



MINUTES

FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (NORTHERN AREA)

at 4.00 pm

Thursday 3 November 2022

In Attendance

Councillor M Cox, Councillor R Martin, Councillor C Walters, A Aguiar – SES Illawarra/South Coast, S Milling – Transport for NSW, A Monk – Transport for NSW, J Byrne – community representative, J Morgan – Manager, Infrastructure Strategy + Planning, D Green – Land Use Planning Manager, I Ghetti – Transport, Asset + Stormwater Manager, J Harris – Floodplain + Stormwater Unit Leader, R Piatek – Senior Stormwater + Floodplain Design Engineer, R Dorman – Administration Officer

Councillor M Cox was nominated as Chair



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1 STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

1.1 Welcome and Introduction

In line with NSW Health guidelines about Novel Coronavirus, we have made some changes to the way we are engaging the community, to keep our staff and people in our community safe. Instead of having face-to-face conversations with people, meetings are currently being conducted via Teams.

Attendees introduced themselves and their position.

1.2 Acknowledgement of Country

The traditional owners of the land were acknowledged.

1.3 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted on behalf of Terrie-Ann Hurt (Chief Inspector - SES), Clare Robinson (WCC Emergency Management Officer), Yelia Pandika (WCC Floodplain Management Engineer) and Robert Dinero (WCC Floodplain Management Engineer).

1.4 Disclosures of Interests

Councillor Martin declared a non-pecuniary disclosure of interest, due to his being a resident near the Russell Vale Golf Course.

1.5 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 23 September 2021 were accepted. Moved Stuart Milling/ Seconded Cr Mithra Cox.

2 FLOOD MANAGEMENT UPDATE

2.1 Floodplain Process – Towradgi Creek

- Status Update, Public Exhibition

Towradgi Creek Flood Study, Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan update: The approach and driver for update is guided by updated methodologies under Australian Rainfall and Run-off (ARR) 2019, which has resulted in a reduction of estimated flood levels compared to previous methodology under ARR 1987. Progress has continued under the supervision of the technical working group (Council officers, DPE and the consultant).

The risk to the community has been considered as part of the Floodplain Risk Management Study (FRMS) and options considered to manage this risk. The risk assessment is carried out generally in the same process as previous studies – an update has been released to the flood hazard categories, which identifies six classes of risk depending on water depth/velocity.

Recommended measures have been detailed in the Floodplain Risk Management Plan (FRMP).

All of the above information is currently on public exhibition, closing 21 November 2022. Following the closure of the exhibition period, we will consolidate/review any submissions, finalise the report and arrange for a committee meeting to seek endorsement prior to going to Council for the adoption/endorsement of the Study and Plan.

Implementation of the recommended measures will be undertaken under the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP), within allocated budgets shared across the LGA. Multiple FRMP reviews are underway and will be considered for prioritisation as they are finalised. Budget line item has been included in future years to

commence implementation. Grant funding will be sought from various sources, including NSW Government Floodplain Management Program, to supplement Council's budget.

Action: a link to the public exhibition was requested to be forwarded to the committee members for their information – Robyn to provide.

2.2 Floodplain Process – Collins Creek

- Status Update

The Collins Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan is earlier in the floodplain planning process than Towradgi Creek but is utilising the same methodology. Only minor differences were identified between ARR 2019 and ARR 1987. The FRMS to consider the risk to the community within the catchment area is underway under the review of the technical working group.

- Public Exhibition

The public exhibition will be undertaken once draft FRMS and FRMP are prepared and once the committee has endorsed the documentation.

- Implementation Update:

- Bellambi Gully Flood Mitigation Scheme
Funding received through National Flood Mitigation Infrastructure Program for Stage 1 and 2. Construction approvals are being finalised and tenders will be sought for construction
- Gordon Hutton Park Debris Control Structure
Design has been completed and tenders will be sought for construction
- Russell Vale Golf Course Debris Control Structure
Design has been completed and tenders will be sought for construction. Additional stormwater management works in the area will also assist with flood management
- Albert Street/Memorial Drive Debris Control Structure
Design is nearing completion and approvals are being sought to finalise
- Brompton Road Debris Control Structure
Design is underway with plans to implement over the next 12-18 months
- Ursula Road Scheme
Flood mitigation works in the vicinity of Ursula Road, Benelong Street and Trinity Row are proposed. The concept design is well progressed and community consultation undertaken – the design is currently addressing issues raised as part of the consultation. Staged works including some within the vicinity of the rail corridor are likely to be recommended. Detailed design will be commenced on finalisation of the concept scheme.

2.3 Floodplain Process – Hewitts Creek

- Status Update, Public Exhibition

Hewitts Creek Flood Study, Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan update: The approach and driver for update is guided by updated methodologies under Australian Rainfall and Run-off (ARR) 2019, which has resulted in a reduction of estimated flood levels compared to previous methodology under ARR 1987. Progress has continued under the supervision of the technical working group (Council officers, DPE and the consultant). The model is updated with changes to the catchment including updated survey and development information. The modelling has provided results that are consistent with recent significant rainfall events.

The risk to the community has been considered as part of the Floodplain Risk Management Study (FRMS) and options considered to manage this risk. The risk assessment is carried out generally with the same process as previous studies – an update has been released to the flood hazard categories, which identifies six classes of risk depending on water depth/velocity.

The technical working group is working through the potential options to manage risk within the catchment, to prepare a draft FRMP. Options have been reviewed in the Lachlan Street area and they were not supported. Following some public consultation with local residents, additional potential options have been identified for consideration – these will be reviewed and further consultation with residents will be carried out prior to exhibition.

When a draft set of the studies and plan has been prepared, a committee meeting will be arranged to seek endorsement for public exhibition. This committee meeting is anticipated to be held in the first quarter of 2023.

Action: the reports are to be presented to committee prior to exhibition. Moved Cr Martin/Seconded Cr Cameron.

Action: Cr Martin requested advice be provided to Thirroul Village Committee and Northern Illawarra Residents Action Group as part of the exhibition.

Action: When an update is available, Lachlan Street residents to be provided with an update by Council officers, prior to the exhibition.

3 GENERAL BUSINESS

3.1 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Nil

4 NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be prior to Hewitts Creek Study going on exhibition and/or Towradgi Creek Study prepared for adoption - moved Cr Martin/Seconded Cr Walters.

5 CLOSE MEETING

The meeting closed at 17:20pm.

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