

Public Forum Question – Response

Subject: Proposed Dredging of Curl Curl Lagoon

Question From: Mr Vincent De Luca

Meeting Date: 9 September 2003

Question:

Is Council aware that over 400 people in past years have expressed their objection to Council over proposals to dredge Curl Curl Lagoon due to health risks? Could Council please advise residents in Surf Road and Taylor Street North Curl Curl by letter of any proposals to dredge the Lagoon and ensure that these residents are properly consulted and included in the workshops by Patterson Britton and Partners? Could any other works proposed also be notified to residents in these two streets that are in close proximity to the lagoon and its surrounds?

Response:

The Administrator's answer on the night was " Yes, Yes, Yes, Yes". Further detailed advice is provided as follows:

Since 1992, Council and the Curl Curl Lagoon Friends Inc have progressively moved towards the rehabilitation of Greendale Creek and Curl Curl Lagoon. Stage 1 of the Greendale Creek Rehabilitation Project was completed in 1997, Stage 2 in 1999 and Stage 3 in 2001. Works completed to date include the construction of a Gross Pollutant Trap at Harbord Road, selective widening and battering of the creek banks, construction of a weir and water quality control pond, and extensive weed removal and revegetation of creek banks with appropriate plant species. Each stage has involved community consultation and received widespread community support. Council is now in the process of planning the final stage of the rehabilitation, and the first step is to examine all the possible options and to update all the options' costs and benefits, and then to undertake community consultation. One of the options being considered is the removal of up to 35,000 cubic metres of sediment from Curl Curl lagoon to provide a permanent water body when the lagoon is open. The existing Statement of Environmental Effects for this proposal was prepared in 1994. Since 1994 there have been significant changes to planning regulations and environmental guidelines related to the activities of the project. Council has engaged Patterson Britton and Partners to review and update the existing Statement of Environmental Effects in light of these changes. Community consultation is to be undertaken as part of the review and update of the Statement of Environmental Effects. The program will involve workshops with various stakeholders including the Curl Curl Lagoon Friends Inc, John Fisher Park Community Group, other residents and interested community members, a community "drop in day", and a newsletter distributed throughout the entire lagoon catchment. The document will also be placed on public exhibition.

As part of this community consultation, residents in Surf Road and Taylor Street, as well as the

wider catchment of Curl Curl Lagoon, will be notified of forthcoming workshops being held by Patterson Britton and Partners on behalf of Council. Residents and other stakeholders will be duly notified of these workshops.

On Monday 1 September 2003 Council's consultants for this project and a senior Council officer attended the Curl Curl Lagoon Friends Inc Annual General Meeting to give presentations providing an update on the project and to obtain further feedback on the various alternative options. Council looks forward to carrying out the community consultation for all the possible options, and to working with the Curl Curl community and the broader Warringah community in the consideration of these options.