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Draft Meeting Minutes:

Project: Whitsunday Way PAC

Subject: Minutes – Project Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting No.11
11:00am– 1:00pm, 7 April 2009, Proserpine Exservices Club

Meeting opened by Mark Fenton at 11:25am

Agenda Item 1: Introductions and Apologies

Attendees:

1. Marc Turner – Tourism Whitsundays (TW)
2. Pat Aprile – Department of Main Roads (DMR)
3. Sharon Johnston – Department of Main Roads (DMR)
4. Mary O’Flynn - Residents Traffic Action (RTA)
5. Faye Chapman – Residents Traffic Action (RTA)
6. Jim Jarvis - Community member
7. Peter Jennings – Community member
8. Jim Wort – Community member
9. Cr Jan Clifford – Whitsunday Regional Council (WRC)
10. Dr Mark Fenton – Environment and Behaviour Consultants (EBC)
11. Arwen Rickert – Environment and Behaviour Consultants (EBC)
12. Terri Buono - – Environment and Behaviour Consultants (EBC)
13. Cr Rogin Taylor - Whitsunday Regional Council (WRC)
14. Cr Jennifer Whitney - Whitsunday Regional Council (WRC)
15. Gary Martin - Whitsunday Regional Council (WRC)
16. Robin Salmon – Community member
17. Chris McJannett – Representing Jan Jarratt (MP Whitsunday)

Apologies:

18. Rebecca Andrews – Enterprise Whitsundays (Formerly Whitsunday Development Corp)
19. Jan Jarratt – Member for Whitsunday (MP Whitsunday)
20. Ian Husband - Department of Main Roads (DMR)
21. Katrina Clarke – Department of Infrastructure and Planning (DIP)

Agenda Item 2: Minutes of previous meeting

2.1 Minutes from PAC 10

The minutes from PAC meeting number 10 held on 9 December 2008 at the Proserpine Exservices Club were confirmed.

Business arising from previous meeting minutes:

WGMI Report

- Main Roads Mackay is unsure where the report is at because Heather Norris has left DIP and Main Roads has heard nothing further about the process. Main Roads has received the final Traffic Modelling report from Maunsell which has addressed the issues raised by the PAC, in particular the concerns about the population projections.

ACTION: Pat Aprile to make the final Maunsell report available for the information and negotiation sessions.

Airlie Beach Main Street

- Already covered by presentation prior to this meeting commencing. Further information is available at the public consultation meetings being held in Airlie Beach today 1pm and 6pm. The project is at the concept stage with drawings and layouts developed for discussion with the public and stakeholders.
- This project also deals with the Coconut Grove roundabout.

ACTION: PAC members to avail themselves of any consultation events to keep abreast of the project's progress.

Badging the Whitsunday Way

- Many PAC members responded to Main Road's invitation to comment on the road signage options for Whitsunday Way.
- Based on feedback from PAC members and other stakeholders, Main Roads Mackay decided on the photo option for the road sign.
- Pat Aprile circulated the latest designs to PAC members present at the meeting.
- Many PAC members felt that the wording should be changed from "Barrier Reef Islands" to "Whitsunday Coast and Islands" as Whitsunday is a high recognition word for tourists and also it distinguishes the region from the rest of the Great Barrier Reef which stretches from Bundaberg to Port Douglas. Marc Turner explained that high recognition words for tourists are Whitsunday Islands and Airlie Beach.
- Pat Aprile explained that he would consider changing the wording but would first have to check it in terms of consistency with other signs in the area
- Discussion also focussed on the photo to be used on the sign, with many PAC members preferring an alternative photo to that used by Main Roads in the latest design. Marc Turner offered alternative photos from Tourism Whitsundays which he had supplied previously in response to the road signage options circulated via email.
- Pat Aprile explained that it could take up to two months for the sign to be erected after the design was finalised.
- Pat Aprile agreed to circulate the final draft designs for PAC review.

