

Securing the future of our coastline

Meeting notes

Community Reference Group

Meeting 8 – Wednesday 11 August 2021 / Club West Lakes 6.00pm to 8.30pm

We would like to acknowledge this land that we meet on today is the traditional Lands for the Kurna people and that we respect their spiritual relationship with their country. We also acknowledge the Kurna people as the custodians of the greater Adelaide region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kurna people today.

The department acknowledges that the discussions and principles raised at each reference group meeting, and/or outcomes as recorded in the meeting notes, do not necessarily indicate agreement by all reference group members or the community groups they represent.

Attendees

- Port Adelaide Residents Environment Protection Group - Tony Bazeley
- Save West Beach Sand- John Dundon
- Semaphore Largs Dunes Group – Sandra Dann (proxy Maggie Gordon)
- Tennyson Dunes Group - Nick Crouch
- Henley Dunes Care Group - Bernadette Cranwell
- Western Adelaide Coastal Residents Association –Geoff Short & Bert Brown (proxy)
- Surf Life Saving SA – Julie Quimby
- Coastal Ecology Protection Group – Monique Webber
- City of Charles Sturt – Sam Higgins
- City of Port Adelaide Enfield – Mark Buckerfield
- Save our Shores Semaphore to Largs – Warwick Norman
- Henley Sailing Club –Brenton Scott
- West Beach & Henley Beach South working group – Stephen Perry
- Taperoo Dunes Group – Ross McColl
- Grange Surf Life Saving Club – Joe Pedicini
- Department for Environment and Water, Neil McFarlane
- James Guy, Project Manager, DEW
- Linda Durham, Engagement Coordinator, DEW
- Steve Dangerfield (facilitator)

Apologies

- Birdlife Australia – Aleisa Lamanna
- West Beach & Henley Beach South working group – Alan Young
- Semaphore Surf Life Saving Club – Paul Breden
- West Beach Surf Life Saving Club – Peter Zuill
- Henley Surf Life Savings Club – Rae Lawson

Absent

- Friends of North Haven Dunes Group - Jan Blake
- Adelaide Sailing Club – Peter Royle
- Conservation SA – Craig Wilkins
- Wild Endangered Dunes Group (WEDGE) – Geoffrey Reed
- Friends of Gulf St Vincent – Mark Pierson

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Steve Dangerfield welcomed everyone to the meeting noting apologies and proxies.
- Steve reminded everyone about the meeting protocols.
- Steve highlighted the meeting purpose, agenda items and confirmed the actions from the previous meeting noting the previous meeting summary notes were finalised and have been published on the department's website.

2. Project update

- James Guy provided a recap on the Securing the future of our coastline project timelines noting that the project is now in year 3 – *refer to slide 7*.
- James provided an update on the Interim Replenishment works – *refer to slide 8*.
- James explained that the risk of dune scarping is higher when sand carting in the winter months due to lowered beach levels meaning that waves reach the dunes more easily during high water level events. When operating in spring and autumn months the probability of storm surge events is lower, and it is also more likely that the beach levels will have time to recover after collection of sand (via littoral drift and onshore sand movement) before the higher water level events occur.
- A comment was made relating to the consequences for West Beach and Henley Beach South of the autumn sand movement works being delayed until winter as part of the trial. The result has been an estimated 100,000m³ of sand loss from the remnant 6000 year old dunes at West Beach because replenishment didn't occur prior to the winter storms. The question was asked whether the groups who instigated the winter works considered the trial to be a success or a failure.
- James highlighted that it was the department that made the final decision to conduct a trial of winter sand movement works in response to stakeholder requests and that it is very unlikely that this will occur again. He noted that this related to sand movement works using trucks, and that an advantage of the sand pumping system was that it can be used during winter.
- James provided an updated photographic presentation of the recent storm surge events and impacts on Henley Beach South. Noting that this was unusual in that the strong winds were predominantly from the north western to western sector, rather than the usual south westerly frontal systems.- *refer to slides 9 to 14*.
- James provided an update on external sand noting it will be delivered into West Beach via the Adelaide Sailing Club - *refer to slide 15*.
- James provided some photos of external sand being deposited onto west beach parks beach and a map showing a layout of where the quarry sand is going – *refer to slide 16 and 17*.
- James explained the community engagement that has occurred with west beach parks trust noting the impacts on beaches for southern residents.
- James explained the delay with the Development Application (DA) lodgement noting that community information sessions were also postponed as a result. New dates for lodgement and sessions will be confirmed in the coming months to coincide with the public notification period for the DA.
- James highlighted subject to DA approvals construction of the new sand pumping system is scheduled to start early 2022 and continue through to early 2023. – *refer to slide 18*.
- Steve highlighted that micro engagement will be on-going with residents who directly reside in the areas where pipeline infrastructure will be placed, such as pump station location.

