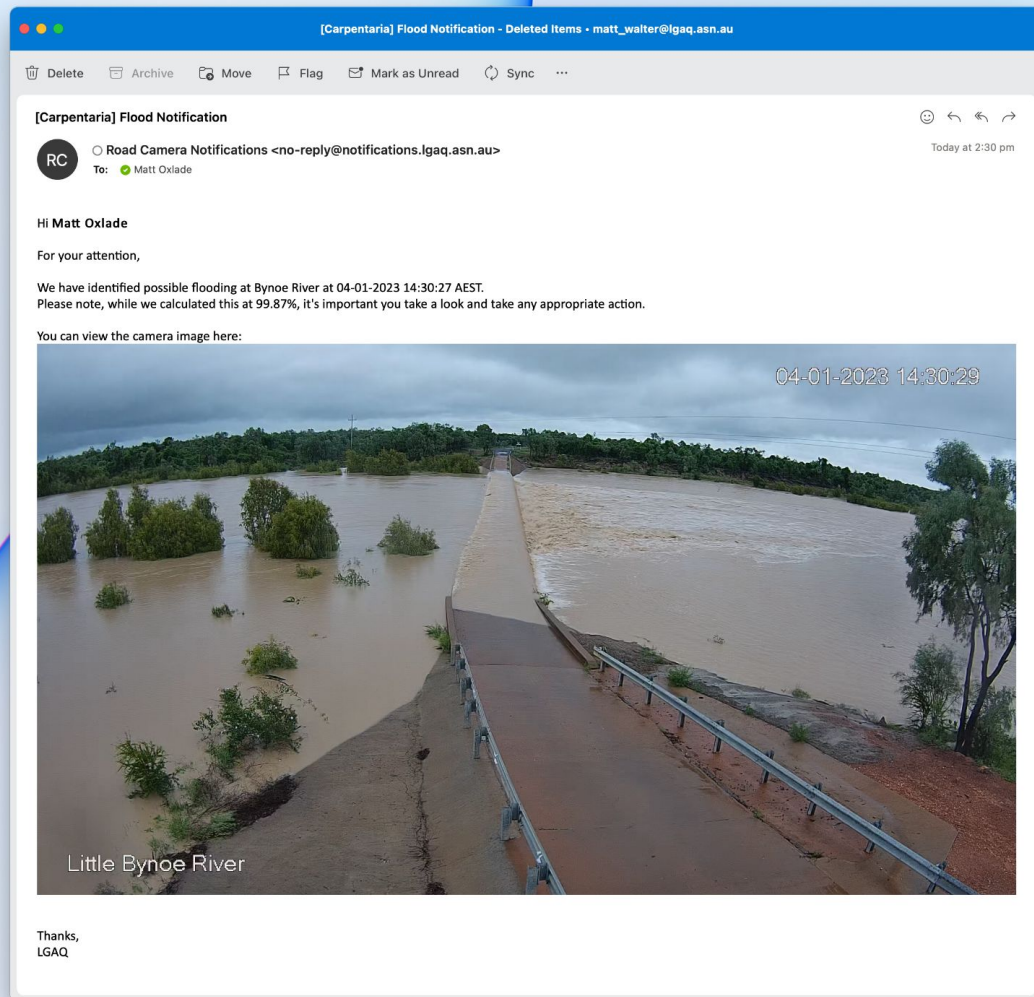
Norman River



Flinders River

# THE EMAILS

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN FLOODING IS DETECTED?



## The council receives an email.

The email is automatically generated when the AI model determines flooding over the road from the camera's snapshot. It includes:



The location and time the flooding was detected.



The confidence rate of the detection.



The image that was used where flooding was detected.

# COUNCIL NEEDS

TOP 8 REQUIREMENTS OR EXPECTED OUTCOMES FOR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Automation of  
processes

