



26 June 2009

PROJECT APPROVED!

Dear Family and Friends

It is with great pleasure and a united spirit that we announce that Mackay Baptist Church has voted unanimously in support of proceeding with the building project at a special general meeting on 21st June 2009. Despite falling short of the pledge target by approximately \$30,000 per year, all of those present felt that the project overall has been ordained by God and that He will continue to provide for us. There was a tremendous unity of purposefulness given in all of the discussion as well as the well-informed, sobering reality of the challenge that now awaits us. Still, we have all been deeply encouraged by the movement of the Holy Spirit in the discussion and the final outcome as being representative of God's will for this body of believers. The key, as always, is to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus – to continue to serve Him and bare witness to Him. I personally thank all of those that contributed to the meeting and all of those have provided pledge responses and prayer.

For the record, motions 1, 2, 3a and 4 were passed at the special general meeting with unanimous support.

What Now?

Loan Application

Now that we have received approval to proceed, we must make an application to BapLink. This will be for a loan of \$1.5 million (noting that our budget only expects that \$1.4 will be required). This information is now madly being prepared for submission in the next week. BapLink meet only monthly to review loan applications and our will therefore be reviewed on July 20th. Prayer is required for the preparation of the loan application as well as a positive response from BapLink.

Architects

We have informed our architects, [Sanders Turner & Ellick Architects \(STEA\)](#) who had temporarily halted work pending the result of the special general meeting. Some additional minor changes will be made to the design to improve cost effectiveness and noise management which will be made in the coming weeks. Also, consultants will be engaged to perform the necessary engineering design associated with the building.

Temporary Accommodation

We will need to quickly arrange temporary accommodation for our Sunday services and other ministries during the 7 month construction period. Some locations have already been investigated and are promising, however if you have any thoughts on this, please let Steven Tye know.

Clearing Land

Prior to commencement of construction, we will need to have arranged for the demolition or removal of our existing buildings. Both the manse (house) and the old church hall are able to be relocated, but we understand that it can take a little time for these to be approved with council. Please continue to pray for this and for the Board to find the best overall solution to clearing our land.

What to do:

Pledges – The pledge process is still important. If you were unable to provide a pledge response but intend to do so, please drop these off in the marked, "Letterbox" at the front entrance. Continue to prayerfully consider what you wish to give and if you have any queries regarding other means of serving, please contact Steven Tye or Keith Bearham.

Donations – Now that we have church approval, I invite you to commence making payments towards the project by placing your donations in marked envelopes in the offering, or through direct deposit to the church bank account:

BSB: 014 640 Account No: 386467964 Marked as "Building Fund"

Prayer – Prayer is still vital. Now that we have approval, we need to continue to pray for the project; in particular, the loan process with BapLink and the preparation activities before construction commences. A long list of prayer points has been provided below.

Practical Support – The amount of effort to manage this project in all its aspects is only going to increase in the coming months. If you would like to provide support of some kind by offering your expertise or services, please contact Steven Tye. This may be your first opportunity to contribute practically to the project, but certainly will not be your last!

Final Statement

This is only a short(ish) update, but there will more to come. The remaining space is used to list the key prayer points at this moment in time for the project which I encourage you to make time to bring to the Lord in prayer. Again, I thank everyone for their pledges of support.

Yours in Christ

Steven Tye (MBC Building Project Coordinator)

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Praise Points:

- A unifying and unanimous positive response to the project at the special general meeting.
- God's movement of His Spirit and revelation of His perfect will at the special general meeting.
- God's financial provision to date for the project.
- The provision of significant pledges towards the project.
- For the diligent and gracious services of Steve Turner and Andrew Allen from Sanders Turner & Ellick Architects.
- For the volunteer services already provided without charge by volunteers.
- For the volunteer services and materials pledged by the church.

Prayer Points:

- That we will not become distracted from serving God by our efforts towards this project.
- For the diligent preparation of the loan application to BapLink.
- For successful approval of the loan application from BapLink when they meet on 20th July.
- For the wise planning and decision-making associated with all other aspects of the project.
- That God will provide us with good and cost effective temporary accommodation during the building phase.
- That we will be able to find the best solution for the demolition / removal of the existing church buildings.
- That we can find suitable buyers for the existing buildings.
- That we can dispose of removed materials cheaply or without cost.
- That God will provide us with a solution to the Pastor's family's accommodation.
- For positive progress to be made by engineers and other professionals associated with the project.
- For continued financial giving towards the project.
- For availability and God's provision of discounted / volunteered services and materials towards the project.
- That inspections on current sewerage will reveal no or minimal cost to rectify.
- That God will provide additional helpers in the coordination and management of the project and associated activities.
- That council will approve the current minor amendments that have been raised, including, raising the height of one end of the car park.
- That God will bless all givers (financial and volunteer).
- That God will provide spiritual protection to all members of the property team, volunteers and paid workers.

¹ Finally, dear brothers and sisters, we ask you to pray for us. Pray that the Lord's message will spread rapidly and be honored wherever it goes, just as when it came to you. ² Pray, too, that we will be rescued from wicked and evil people, for not everyone is a believer. ³ But the Lord is faithful; he will strengthen you and guard you from the evil one.- 2 *Thessalonians 3:1-3 (NLT)*

² Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart. ³ Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ. That is why I am here in chains. *Colossians 4:2-3 (NLT)*