



Extraordinary Council

MAYORAL MINUTE

Business Paper

date of meeting: Monday 7 March 2022

location: Council Chambers
17 Burrawan Street
Port Macquarie

time: 5:00pm

Community Vision

A sustainable high quality of life for all

Community Mission

Building the future together
People Place Health Education Technology

Council's Corporate Values

- ★ Sustainability
- ★ Excellence in Service Delivery
- ★ Consultation and Communication
- ★ Openness and Accountability
- ★ Community Advocacy

Community Themes

- ★ Leadership and Governance
- ★ Your Community Life
- ★ Your Business and Industry
- ★ Your Natural and Built Environment

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Item: 05.01

**Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE - ILLAROO ROAD, LAKE CATHIE -
STORMWATER REDIRECTION PROJECT**

Mayor, Peta Pinson

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Defer commencement of works in relation to the Illaroo Road Stormwater Redirection Project until an assessment of the coastal hazard protection options has been identified.**
- 2. Request that Chief Executive Officer facilitate an urgent briefing with Councillors to consider the coastal hazard protection options for Lake Cathie and Illaroo Road and specifically the Illaroo Road Stormwater Redirection Project.**
- 3. Note that there are varying community views regarding the Illaroo Stormwater Redirection Project in particular, and that urgent community engagement on this project is required.**
- 4. Request the Chief Executive Officer to undertake urgent community engagement on the Illaroo Road Stormwater Redirection Project.**

Discussion

The 2016 Lake Cathie Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) underwent community consultation prior to being adopted by Council and all CZMPs require certification by the Minister for Planning. Specific actions in the 2016 CZMP regarding the stormwater redirection were included in a Ministerial direction attaching conditions to be met prior to certification of our Plan. The stormwater redirection project in Illaroo Road was specifically initiated from advice to the then Planning Minister (Stokes) from the NSW Coastal Panel who provide expert planning advice to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) for complex coastal issues and coastal developments in erosion hotspot areas.

Accordingly, rather than being part of a broader policy of taking stormwater off beaches, this particular action of redirecting the stormwater was a result of specific direction from the Minister and their expert panel to address beach erosion.

At the time, this project was determined, the stormwater discharge direct onto the beach was exacerbating beach erosion and so it was deemed appropriate to explore diversion of stormwater to help maintain sand supply in front of Illaroo Road to aid in buffering potential coastal storm damage. Prompted by the NSW Coastal Panel recommendation Council staff have pursued the best practice solution to removing stormwater from the beach at this location based on engineering advice.

This project is not the only management action that will help address the erosion issue in this hotspot, but it is part of a broader suite of actions that will provide short-term hazard reduction and a long-term sustainable approach, developed in consultation with the community.

Council recognised this in resolving not to continue with the Illaroo Road Revetment Wall and commence the Illaroo Coastal Hazard Protection Co-Design process which will investigate the bigger picture of how the hazard is managed into the future in a way that meets environmental and community values.

Accordingly, given the proximity of the stormwater it is considered that these works could be incorporated into the greater coastal hazard protection solution, which could attract 2:1 funding under the CMP, rather than 1:1 funding under the CZMP, however it is noted that there are also varying community views regarding this specific project. It is therefore important that Council engages with the community before making a final decision on this project.

It is also recognised that some interim works are required to maintain the existing stormwater outlets and remediation of the asbestos on the Illaroo Rd headland needs to be addressed as soon as possible. This should also be discussed in the recommended Councillor Briefing.

Attachments

Nil