



WACRA Submission: Community Land Management Plan

Coastal Reserve West Beach, April 20, 2018

Thank you for this opportunity to respond to the Community Land Management Plan. I have viewed all documentation relating to this review and make the following submission.

The overhead diagram relating to dune management is a unknown and unachievable objective under present conditions. There is no dune system south or north of the West Beach Surf Life Saving Club due to inappropriate coastal management.

Numerous discussions have been held between resident organisations and Council management seeking a scientific study of Glenelg North, West Beach and Henley Beach South being all part of cell 3 to identify the cause of on going sand depletion and damage to the dune immediately fronting the holiday village and traveling north to Henley Beach south to the Torrens river outlet.

Council co ordinated two workshops consisting of representatives from State, Local Government, coastal experts, resident organisations and surf life saving clubs where it was clearly identified that urgent action needed to take place if this section of beach was to be stabilised and retained.

The eventual outcome was to find the funding up to \$70,000 from the Coastal Protection Board, Charles Sturt Council and Adelaide Shores to conduct a scientific study by modeling to gain a full understanding of why there has been such a huge loss of sand and suggested structural and engineering options to improve the import and retention of sand on these beaches.

Included in this study was a review of the effectiveness of the Adelaide Living Beaches sand pumping and bypassing operations.

It was promised that the study results would be available by end of September 2017 and

then extended to October due to incorrect data being provided initially. It is now April 2018 and the review report is still not available to the parties involved in the workshop initiative.

The Community Land Management Plan Coastal Reserve Review is asking for constructive comment on how this section of land [that very much includes the greater section of Cell 3] without having any scientific data on how this section of the coastline is going to be managed. This is not good management practice.

It makes it impossible to comment on how to enhance, protect and manage the coast and dune system without the necessary scientific data. Similarly, without robust scientific evidence it is impossible to make informed comment for improved access or facilities.

The Coastal Pathway may in fact need to be placed in a entirely different location as being proposed due to changes that may be necessary in constructing the existing severely damaged rock wall.

The Plan fails to address climate change and the effect on coastal erosion. The recent Adapt West workshops supported by the state and three coastal councils identified the need for long term adaptation for this section of the coastline and also identified the need for a scientific study of the whole of coast to protect properties from flooding and erosion such as presently is happening along the eastern coastline of Australia.

Evidence provided by the Coastal Protection Branch to the Public Works committee by Mr Rob Tucker in 1997 at the time of the planning of the Hold fast Shores and West Beach boat launching facility warned of the impediment to the natural northern sand littoral drift and estimated the volume prior to the rock groynes installed at the mouth of the Patawolonga and West Beach to be 50,000 cubic metres per year. Mr Tucker further reported that this volume will be significantly reduced and the beaches staved of sand unless sand is continuously bypassed from the south side of these groynes back into the system. In fact Mr Tucker advised the committee when asked if the sand bypassing wasn't able to maintain the beaches what would be the answer to replenishment. His answer was to remove the groynes.

Council is asking the community for comment on the Community Land Management Plan on a section of coast line that is fractured and vulnerable without providing any scientific reports or land management actions to protect this environment. This is not responsible management practice.

It is environmental knowledge that sea walls change wave direction and wave power and can result in erosion of the adjacent coastline. The Coastal Protection Board [CPB] reported back in 1998 that immediately after the installation of the West Beach Boat Launching Facility was completed almost half the width of the West beach dunes were wiped out. A rock wall was installed south of the West Beach Surf Life Saving Club much to the concern of the CPB. It is partly this installation that has caused so much coastal damage and threatened the existence of the WBSLSC. And the majority section of this land Management Coastal Reserve.

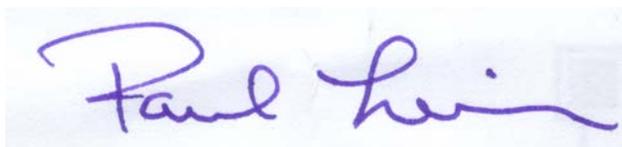
The fact is that this whole section of Coastal land has been neglected and it will take more than a review of this Reserve to save it from total destruction.

It is hardly worth making mention of the proposed east west access points other than they will be needed in future for emergency vehicle access and the occasional visitor to this sadly degraded location.

It seems unlikely that the WBSLSC will be able to remain in its present location due to the erosion and the lack of training access on wet beaches.

A relocation of the Club is presently under discussion as I understand and this being the probability then surely it would be responsible to deal with this issue prior to placing band aids on this Community Reserve until an Environmental Impact Study is conducted to address all those aspects previously mentioned in this response.

Statements made in relation to information provided by Mr Tucker and references to the Adapt West Report can be provided on request. For further information or clarification of these issues, please contact Jim Douglas (phone 0417875232). Mr Douglas attended the two Council workshops and the Adapt West review, provided submissions to the Public Works Committee of Parliament as President Western Adelaide Coastal Residents. Founding member, past president/editor and Life Member of Friends of Gulf St Vincent.



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