

## VINCENTIA RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC – CCB “VRRRA-CCB”

### SUBMISSION DPOP 2022/23- AND TEN-YEAR CAPEX 23/32

#### Executive Summary

1. Prioritise/bring forward to 22/23 the network of pathways providing safe connectivity for residents and visitors in the Vincentia Community.  
Black spot - Safe crossing and short path at Frederick St junction  
Completion of Coastal Pathway to Blenheim and Greenfield Beaches.  
Completion of Bayswood to Berry St / Elizabeth Dr. a  
Associated pedestrian refuge crossings.
2. Bring forward to 23/24 and following years.  
Pathway access from Vincentia hill to Elizabeth Dr and beaches.  
Associated pedestrian refuge crossings.
3. Restore priority to 22/23 the completion of the Stormwater Discharge of upgraded collection at the Bayswater St Road head and restore the upgrade of discharge systems at Berry, Montague, Susan & Illfracombe.
4. Plan with Plantation Point the Place to Play - management of the overflows from Hyams, Booderee, Huski into Vincentia township.
5. Preserve the beaches and waterways in Jervis Bay and restore the iconic views of Jervis Bay from Collingwood and Nelson beaches.
6. Use the benefits from the infrastructure improvements of Princess Highway from Berry and the Jervis Bay Rd intersection.
7. Provide for increase in tourism to stimulate housing developments and major events.
8. Plan for a link to a Very Fast Train from Sydney to Melbourne.
9. Reach out for Economic Development of the Dog Industry.
10. Participate in Prime Minister “Annual Disaster Mitigation Funding” events from sea.
11. Major items still subject to collaboration.
12. Minor items still subject to collaboration.
13. The Bakers Dozen – is there a Plan B DPOP windfall from the \$55m of grant?

## **Background to the VRRRA-CCB DPOP submission.**

The submission is based upon the community input gathered from the various sub committee's "teams," representing people identifying opportunities for the Vincentia township. The reference no's below relate to the respective no's in the Executive summary.

1. The pathways and connections team were empowered with providing a safer environment to live, stay and play in the Vincentia township.  
This team is a benchmark for other CCB's to use as a model.  
The Draft DPOP provides for line items 932, 981 and the Berry St SUP connecting Bayswood to Collingwood Beach approved in last year's DPOP and is currently WIP .  
It is considered the three locations identified under item 1 in the above exec summary present significant safety risks and should not be delayed. It is felt it is appropriate the timing be bought forward to 22/23. A power point presentation by the team with pics and maps at a recent VRRRA-CCB meeting is attached to this submission
2. Line items 986, 982, 946, 985, 926, 938, 1018,941, 1065.  
The respective no's shown on the road map in the attachment are 1, 2, 3, 4.1, 5.1&5.2, 6, 7.1, 7.3, 8  
The team identified the need to provide safer connections from the streets in the hills nearby to traffic flowing to and from the golf course and Elizabeth Drive or Plantation Point Pathways needed to be addressed. This was identified some years ago when Jess Rawlins made a presentation to the VRRRA. Thus, the pathways were placed in the DPOP's some years ago.  
It is suggested the timing of the line items in the 23/32 ten-year capex be bought forward. Most of the items have dropped back two or more years or shown as unfunded items. Further collaboration is needed with the team to identify the changes in timing and determine priorities.  
Line items 992 (Ada St), 993 (Jervis St to Blenheim Round the Bay ) and 1047 (Parking ) will be confirmed in the collaboration.
3. DPOP Line No 1148 ( Bayswater Discharge) No 935 ( Berry, Montague, Susan St and Illfracombe Ave discharge points).  
Last years Line no's - for item 1148 see the second page of the Capital Adjustments at Council meeting 29/6/21 and item 764 for ( Berry, Montague, Susan St and Illfracombe Ave discharge points)

The first stage of these projects, Bayswater St, to increase the capacity of the pipes to collect storm water ( i.e., to stop the storm water overflowing into subject homes near Bayswater Street ) was completed in Q2 of 21/22. The stage for the modifying storm water discharge process is still work in progress. It is in the draft DPOP for 24/25, whereas it was in last years DPOP to happen in 21/22. It is suggested this now be restated back to 22/23.

Berry and Susan Sts are antiquated, uncontrollable "pit systems" to be upgraded to replicate the pipe system being to be constructed at the Bayswater St roadhead.

