Stage 2 of the Bundaberg flood protection study involves assessing 11 flood mitigation options, including those identified through consultation with the Bundaberg community in late 2015.

The following provides an overview of the assessment of Option B.

**Viability**
A key step in the options assessment involves identifying issues that may mean construction or implementation of the option is not viable. These relate to matters such as:

- The likelihood of obtaining environmental approvals, due to unacceptable environmental impacts
- Significant or unaffordable costs of construction or ongoing maintenance
- Potential for unacceptable impacts on other areas.

An option is considered to be unviable where the assessment identifies one or more of these matters are ‘unlikely to be achieved’.

The assessment of Option B found that this option may be viable with modifications to reduce costs and impacts to areas outside of the benefited area. However the effectiveness of the option would also be impacted decreasing the relatively small reduction in flood damages achieved.

**Costs and benefits**
Initial cost estimates indicate that construction of the lakes would be about $124 million.

The estimated reduction in flood damages (i.e. the tangible benefits) would be in the order of $7 million.

**Summary of assessment against key criteria**
- This option would involve diverting floodwater through Hinkler and Federation Parks, reducing flood levels in the Burnett River and Bundaberg North.
- Downstream of the lakes and floodway, some properties would experience increased flood levels.
- This option would have high costs due to the large volume of excavation and the need to treat and dispose of this material.
- Benefits of this option are limited due to the ability to lower flood levels in this area. The flow rate through this area would not change and the flood levels in the urban area are not significantly lowered.
- The costs for this option would be about 16 times the estimated monetary benefits.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Likelihood of obtaining environmental approval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Affordability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tolerable impacts outside benefited area</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Likely to achieve
- May achieve with modification
- Unlikely to achieve
Option overview

Option B aims to decrease flood levels in the Burnett River by increasing flow through Hinkler and Federation Parks. It would involve construction of:

- a series of four lakes in the parks (two either side of Hinkler Avenue)
- regrading of Thornhill Road to improve the flow of floodwater through the floodway
- a 2 km long, 100 m wide channel from Queen Street to Waterview Road.

Construction of this option would require some property acquisitions, including farmland.

Figure 1: Option layout

Find out more about this option

Community consultation on the flood mitigation options and the findings of the options assessment will take place from 24 October to 20 November 2016. To find out more about the flood mitigation options and to provide your feedback:

Visit the website
www.qld.gov.au/bundabergfloodstudy

Interactive mapping is available on the website so that you can see how the flood mitigation options would change flooding in your area.

Contact the project team
Email: bundabergfloodprotection@jacobs.com
Telephone: 1800 994 015 (during business hours)

Next steps

The Bundaberg flood protection study is due to be completed later this year. Engagement on the 10-year action plan will occur in 2017. It is important to note that the flood mitigation options have not yet been considered by the State government and are not government policy. No commitment will be made on any of the options until the State government has consulted with the community and stakeholders on the 10-year action plan.

The Queensland Government will continue to engage with the Bundaberg community as the action plan develops.