ORDINARY COUNCIL

MAYORAL MINUTE

Wednesday 1 July 2020
Ordinary Council Meeting  
Wednesday, 1 July 2020

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9 August 2019

Dear Sir/Madam

Settlement Shores Canal Maintenance - Community Update

I am writing to you to provide an update regarding maintenance of the Settlement Shores Estate canal system.

As detailed in the 2016 Canal Maintenance Plan, developed in consultation with canal residents, Council propose to dredge the canal channels to provide sufficient depth for safe boat navigation and restoring the beach shape.

Council have approved just over $1.1 million in funding for the dredging works and have now secured the necessary environmental approvals to undertake the works. Bardon Pty Ltd have been engaged to undertake the maintenance dredging with works planned to commence in November 2019. Works are expected to be completed by April 2020 including a shutdown over the Christmas/New year period.

Council have also engaged Public Works Advisory (PWA) to undertake the project management role. Both Bardon and PWA have broad experience in maintenance dredging and will provide separate updates throughout the works.

Council is aware that the beach zone approximately 2.1m from the revetment wall is private property. In order to stabilise the revetment wall and reshape the beach zone Council may need to place dredged sand in this zone. We acknowledge that some of these residents may not wish for sand to be placed on their land within this zone. If this is the case with your property, we request that you contact us immediately so that a list of properties that do not wish sand to be placed within the beach area extending 2.1m beyond the revetment wall can be compiled and provided to the Contractor. If you have not contacted us by 27 September 2019, we will assume that you agree to the placement of sand on your beach zone, if required. Responses can be made via email to Tom Ahern, Project Manager Public Works Advisory, at tom.ahern@finance.nsw.gov.au.

If you agree to the placement of sand on your beach, it is suggested that you carry out basic maintenance such as removing bricks or large rocks/debris from the beach to provide a much better result and maintain the stability of the sand.

Council would like to thank residents and the community for their involvement in developing the maintenance plan and their patience while the funding and environmental approvals were obtained over the last two years.

Yours sincerely

Cameron Hawkins
Acting Group Manager - Transport & Stormwater Network
21 October 2019

Dear Resident,

SETTLEMENT SHORES ESTATE CANALS MAINTENANCE DREDGING

Port Macquarie Hastings Council have engaged Biron Pty Ltd to undertake maintenance dredging and beach restoration works in the Settlement Shores Estate Canals. Biron are dredging specialists, based in Port Macquarie, who have successfully completed many capital & maintenance dredging projects across Australia.

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT TO SEE?

During these works, you can expect to see the following activities in the Settlement Shores Estate Canals:

- Drag flow pumping system mounted to the arm of a barge-mounted excavator for the dredging works;
- Separation of sand from water and silts via a Hydro cyclone;
- Pumping of dewatered sand via a pipeline onto the beaches for the purpose of restoration;
- Controlled discharge of dredged water and silts into the canals (note: these areas will be surrounded by a silt curtain to minimise the spread of the silt returned to the canal);
- Shaping of beaches from the water and the shoreline with a smaller barge & excavator;
- Movement of the aforementioned barges with smaller work vessels;
- Minor mobilisation and demobilisation work for dredging equipment.

WHAT IS THE EXPECTED DURATION OF THE PROJECT?

Dredging works at the Settlement Shores Estate Canals are scheduled to mobilise from 28 October 2019 and are currently planned to be completed by 17 April 2020. Please see below for an indicative staging plan for the dredging works, for further reference. As indicated on the staging plan, these dates are approximate and are subject to change; however, any required changes will be made in consultation and agreement with Port Macquarie Hastings Council.
WHAT TIMES WILL THE WORK BE CONDUCTED?

Working hours for the project will be as per the following:

- Monday - Friday: 0700-1800;
- Saturdays: 0800-1300.

HOW ARE WE MINIMISING IMPACTS?

- An Environment Protection Licence (EPL), from the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), has been obtained. This licence covers extractive activities and discharge of material to waters, along with noise limitations;
- An Environmental Management Plan (EMP) has been developed to ensure appropriate controls are in place to minimise impacts and prevent any environmental incidents during the activity;
- Navigational aids will be in place throughout the works to facilitate safe trafficking of vessels around the dredging equipment.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I HAVE A VESSEL IN THE CANALS?

Birdon does not anticipate that moored vessels within the canals will be adversely affected, requiring subsequent movement, during the works. However, in the event the works require a vessel to be moved, Birdon will make direct contact with the vessel owner (via door knock), prior to works commencing in the immediate area, in order to coordinate the temporary movement of the vessel to an approved vacant pontoon within the canals.

WHO IS THE BEST POINT OF CONTACT IF I HAVE AN ENQUIRY?

For any questions or enquiries that you have, kindly contact the following Birdon personnel:

Justin Sayer | Project Manager

(02) 6589 9100
0403 222 650
info@birdon.com.au

Birdon will endeavour to provide a suitable response to your enquiry as soon as reasonably possible.

We greatly appreciate your patience during this important work.

Yours Sincerely,

Peter Besseling | General Manager
Birdon Pty Ltd