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Draft Meeting Minutes:

Project: Community Consultation Project for the Proserpine-Shute Harbour Road

Subject: Minutes – Project Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting No.3
1:00pm – 3:00pm, 26th September 2007, Whitsunday Shire Council Board Room

Meeting opened by Mark Fenton at 1:10pm

Agenda Item 1: Welcome and Introductions

Attendees:

1. Marc Turner – Tourism Whitsundays (TW)
2. Faye Chapman – Residents Traffic Action (RTA)
3. Peter Jennings – Whitsunday Way Advisory Committee (WWAC)
4. Cr Mario Demartini (WSC)
5. Cr Tolma Camm – Whitsunday Shire Council (WSC)
6. Phil Holloway – Whitsunday Shire Council (WSC)
7. Pat Aprile – Department of Main Roads (DMR)
8. Jillian D’Urso – Department of Main Roads (DMR)
9. Dr Mark Fenton – Environment and Behaviour Consultants (EBC)
10. Arwen Rickert – Environment and Behaviour Consultants (EBC)
11. Jim Jarvis - Community member
12. Jan Clifford – Community member

Apologies:

1. Cr Jennifer Whitney – Whitsunday Shire Council (WSC)
2. Cr Kieran McCarthy - Whitsunday Shire Council (WSC)
3. Cr Steve Muller - Whitsunday Shire Council (WSC)
4. Danielle Seymour – Whitsunday Shire Council (WSC)
5. Rebecca Andrews – Whitsunday Development Corporation (WDC)
6. Robin Salmon – Community Member
7. Mary O’Flynn - Residents Traffic Action (RTA)
8. Lyn Gregson

Agenda Item 2: Minutes of previous meeting

2.1 Minutes from PAC 2

The minutes from PAC meeting number 2 held on 22nd August 2007 at the Whitsunday Shire Council Boardroom were confirmed.

Agenda Item 3: Update on consultation activities to date

Mark explained that it was important to refrain from discussing the outcomes of the consultation process to date as we are only halfway through the Phase 1 process, therefore at this stage we will focus on the process and activities to date.

1.1 Advertorials

Three advertorials over the past four weeks have been placed in the local newspapers (Whitsunday Times and the Guardian). We were disappointed with the lack of prominence of the placements, despite repeated attempts from Main Roads Communications personnel to ensure placement in prominent locations. Another advertorial will be placed which states something along the lines of: Whitsunday Way – Have YOU Had Your Say? Followed by a list of ways in which people can provide input.

A number of media releases and responses to media inquiries have also been printed in the local press. Jillian D'Urso circulated copies of these to PAC members.

Members of the PAC felt that there needed to be more in the local press from the Council supporting the process. It was also felt that the local radio stations needed to be utilised more to get the message out.

1.2 Letter box flyer

3,450 flyers were distributed via letterbox drop to Whitsunday Shire on Tuesday and Wednesday 18 and 19 September 2007 and 3,427 flyers will be distributed to the remainder of Shire via rural postal runs and Post Office Boxes this week and next (week beginning 24 September 2007). There will be approximately 2,500 flyers remaining.

PAC members suggested that remaining flyers be distributed at the shopping centres and markets.

1.3 Email address, 1300 telephone number, PO Box number, fax and web page

As of Tuesday 25th September 2007, eight messages had been received on the 1300 number, eight emails had been received via the shute@ebc.net.au email address, two submissions had been made via the internet submission form, 11 people had registered their email addresses via the internet site to receive further information and newsletters, one letter had been received to the PO Box and no faxes had been received.

1.4 On-ground consultations with businesses, residents and stakeholders

To date more than 90 individual residents and businesses had been approached by an EBC consultant to provide input to the project. More than 70 of them provided input directly to the consultant, others took a flyer and indicated they would provide input via email or the website. A small number refused to provide input at all claiming they were not interested or had provided input in previous consultation exercises.

Stakeholder consultations continue to be arranged with community groups, schools and emergency services. PAC members who are also members of groups will arrange for EBC to present at the group's next meetings.

Agenda Item 4: Upcoming consultation process

4.1 Timelines for remaining consultation activities (Phase 1)

Stakeholder consultations will continue through October and will include public displays at the major shopping centres and at the markets. The displays will provide a means of feedback to the community on the information on input received to date as well as provide additional opportunity for additional community and stakeholder input. It will include a map and will focus on the Beach to Tropic Road area.

PAC members felt that it was important to make it visual and appealing to encourage people to make comment. Clever wording on a banner would be required. EBC will draft up the material and circulate to the PAC for comment.

4.2 Process and content of Phase 2 activities

The Phase 2 activities include community meetings or workshops to negotiate options for intersection treatments between Beach and Tropic Roads using the available technical information from Main Roads, the WGMI process as well as the input received from the community and stakeholders from Phase 1 of this project.

It would need to focus on the immediate priority area (Adina Street) first, however should it be done intersection by intersection or as sections of the road for example Beach to Pandanus and then Pandanus to Tropic. PAC members felt that it would be difficult to discuss individual intersections without an understanding of the whole section as each intersection is interrelated to others in the section.

It was agreed that the adjacent businesses, developers and interested residents and stakeholder groups be invited to participate in these workshops.

It was agreed that prior to the negotiated session on individual intersections or sections of road, participants would need to attend a technical briefing session to gain an understanding of the technical constraints and issues for the area.

The process may include several sessions such as:

1. An introductory session giving an overview of the section of road and the broad issues and options as well as the technical information and constraints for each section of the road (or intersection)
2. A series of negotiated sessions specific to each section of the road or intersection
3. An overview session to bring together all the findings from the negotiated sessions on individual sections or intersections. This would include actions and timelines and identification of the non-negotiables and decisions required following the meeting.

It was agreed that EBC would develop and circulate a more detailed process for the PAC to consider as well as identify the kind of information required for the technical briefing sessions.

4.3 Technical information required for community workshops

Technical information required for community workshops may include traffic counts and modelling, WGMI outputs, information gathered from community consultation in Phase 1 and more.

4.4 Additional tasks (survey of tourists and operators)

It was agreed that rather than develop and circulate a written survey to tourists and operators which may have a very low response rate that EBC personally survey people at the Shopping Centres and Markets with the view of receiving input from tourists and visitors to the region as well as locals.

Agenda Item 5: Other items

5.1 Additional areas for consultation focus (Galbraith Park Drive intersection treatment)

Faye Chapman gave an update from the Airlie Beach-East Foreshore management workshop she attended where concerns were raised about the Galbraith Park Drive intersection treatment and a number of others which may need to be prioritised for consultation focus after the Beach to Tropic Road section.

The PAC agreed that there may be potential for future negotiation on the intersection treatments proposed by developers for these intersections and therefore it will be necessary to look at identifying other priorities for consultation after Beach to Tropic Road.

5.2 WGMI update

Mark Saunders was unable to attend the meeting but provided the following update after the meeting via email.

The draft stage 2 report from the Whitsunday Growth Management Initiative will be presented to the steering committee on Monday (1st October). Information on the WGMI and the Shute Harbour Planning Study (previously on the Whitsunday Development Corporation website) is now available at <http://www.lgp.qld.gov.au/?id=295>

Meeting closed: 2:55pm

Next meeting: 24th October 2007 1-3pm at the Council Boardroom