**74%**

Better business  
outcomes

**68%**

Increase  
flexibility

**60%**

Support digital  
delivery of service

**60%**

Desire to lower  
costs

**56%**

Increase  
customer reach

**44%**

Additional data  
security

**33%**

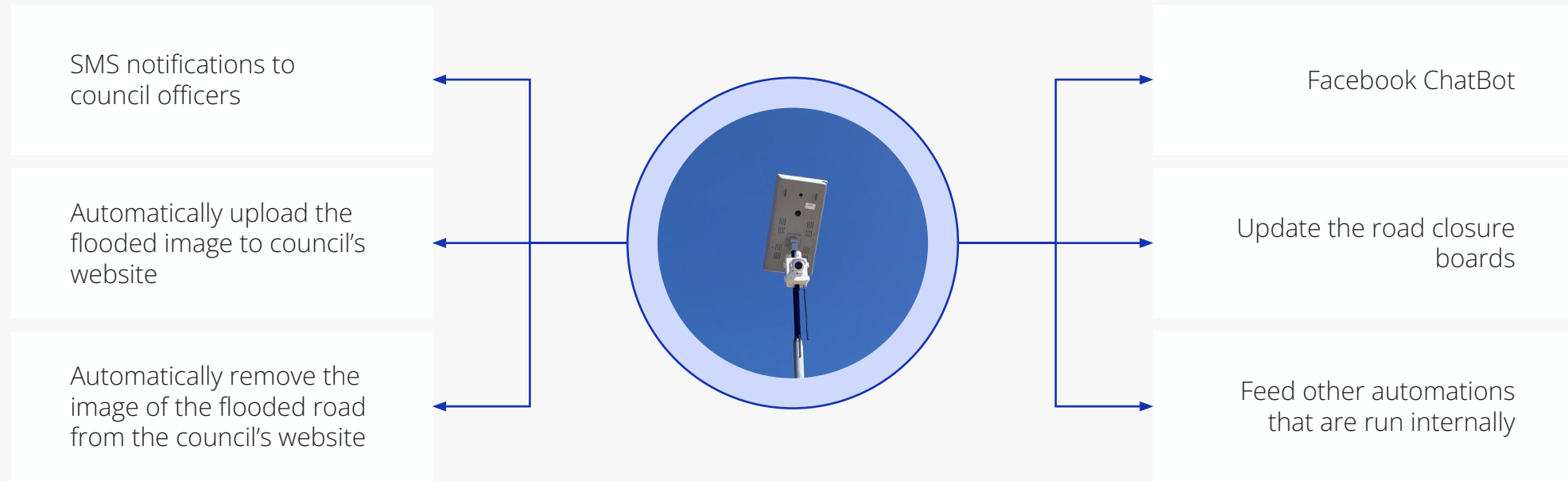
Scalability

**25%**



# POTENTIAL AUTOMATIONS

WHAT THE AI MODEL COULD AUTOMATE



ROAD SUBJECT TO  
FLOODING  
INDICATORS SHOW DEPTH

5

# HOW IT WORKS

# HOW IT WORKS

HOW THE AI MODEL IDENTIFIES FLOODING





# THE SECURITY

## WHAT SECURITY STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN

### **Encapsulated device model**

Managed elements (images) can only be accessed internally, otherwise all assets require key-based secure connections.

### **API access**

Uploaded images are completely locked from any read access off any device unless registered within LGAQ's security model.

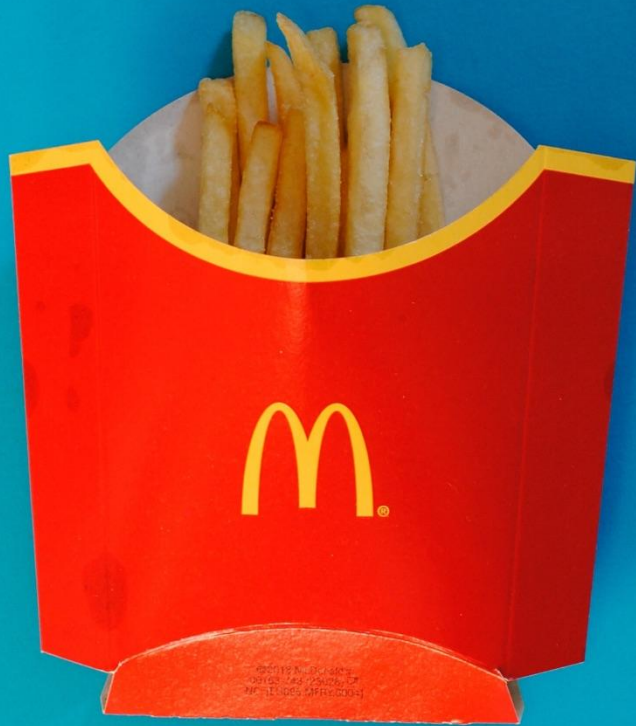
### **AWS consultation**

Utilises AWS' Shared Responsibility Model, where all cloud elements are protected from external parties using a role-based access model.

ROAD SUBJECT TO  
FLOODING  
INDICATORS SHOW DEPTH

6

# COST & TIME



CURRENTLY COSTS  
**LESS THAN ONE**  
**LUNCH PER WEEK.**

## Our cameras (1 day)

- Individual AI models need to be created for new locations
- No additional time required to omit overlays
- Hosting uses existing LGAQ hosting

## Existing cameras (3 days)

- Individual AI models need to be created for existing cameras
- Requires additional work to omit overlay graphics
- Dependant on how images are hosted and can be accessed
- Will copy the image and host it on LGAQ infrastructure
- No changes are made to the way existing cameras operate



ROAD SUBJECT TO  
FLOODING  
INDICATORS SHOW DEPTH

7

# THE PRODUCT



**How can we make it  
even better?**



# POC VS PRODUCT

WHERE WE COULD TAKE A PRODUCT

## Proof of concept

### Research

Pilot cameras were researched and procured through Telstra.