Montague St and Illfracombe Ave discharge points also need to be aligned with the Bayswater St concept of discharging the storm water from the seaward edge of the foredune. This project appears to have been overlooked when transferring line item 764 from last year's ten-year capex report. It appears only the boardwalk section of last year's capex has been transferred to the 23/32 capex projects.

Thus, the need to reinstate the capital allowance and timing in the 21/22 DPOP of 22/23 \$50k and 23/24 \$649. All four discharge points would be done at the same time to yield the benefits of economies of scale.

The need for a common storm water discharge system which could manage the movement of people and storm water through the same point in the dunes, i.e., at end of roadheads, was identified when the Directors of Council made a site visit some years ago. The Directors saw the huge gaps where sand was lost from the dunes, ending up in Moona Creek.

This resulted in Director Keech putting forward a Concept Design which has been refined with input from City Services, Natural Resources teams and a consultant.

The design, in respect to the viewing platforms after the experiences of the April '22 storm would be enhanced if viewing platforms were replaced with lower vegetation providing a 180o sight line of the iconic views of Jervis Bay for the residents and thousands of tourists all the way along the existing SUP of Collingwood beach.

4. The budget bid concerned the need to upgrade Plantation Point Park to manage the overflow from the increase in visitors, along with imposition over the number of visitors to Hyams Beach popularity of visitors to Huski. Bids were made for BBQ facilities, café and action to address the constant leaking of water throughout the park. Further collaboration is needed.
5. The CBPG is in constant collaboration with Council, in particular the loss of sand from the dunes exacerbated and caused by discharge of storm water. Requests have been made to Council as to whether a Recovery Plan is in place for the damage to the dunes from the storm of April 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 2022. Council responded

“Council is enacting it's Coastal Zone Emergency Action Subplan (CZEAS) for high-risk beaches in accordance with Council's legislated and adopted Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP, 2018). Council has inspected beaches for damages post April-22 storm, with Nelson's Beach being prioritised for remediation works. Council have access to a Coastal Reserve which is a specific fund that was created after the 2016 East Coast Low (ECL) in order to have funds set aside for emergency response works to significant storm events.”

The DPOP includes lines 201 Coastal Erosion Works - \$568k pa and line 805, Implement Beach Scraping at High Priority Beaches \$155k+\$78K over 22/23 and 23/24. Understandably Council could not be expected to nominate this by beach or waterway because every beach and every storm is different. It is requested the DPOP be updated to reflect the assessment of the amount of the emergency funds to be allocated for a recovery plan from April 22, if any at all. Furthermore, whether it is

in 2022/23 or if it is intended to start works in 21/22 and carry over funds for WIP to 22/23.

It is recommended some funds be put aside in the capex program for 2028 to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2028 of the success of the completion of the beach scraping which took place at Collingwood Beach.

It is felt item 316 for Support Universities – Research Projects be deleted from the DPOP package, where does one start and where does one finish when using rate payer's funds to pay for Education bodies funding of research.

6. An understanding is sought if any of the benefits arising from the completed or planned infrastructure improvements can be linked to outcomes in the DPOP package, be it in tourism or expected development of new housing sites in the Shoalhaven etc.
7. An understanding is sought if the Council uses or contemplates using a KPI linking the increase in tourists to a KPI for people moving into the Shoalhaven or investing in holiday homes or investment properties, thus an increase with providing land for development and an increase in the ratepaying database and income. Like China using internal growth to create GDP from moving upwards from the single child household could Council use the increase in tourists as lead indicator for increase in number of ratepayers and Council's revenue ?
8. An understanding is sought if the Shoalhaven is expecting the opportunity to link in with plans by State or Federal Government in Very Fast Train developments in the next decade or thereafter.
9. An understanding is sought if the Shoalhaven could expect an opportunity in the area for the development of a "Dog industry in the Shoalhaven." In particular, if the land between the Bay and Basin Leisure Centre and west to the Jervis Bay / Wool Rd could be utilised for dog park and pond and the many related business opportunities, be it manufacturing, wholesale, retail or services or dog minding. Could the noticeable increase of passion the residents and visitors show for their dogs provide some innovative ideas ?
10. An understanding is sought if Council sees the Shoalhaven participating in and, being a pilot for flood levees or sea walls. Please refer to the attached announcement by the Prime Minister on "Annual Disaster Mitigation Funding for events from the sea."
11. The budget bid included significant investment projects for :

Olympic size swimming pool opposite Vincentia School

Duplicate the existing SUP from Holden St to Moona and integrate into protection of public assets along Collingwood into the Coastal Management Program or the Pedestrian and Mobility Plan "PAMP." See attached pic of similar concept at Kogarah Bay many decades ago where water used to wash over a park and have significant impact on main traffic thoroughfare.

