



PORT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS FORUM MEETING

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 25 OCTOBER 2005

PART A

1. PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

PRESENT: Steve McGuire, Ross Island Residents Association
James McLellan, NQCC
Vern Veitch, NaREF
Brian Pickup, Sunfish NQ
Thea Hiskins, TRAC
Richard Perkins, Urban Quarter Apartments
Heike Von Mellenthin, Magnetic Island Community Development Assoc (MICDA)
Roy Shearer, Small Vessel Operator
Barry Holden, TPA
Caryn Anderson, TPA
Lesley McMahon, TPA
Arwen Rickert, Environment and Behaviour Consultants
Peter Hiskins, TRAC

APOLOGIES: Peter Mellor, DSDI
Jackie Hutchinson, Jupiters Hotel and Casino
Frank Hynard, Metro Quays Apartments
Glenys Schuntner, TSV Enterprise
Leigh Turner, South Townsville Neighbourhood Watch Committee

2. AGENDA ITEMS

2.1 Eastern Access Corridor Update (Arwen Rickert, Environment and Behaviour Consultants)

Ms Arwen Rickert, Environment and Behaviour consultants has been contracted by the Department of Main Roads to undertake community consultation for the Eastern Access Corridor project.

Since the previous meeting a general information brochure has been produced. It was handed out to members.

The final technical studies have yet to be completed and environmental approvals will be sought by the end of the year. Flood modelling is due to be completed by the end of November. Once these studies are complete public displays, workshops, and community meetings will be held. The general information brochure will be distributed to all affected residential areas by a letterbox drop to educate the community about the project.

Vern Veitch asked if the studies had taken into consideration sea level rise. Arwen said that she is not aware of it at this stage but there has been a lot of work carried out regarding storm surge and cyclonic effects.

Vern Veitch asked if there were any plans to carry out a fish study downstream of Stuart Creek. Arwen said that she will find out this information and notify Vern.

Vern Veitch also enquired about where the fill material for the road will be sourced as local fill material had poor geotechnical characteristics. Arwen stated that no consideration has been made about where it will be sourced as yet.

Thea Hiskins enquired about land acquisition. Arwen said that the Department of State Development and Innovation is in the process of land acquisition.

Caryn Anderson said that all land acquisition is due to be completed by June of next year and that funding for this particular section of land acquisitions only became available 18 months previously.

2.2 Update on the Ocean Terminal (Barry Holden, TPA)

Barry Holden, Townsville Port Authority CEO, updated members on the new Ocean Terminal project and displayed graphics of the proposed development. He stated that it is expected that there will still be some public access to the breakwater for fishing.

Barry stated that measures are being proposed to minimise the impact of the new terminal and associated residential development on port operations. No changes to current port operations as a result of the project are envisaged, although the Authority is likely to have some responsibilities with regard to the running and maintenance of the terminal.

The new berth will around 250m in length with a minimum draft of 10.5m but it is not envisaged to provide any additional commercial shipping capacity due to traffic flow and other residential issues.

Media releases issued by Tabcorp and the Queensland Government at the time of the announcement were provided to members.

2.3 Removing surplus soil from the area around the new sugar shed (Barry Holden, TPA)

Capital expenditure of \$225,000 to relocate the excess fill material from QSL to the Port Industrial Park was approved at the October Board meeting.

Vern Veitch asked whether the soil was contaminated. Caryn Anderson replied that it wasn't. Steve McGuire expressed concerns about dust issues arising from moving the soil. Barry Holden said there shouldn't be any dust issues as dust minimisation techniques are incorporated into moving practices.

2.4 Reef HQ Display (Barry Holden, TPA)

Barry Holden gave details of a new display in Reef HQ where decaying rubbish items recently recovered by the Authority in Ross Creek are the inspiration behind a new exhibit.

Townsville Port Authority and Reef HQ joined forces to educate the public about the important links between our waterways and the Great Barrier Reef. The exhibit shows a range of items including shopping trolleys, plastic bags and bottles, and communicates through a graveyard theme the length of time each product takes to break down.

In October, the Authority also joined forces with Townsville State High School students to haul trolleys from the water under Lowths Bridge.

Lesley McMahon asked how the Authority could educate the general public not to throw things in the water. James McLellan suggested rubbish traps be installed in the creek. Heike Von Mellenthin suggested supermarkets using bio-degradable bags. Vern Veitch suggested that supermarkets levy trolleys by putting a \$2 refundable charge for their use. He also suggested that the Port Authority organise an internal competition for the cleanest industrial site. Caryn Anderson said the Authority is already in the process of organising awards through the Port of Townsville Environmental Working Group.

2.5 Cyclone Season (Barry Holden, TPA)

Barry Holden advised members that cyclone brochures will be sent out to small boat owners within the next month.

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

3.1 Ergon/Powerlink line

Steve McGuire asked about the status of the Ergon/Powerlink line.

Caryn Anderson said that it should be finalised shortly and the substation will be located on the corner of Archer and Hubert Streets.

3.2 Loud and speeding trucks on Boundary Street

Steve McGuire expressed concerns over noise from trucks on Boundary Street as well as transporting uncovered loads. Vern Veitch commented that some trucks are also speeding on the road.

Lesley McMahon explained that a letter had been sent by the Authority two weeks previously to all Port customers asking them not to speed on Boundary Street as there had been some complaints.

Lesley also stated that if somebody sees a truck speeding to take down the company name and registration number as well as the time and date and notify the Police as soon as possible. Barry Holden advised that Boundary Street was outside the Authority's jurisdiction.

3.3 Feedback

Greg O'Brien asked members for feedback on the meetings and any suggestions they may have. He also asked if members found the meetings effective. The response was positive from members and it was agreed to continue the meetings in 2006.

3.4 Presentation at Next Meeting

Lesley McMahon advised that DJ McKenzie from the Townsville City Council was on annual leave and therefore unable to make a presentation regarding the council's role in cleaning Ross Creek at this meeting. An attempt will be made to see if Mr McKenzie will do a presentation at the February 2006 meeting.

4. NEXT MEETING

It was decided that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 21st February, 2005 at 5.30 p.m. Location will be the Townsville Port Authority Administration Building.

A map with directions will be forwarded to members with the agenda for the next meeting.

5. CLOSE OF MEETING