

Mission Beach Safe Boating Infrastructure Project

Community Information Session (Wednesday 18 May 2016) Summary of Community Feedback and Key Items

Overview:

The Community Information Session was structured in accordance with the attached agenda.

For each agenda item emphasis was placed on developing an open conversation, with those present invited to put forward ideas and provide feedback.

The following points are intended to summarise the key matters raised during the Information Session and to help inform the State Government on how best to progress this important project.

Agenda Item	Summary of Items Raised
Project Objectives	<p>Feedback was sort on the stated project objectives and the following items noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Hon. Bob Katter MP stated that the \$5.5 million provided by the Federal Government was for reconstruction and economic development. ii. Respect for the cultural heritage of the area is an important consideration. iii. There is a need to reduce conflict arising from competing commercial and recreation use; however this may not require complete physical separation. <p>Giving consideration to the above, the high level project objectives are summarised as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Provision of safe boating infrastructure</i> 2. <i>Facilitation of local economic development</i> 3. <i>Reduce conflict arising from joint commercial and recreational use</i> 4. <i>Respect the rich natural environment and cultural heritage of Mission Beach</i>
Project Parameters	<p><u>Delivery of Infrastructure at Clump Point</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department of State Development (DSD) confirmed that, in response to the feedback from a number of community groups, the project scope had been reviewed and the focus was now on delivering boating facilities at Clump Point, as opposed to Perry Harvey Jetty (PHJ).

	<p><u>Marine Park Approvals</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A representative from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) confirmed that permit applications will need to be lodged for any works planned at Clump Point within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. • Each permit application will need to be assessed in relation to the specific scope of works. • It is not possible to transfer assessment work carried out for the proposed breakwater at PHJ. Hon. Mr Katter MP noted that there was strong support for new applications to be processed as quickly as possible. • It was noted that separate permits had been submitted for the works at Clump Point and the works at PHJ. • It was confirmed that only the permits for the Clump Point works had been issued to date. Following recent discussions with DSD, GBRMPA has placed the review of the PHJ permit applications on hold. <p><u>Asset Ownership</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A representative from the Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) confirmed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. If ownership of marine infrastructure is retained by the State, then it must allow both commercial and recreational use, with at least one berth being available at all times for public/recreational use ii. Where DTMR retain ownership, consideration must be given to lifecycle and replacement costs. Design standards and cost for items such as pontoons can be significant. iii. The \$500,000 in project funding contributed by DTMR came from recreation boating registration fees and has been allocated for the provision of a third boat ramp lane. <p><u>Budget</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The remaining project budget was noted as \$18.8 million. • Hon. Bob Katter MP confirmed he was in possession of a letter from the former Commonwealth Treasurer, Wayne Swan, which stated the Federal Government's \$5.5 million contribution was for the provision of a safe boat harbour. It was agreed that a copy of the letter would submitted for the record. • A representative from a local environmental group noted that she was also in possession of a letter from the former Commonwealth Treasurer which stating that the Federal Government's contribution was for a scoping study, following which any remaining funds could be used for the delivery of boating infrastructure. It was agreed that a copy of the letter would also submitted for the record.
Desirable Features & Review of Proposals	<p><u>Breakwater Extension</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of attendees considered the priority for the project is the delivery of a breakwater extension that provides protection from non-cyclonic waves for mooring, berthing and anchoring to facilitate the expansion of the tourism industry.

- It was noted that the project may not provide safe haven in cyclonic or major storm events.
- The concept design prepared by Mager Construction was considered to be a good example of an outcome the majority of those present would support. It was noted that the scope would exceed the project budget when contingencies and additional project costs are considered.
- Representatives from conservation and environmental groups raised concerns regarding the impact of intensifying use at Clump Point. They also noted the need for a comprehensive management plan to address environmental and cultural heritage impacts if any development proceeded at Clump Point.
- Hon. Bob Katter MP noted that a large scale marina was not envisioned.

Types And Size of Vessels

- It was acknowledged that a variety of vessels would need to be catered for including recreational boats, commercial fishing vessels and tourism vessels.
- A representative from MBBA noted that allowance should be made for a 28-metre Incat and a draught of 3.5 to 3.6 metres at LAT.
- A representative from Maritime Safety QLD noted that an ongoing trend in the tourism sector was the use of vessels up to 24 metres, with draught less than 3.5 metres.
- The General Manager of the Dunk Island Resort noted that consideration should be given to providing for vessels that can also use the facilities at Dunk Island.

MBBA/Mager Proposal

- MBBA and Mager Constructions Pty Ltd were acknowledged for their efforts in preparing a detailed proposal at Clump Point.
- It was noted that there are additional project and risk allowances that need to be included in an overall project budget.

Core Requirements and 'Add-ons'

- Community representatives generally agreed the project budget should be used to maximise the size of the breakwater extension, with any remaining funding be used to provide additional infrastructure within budget constraints.
- The community representatives provided a range of views on the project scope options and the associated priorities.

Council's Support

- It was suggested that Council should contribute towards the delivery of the land based infrastructure. Mayor John Kremastos agreed to review this matter.
- Mayor John Kremastos noted there was strong support within Council for expanding the infrastructure at Clump Point and to work with the community to further develop the tourism industry at Mission Beach.

Stage 1 Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns were raised by community representatives regarding the design of the Stage 1 works and commencing when the project scope at Clump Point has not been finalised. • A number of the representatives requested that the tender for the stage 1 works be placed on hold.
Way Forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department of State Develop confirmed that a review of the issues raised during the information evening would be undertaken. • A summary of the session outcomes committed to be distributed within the week. • A high-level plan to be prepared setting out the next steps to take the project forward as a priority and to be discussed with key stakeholders from the Mission Beach Community.

Attachment 1: Agenda - Mission Beach Community Information Session – 18 May 2016