Note: James confirmed that construction of the in-beach section of pipeline will be scheduled to avoid hooded plover nesting season.

Note: James has included some additional slides including pictures and data on the recent storm events – *refer to slides 27 to 43*

3. Phase 2 Impact Assessment

- James showed a summary of the recommendations from the Phase 2 Impact Assessment Report as presented at the last CRG meeting – *refer to slide 20 to 22*.
- James addressed questions received by CRG members noting that there are some small wording amendments to be made in the Phase 2 impact assessment final report.
- Steve invited all members to raise any further questions about the Phase 2 Impact Assessment.
- James noted that Salients and Coastal Environments were asked to review long term impacts of moving sand from the northern beaches (ie: pipeline) and comment on the coastal processes. They were asked to include in the report social impacts and comment if desired however they were not asked to research economic and social impacts as this is not their field of expertise – *please refer back to the scope of works*.
- A question was asked as to whether the department would be implementing the “community tolerance” model that Doug Lord mentioned in his presentation to the CRG.
- James advised that the community tolerance approach was one of a range of possible methods discussed in the report in relation to defining how sand movement operations would be managed i.e. determining how much sand should be moved from specific locations. James discussed the Operational Plan that will be prepared to define how the new sand pumping system, and the existing system, will be operated to manage Adelaide’s beaches. The department will consider the recommendations of the report in formulating the Operational Plan but has not yet made any decisions.
- A question was asked as to what the department considered to be “recovery” in relation to the Semaphore and Largs Bay dunes, and in what timeframe did the department expect recovery to occur.
- James advised that the erosion being seen now was expected in response to the sand movement works and was predicted by both the department and Water Technology.
- James advised that in his view recovery meant a dune system in which the toe of the dune was in a relatively stable alignment, but not necessarily along the original alignment (prior to sand movement works). There may be periodic scarping in response to storm events, but the intent of the new sand pumping system was to equitably distribute sand along the coastline to establish and maintain stable dune systems as has occurred along the southern beaches.
- James reiterated his previous comments that it was not possible to give definitive timeframes in relation to coastal processes due the highly variable nature of the processes involved. As a guide, short term generally means a timescale of individual events or seasons. Longer term generally means a timescale of many months or years.

Note: There was a request for Salients and Coastal Environments (David Wainwright and Doug Lord) to present the outcomes of the Phase 2 Impact Assessment Final report. *Refer to action list below*.

Note: There was a request to circulate the latest research regarding climate change and wind directions. *Refer to action list below*.

4. Community Engagement

- Steve noted the community engagement activities around the DA– *refer to slide 24*.

Note: There was a question as to whether the department utilised social media to promote community engagement activities and events. James confirmed that the department does.

5. Wrap up and close

- Steve wrapped up the meeting noting the next meeting will likely occur prior to the lodgement of the DA.

Action list (updated August 2021)

Action	Meeting date	Responsibility	Due date	Status
Continue to seek CRG youth representation		Linda	On-going	
Share the beach in-fauna studies conducted by Birdlife Australia with the CRG group		Alesia Lamanna	On-going	
Confirm and set up an online presentation from Salients and Coastal Environments		James /Linda	Asap	TBC
Circulate latest information on climate change & wind directions		Neil / Linda	Asap	
James to meet with Bernadette to discuss pipeline alignment north of Torrens.		James / Linda	Asap	