

3.10 Character Area 4.0: Broadwater



This visual diary focuses on the generic elements that contribute to the overall landscape character of the Broadwater character area, particularly the open space areas adjacent to the water. The unique characteristics of individual areas needs to be considered alongside these general character guidelines.

General Character

The character of the Broadwater is derived from it's early association with the marine village of Southport, with its associated growth and land uses which provide a setting for the Broadwater.

The character of the Broadwater is essentially one of visual openness resulting from the absence of major development on the land areas fringing the Broadwater. Primary activities that contribute to the character of the area are the diverse water-based recreational activities and the associated landscape and built form elements.

Existing Landscape Character Elements

- ▶ Large areas of foreshore public open space which are highly visible and accessible to the public
- ▶ Dominance of a sand edge at the land and water interface
- ▶ Large expanse of water enclosed on three sides by land, reinforces the Southport bridge area as a timeless gateway – providing a perceived naturalness within an urban environment
- ▶ Primary planting in foreshore park areas reinforce the naturalness of the Broadwater e.g. *Casuarina sp.*, *Cupaniopsis sp.* and *Pandanus sp.* Cultural planting include Norfolk Is Pines
- ▶ Foreshore park adjacent to Southport has several significant historic planting of Figs and Norfolk pines. Primary character of planting is one of grass and shade trees reinforcing a sense of openness to the water
- ▶ Small pockets of unobtrusive built form in public open space areas
- ▶ Generally informal boat settings except for the formalised marina environments of Southport Yacht Club and commercial developments on the eastern side of the Broadwater

Existing Views & Vistas

- ▶ Views from across the Broadwater to Southport, the Spit and the Bay Islands, and Runaway Bay to the North
- ▶ Views to the hinterland green from Broadwater area





Valuable landscape character elements to promote and enhance

- Views to and from the Broadwater- encourage a visual relationship between Southport and the Broadwater
- Historic and remnant vegetation should be conserved and reinforced. Where appropriate, new planting should reflect traditional planting forms and growth habits
- Park and sand edge should be reinforced
- Park areas/open space areas adjacent to the broad water should be designed to incorporate the use of large canopy shade trees complemented by large grassed areas. In open space areas adjacent to dunal areas, natural coastal planting is to be used as the primary framework planting
- Public open space areas should remain open, highly accessible by the public and reinforce a sense of openness
- Small pockets of built form should be encouraged with the use of natural, less bulky materials for informal open space areas, i.e. structures and shelters