ACTION: Pat Aprile to review and possibly change signage wording in latest DMR road signage options to: "Whitsunday Coast and Islands" rather than "Barrier Reef Islands".

ACTION: Pat Aprile to consider alternative photos for signage.

ACTION: Pat Aprile to circulate final signage designs to PAC for review prior to finalising.

Agenda Item 3: Draft Consultation Strategy

3.1 Discussion of consultation process and tasks

Arwen Rickert explained the proposed tasks outlined in the consultation strategy for the information and negotiation sessions. Summary of discussion with the PAC is as follows:

- The consultation process would be preceded by a media release inviting comment from the public and the 1300 number and website would be updated.
- This would be followed by one-on-one consultation with local residents and businesses between Beach and Tropic Roads to canvas local issues before holding the information and negotiation sessions. Information gathered from the one-on-one consultation would provide inputs to the workshop sessions without requiring all parties to be invited.
- The information and negotiation sessions would be invitation only events to ensure the group size was manageable and made up of the appropriate stakeholders.
- EBC has engaged Flanagan Consulting Group to provide traffic engineering support for the workshops.
- Some PAC members were concerned about the potential for confusion in the general public about the Beach Road roundabout and the Adina Street consultation process.
- Chris McJannett explained that there would be a media release about the Beach Road roundabout in about 2 weeks time so that would help to avoid confusion about upcoming works and the consultation process.
- Pat Aprile confirmed that the Beach Road roundabout construction was due to start in May and be complete by the end of the year. Tropic Road would be done the following year (2010).
- PAC members felt that there was a need to consult with residents further up the hill behind Shute Harbour Road – not just the residents fronting the road, as those behind would be more likely to use the side street access and potentially have different issues with the intersection treatments. The PAC agreed that the consultation strategy and tasks should be amended to include those additional residents who would be using the accesses onto SHR as regularly or more than those fronting the road.
- PAC members felt that the consultation materials should be circulated to the PAC prior to being used for consultation to enable feedback on what was useful and appropriate.
- It was agreed that the one-on-one consultation should focus on identifying what intersections people use to access SHR (for inbound and outbound journeys), why they use certain intersections and what their access requirements are rather than getting them to vote on options or indicate preferences for certain intersection treatments.
- It was suggested that a public display may be valuable between the information and negotiation sessions, not just after the process is finished, to canvas the general community's views on potential options. It was agreed this would be included as an option and discussed further at a subsequent PAC meeting.
- It was agreed the revisions to website text would also be circulated to the PAC for comment.
- Information session materials would be discussed also at the next PAC meeting.

ACTION: Arwen Rickert to draft media release in consultation with Main Roads Mackay and PAC to release prior to consultation commencing.

ACTION: Arwen Rickert to include up-hill residents behind SHR in one-on-one consultation.

ACTION: Arwen Rickert to circulate revisions to website text and one-on-one consultation materials to PAC prior to one-on-one consultation commencing.

3.2 Timeline

- It was agreed that the one-on-one consultation would most likely take 6-8 weeks and therefore the information and negotiation sessions would most likely occur in late June or July, with the project anticipated to conclude in August.

Agenda Item 4: Other Items

4.1 Airlie Beach Main Street

Already covered

4.2 Communications with incoming Ministers

- A number of PAC members felt it important to thank Minister Pitt for his support for the PAC process. It was agreed that the PAC, or members of the PAC could write to him and thank him personally.
- It was also agreed that the incoming Ministers (for Transport and for Main Roads) should be briefed on the PAC process. Main Roads is already doing this through their briefing processes and also the local member would personally brief them on local issues and ensure it was kept on the agenda.
- PAC members felt it was especially important that the Whitsunday Way Vision be incorporated into local planning.

ACTION: PAC to write to Warren Pitt to thank him for his support for the process.

ACTION: Main Roads and Member for Whitsunday to brief incoming ministers on the PAC process and vision for Whitsunday Way.

Meeting closed: 1:00pm

Next meeting: May 2009 – date to be advised.