

Title **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT ON THE DRAFT FRANKLIN FORESHORE REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Agenda Number 19.013/20*

Strategic Plan Reference 1, 2, 3 and 4

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Reporting Brief The Director Community Services presenting a report from the Community Engagement Officer on the Community Engagement Summary Report on the Draft Franklin Foreshore Rehabilitation and Development Plan

Attachments

- A. Summary of Engagement – Draft Franklin Foreshore Rehabilitation and Development Plan
- B. Draft Master Plan
- C. Revised Master Plan for approval

Background

1. The Huon Valley Council 2018 State Election Strategy identified key areas in which the Council can work together with the State Government to achieve key priorities for the prosperity and amenity of the Huon Valley Region.
2. In 2018 Huon Valley Council were successful in securing a \$750,000 State election commitment for the rehabilitation and development of Franklin Foreshore.
3. Council at its Ordinary Meeting of 8 April 2020 resolved to undertake Community Engagement at the Consult Level on the proposed Franklin Foreshore Rehabilitation and Development Project (Master Plan).
4. The Council also resolved to request an amendment to the grant deed from the funding body to reflect the following approved purpose:
 - *Create pedestrian linkages between the existing walking trails to the north and south of the marina area*
 - *Construct two pontoons*
 - *Beautification of the Marina area*
5. In accordance with the Council resolution, Community engagement was conducted Tuesday 21 April to Sunday 10 May 2020 at the “Consult Level” as outlined in the Council’s Community Engagement Framework.
6. The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a summary of the feedback received and determine the next course of action.

Council Policy

7. The Council at its September 2018 Ordinary Meeting adopted a Communication and Engagement Policy and Community Engagement Framework.

Legislative Requirements

8. There are no legal requirements for this matter.

Risk Implications

9. Community members and key stakeholders have volunteered considerable time to consider the project and provide feedback. It is acknowledged that due to opposing and diverse community views, there will be some community members who will disagree with the project design.
10. The Council's Communication and Engagement Policy ensures the final designs will consider the feedback received, the common themes raised, budget implications, broad community benefit, access and best practice design standards. The rationale for those recommendations will be shared with the community at an Inform level.

Engagement

11. Community members were invited to share their thoughts about the proposed master plan, their use of the area, their age bracket and what other elements they would like to see in the future. The survey also provided community members with an opportunity to be kept 'up-to-date' on this project by including their email address.
12. Community members received notification via email and the Council eNewsletter. A total of 1,731 recipients received the eNewsletter over the three-week period.
13. This report summarises feedback received throughout the engagement period. A total of 57 responses to the request for feedback were received and five (5) submissions were received via Council email. Copies of each of the responses received are included in Appendix 1 of this report.
14. Following the Community Engagement period, the feedback received was compiled into the Summary of Engagement Report which is included as Attachment A to the Reports. The feedback was reviewed and considered by Council Officers responsible for the project.
15. Engagement was undertaken at Consult Level in accordance with the Council's Community Engagement Framework. The techniques included are outlined in the below table and detailed further in the Summary of Community Engagement Report included as Attachment A to this report.

Engagement Technique	Date	Reach
Huon Valley Council Website - Community Engagement 'Have Your Say' page	21 April 2020 – 10 May 2020	531 page views
Survey Monkey	21 April 2020 – 10 May 2020	13 online surveys completed
Facebook	21 April 2020 – 10 May 2020	6,595 People Reached 435 Engaged with post
Council eNewsletter	Emailed on: 24 April 2020 1 May 2020 8 May 2020	Emailed to: 583 567 581
Paid Advertisement	6 & 7 May 2020	
Huon FM Radio	Included in the Mayors weekly radio interview	

Human Resource and Financial Implications

16. The Huon Valley Council were successful in obtaining \$750,000 for the project. The proposed works associated with the Revised Plan included as Attachment C in the Attachments to the reports have been costed to be in accordance with the funding available.

Discussion

17. As outlined in the Summary Report attached, community engagement at the Consult level was conducted for a three week period.
18. Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions Council was unable to provide hard copy surveys or conduct on-site meeting.
19. Community received notification via email and the Council eNewsletter. A total of 1,731 recipients received the eNewsletter over the three-week period.
20. Several meetings were held with key stakeholder groups prior to the consultation process to develop the concept plan. Key themes from these meeting where possible where included in the proposed Draft Franklin Foreshore Rehabilitation and Development Plan.
21. As indicated in the Summary to this Report a total of 57 responses via the survey and 5 emailed submissions to the request for feedback were received during the engagement period.
22. The emailed submissions represented the following:
- Franklin Progress Association
 - Living Boat Trust
 - Wooden Boat Centre

- Two Private residents

23. Responses to the feedback are detailed in the Engagement Summary Report included in the Attachments to the Reports. The following key themes were noted throughout this consultation:

Location and design of toilet

24. The proposed public toilet design is a uni-sex accessible single toilet, aesthetically in keeping of the area i.e. vertical timber.

25. The location of the proposed toilet was only a suggested site on the draft plan. Concerns were raised a number of times in relation to the location. Alternative options have been explored and a proposed new site which is unlicensed at this time, is included in the Revised Plan, however it will be recommended that the final site will be determined once approval has been received from the grant funding body of the Revised Plan and will be subject to further engagement with key stakeholders prior to progressing with development approvals.

Path location

26. Concern was noted that the proposed pathway would impact on the land used by Living Boat Trust. During the development of the Concept Plan, the location on the north or the south of the wall and the route of the path was discussed, no set location was determined. Following consultation with the Wooden Boat Centre, it is agreed the path will be moved to the north of the wall and has been adjusted in the Revised Plan (Attachment C).

27. The Wooden Boat Centre requested that the path does not follow the river behind the centre. It is noted this is a working waterfront and the area is very narrow, it has the potential to cause Work Health and Safety issues to pedestrians and public liability issues. The final proposed route of the path is included in the Revised Plan (Attachment C).

Landscaping and construction materials

28. Concerns were noted in relation to the materials and landscaping to be used. It is agreed consideration needs to be given to the materials and landscaping used in the implementation plan. It can be noted no hard surfaces will be used, with plantings to be in-keeping with the area.

Implementation Plan

29. An implementation plan will be developed if the concept plan is approved and the Grant Funding Body approve a grant deed variation.

Conclusion and Recommendation

30. Based on the feedback and suggestions received, amendments have been made to the Draft Master Plan as follows:

- Location of the path has been amended to reflect the feedback received
- Location of the public toilet has been amended to a new location subject to final engagement
- Inclusion of interpretive panels at location 13 on the Master Plan.

31. These amendments are detailed in the revised Plan marked as Attachment C included in the Attachments to the Reports for endorsement.

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RECOMMENDATION

That:

- a) The Report on the Community Engagement Summary Report on the Draft Franklin Foreshore Rehabilitation and Development Plan be received and noted.**
- b) The Draft Revised Franklin Foreshore Rehabilitation and Development Plan Attachment C is adopted for implementation subject to a Deed of Variation from the Grant Funding Body.**
- c) Subject to final approval from the funding body Council undertakes further engagement with the key stakeholders on the final designs and implementation of the**
 - Public Toilet;**
 - Landscaping; and**
 - Interpretive History Signage**