### Designed and trained AI

LGAQ designed and trained the AI based off Carpentaria's riskiest locations.

### Deployed cameras

Six cameras were placed around Carpentaria Shire Council.

### Email notifications

LGAQ designed and programmed email notifications for flood detection.

## Product

### Night time identification

Additional flooding detection between total nightfall and first light every day.

### Camera downtime notifications

Email notifications that are triggered if cameras disconnect at any time.

### Website automations

Automatically upload and remove images to councils' websites.

### SMS and Messenger notifications

Allow members of the public to sign up for notifications by SMS or Messenger.

ROAD SUBJECT TO  
FLOODING  
INDICATORS SHOW DEPTH

8

# THE QUESTIONS



### ● Why is it so cheap?

A mix of clever thinking, IDF funding and the utilisation of existing LGAQ resources to apply their breadth of knowledge to a new challenge. There's no bottom-line to attend to, we are building in accordance to our members' needs.

### ● Are the cameras recording everything?

The cameras take images, not video. Images are taken in 15-minute increments and flooding is determined against the image. We can either publish those images or not depending on the councils' preferences.

### ● What about privacy concerns?

We use an encapsulated device model and have consulted with Amazon Web Services to ensure the APIs built are adopting best-practice security. We can work with councils on custom security protocols if required.



- **Why is it so cheap?**

A mix of clever thinking, IDF funding and the utilisation of existing LGAQ resources to apply their breadth of knowledge to a new challenge. There's no bottom-line to attend to, we are building in accordance to our members' needs.

- **Are the cameras recording everything?**

The cameras take images, not video. Images are taken in 15-minute increments and flooding is determined against the image. We can either publish those images or not depending on the councils' preferences.

- **What about privacy concerns?**

We use an encapsulated device model and have consulted with Amazon Web Services to ensure the APIs built are adopting best-practice security. We can work with councils on custom security protocols if required.



- **Why is it so cheap?**

A mix of clever thinking, IDF funding and the utilisation of existing LGAQ resources to apply their breadth of knowledge to a new challenge. There's no bottom-line to attend to, we are building in accordance to our members' needs.

- **Are the cameras recording everything?**

The cameras take images, not video. Images are taken in 15-minute increments and flooding is determined against the image. We can either publish those images or not depending on the councils' preferences.

- **What about privacy concerns?**

We use an encapsulated device model and have consulted with Amazon Web Services to ensure the APIs built are adopting best-practice security. We can work with councils on custom security protocols if required.



### ● Why not use the flood height poles for detection?

The PTZ cameras currently in use can be rotated. Councils told us that this is important to us, but can lead to the pole being out of view in some instances and therefore unable to be used to detect flooding in all situations.

### ● Can it detect anything other than floods?

The AI model can detect flooding at present, but it can be trained to detect a range of different things. The current proof-of-concept pilot has us focusing exclusively on flooded roads, but will consider additional detection in the future.

### ● How is this different from other flooding tools?

Price and customisation. This is built specifically for a council, and can apply directly to other councils with similar issues. This isn't product-first, but instead it's solution-first. Plus it's cheap. Super cheap.



- **Why not use the flood height poles for detection?**

The PTZ cameras currently in use can be rotated. Councils told us that this is important to us, but can lead to the pole being out of view in some instances and therefore unable to be used to detect flooding in all situations.

- **Can it detect anything other than floods?**

The AI model can detect flooding at present, but it can be trained to detect a range of different things. The current proof-of-concept pilot has us focusing exclusively on flooded roads, but will consider additional detection in the future.

- **How is this different from other flooding tools?**

Price and customisation. This is built specifically for a council, and can apply directly to other councils with similar issues. This isn't product-first, but instead it's solution-first. Plus it's cheap. Super cheap.





- **Why not use the flood height poles for detection?**

The PTZ cameras currently in use can be rotated. Councils told us that this is important to us, but can lead to the pole being out of view in some instances and therefore unable to be used to detect flooding in all situations.

- **Can it detect anything other than floods?**

The AI model can detect flooding at present, but it can be trained to detect a range of different things. The current proof-of-concept pilot has us focusing exclusively on flooded roads, but will consider additional detection in the future.

- **How is this different from other flooding tools?**

Price and customisation. This is built specifically for a council, and can apply directly to other councils with similar issues. This isn't product-first, but instead it's solution-first. Plus it's cheap. Super cheap.

# THANK YOU



25 Evelyn Street, Newstead QLD 4006



+61 411 398 812



matt\_oxlade@lgaq.asn.au



[fb.com/LocalGovQLD](https://www.facebook.com/LocalGovQLD)



[@localgovqld](https://www.instagram.com/localgovqld)



[@LGAQ](https://twitter.com/LGAQ)