Could Council consider adding the above two strategic items to the DPOP ten-year capex ?

12. The Budget bid included many less significant items not shown in the DPOP.

Collaboration is sought on including in the DPOP, namely :

- Life Saving and Storage facilities in conjunction with the Vincentia Sailing Club

Little nippers' storage facility at Plantation Point.

Reinstate shark patrols at Nelson and Collingwood beaches over school holiday periods.

- White sands walk

Could tourism consider providing sponsorship contributions to the Annual White Sands Walk, the inaugural event being held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2022 and to sponsor and support the other significant activities around Vincentia which attract many visitors, e.g., Vincentia Sailing Club, the Triathlons etc

- Showers & bubblers be installed at the end of each road head along Collingwood, Nelson and Orion beaches

- Allocation of below budget items passes in Council motion in December 2020.

- o Allocate a dedicated annual budget of \$15,000 from 2021/22 onwards to continue to implement Council's Vegetation Prevention Vandalism Policy across the Shoalhaven, noting the type of replacement trees planted in the dune from Susan Street to Albion Street must be on the approved revegetation species list in the Collingwood Beach Dunecare Action Plan.
- o Allocate additional funding for annual maintenance funds from 2021/22 onwards, to prune overhanging vegetation, to allow for at least three maintenance events each year for Collingwood Beach.
- o Thinning of vegetation in the thickets
- o Attend to other 8 actions in December 2020 motion for the Collingwood Beach dune Vegetation Plan
- o Maintain rather than reduce the no of accessways at Collingwood and Nelson beaches
- o Protection needed to ensure sustainability of water main in Illfracombe Ave and public roadway i.e., Illfracombe Ave.
- o Outcomes from Arborist safety Report, what,when,where, who by

- 13 Can Council provide an understanding if there is an opportunity for a Plan B DPOP package which might use funds freed up from grants from other tiers of government. It is assumed such funds could be used to bring forward and prioritise DPOP items which have in general been put back between two and four years compared with the timings in last year's DPOP package.

This request arises since discussion with a representative of the local working party for the newly elected Federal Government. The representative indicated the Federal and State Government were committing to grants of around \$40m which means Council will have freed up funds normally committed to the items now covered by the grants.

A council representative provided the following information on the roads funding and other grant applications in progress.

*As part of its advocacy for additional funds, Council has secured a promise from the incoming government to improve key roads including Forest Road (\$8M), Callala Bay Road (\$6M), Culburra Road (\$14M), intersection works at Coonemia / Currarong / Callala Bay Roads (\$2M), intersection works at Greenwell Point / Worrigeer Roads, Wool Road (\$3M) and St Georges Basin Rd (\$2M).*

*This is in addition to the proposed \$50M of funding Council has applied for the rehabilitation of the road network after the devastating March 2022 rainfall event.*

*The Draft DPOP also provides for \$34.7 M of Capital upgrades to the road network and an increase of \$2.6M on the existing road maintenance budget to bring that up to a total of \$38.8M being spent in the 2022/23 financial year.*

*Conclusion.*

*The VRRRA commends and thanks Council for providing such an articulated and transparent DPOP package and encouraging the VRRRA-CCB to Get Involved and make a submission.*

The VRRRA-CCB endorses the other activities such as the significant investment for the Bay and Basin Leisure Centre, the Vincentia Expansion Area and the many other items for the Vincentia township to enjoy

*Thanks go to The Manager – Corporate Performance & Reporting, The Coastal Management Program Co Ordinator and the staff at the Tomerong and Huskisson exhibition stalls for their help and providing information to help in the VRRRA submission.*

*The VRRRA-CCB looks forward to collaborating with Council to achieve the goals set out in the DPOP package.*

*Vincentia Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc – Vincentia CCB*

*Ken Buckley*

*Lou Casmiri*

*Chairman*

*Secretary*