



Hawkesbury City Council

supplementary
ordinary
meeting
business
paper

date of meeting: 27 March 2012
location: council chambers
time: 6:30 p.m.

ORDINARY MEETING - Supplementary

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Meeting Date: 27 March 2012

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORTS

MM - Council's Policy Regarding Regional Flood Mitigation in the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley - (79351, 79353)

Previous Item: 281, Ordinary (13 December 2011)

REPORT:

At the meeting of Council held on 13 December 2011 a report was considered as a result of a recommendation from the Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Committee regarding Flood Mitigation in the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley. Subsequently, Council resolved:

"That:

1. *Council adopt a Policy on regional flood mitigation with the following wording:*

"Hawkesbury City Council supports and encourages the need for regional flood mitigation measures in the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley to be investigated and implemented by the Commonwealth and NSW State Governments and other relevant Authorities to ensure that the flood risks experienced by existing and future residents in the valley are reduced. These regional measures are too great a burden for one Council to carry and there is a need for a committed regional approach, by all relevant Authorities, to address these existing risks".

2. *The Premier of New South Wales be requested to instigate an immediate review of the following previous Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) prepared for Sydney Water by ERM Mitchell McCotter:*

- *July 1995 "Proposed Warragamba Flood Mitigation Dam Environmental Impact Statement (3 Volumes) and;*
- *November 1996 Proposed Warragamba Dam and Auxiliary Spillway Environmental Impact Statement (4 Volumes)*

to identify and work towards the most economically viable, large - scale flood mitigation works and measures to reduce the height of major floods in the Hawkesbury - Nepean Valley and reduce the need for an enormous evacuation of downstream residents and damage to their property and community infrastructure costing millions of dollars resulting from major flood events."

Appropriate representations were made in accordance with Council's resolution. In addition, the matter was also raised with WSROC and that organisation has also resolved to support Council's position in this matter and also make appropriate representations.

In addition, on Monday, 19 March 2012 the NSW Government held a Community Cabinet Meeting at Springwood. Prior to this date many organisations, including Council, and community groups were invited to lodge an Expression of Interest (EOI) to meet with a Minister for 10 minutes to discuss matters of interest/concern to those groups.

As a result of one of the EOIs submitted for Council the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Director City Planning, Director Infrastructure Services and General Manager, with the support of Council's local state members of parliament, meet with the Minister for Primary Industries & Small Business to discuss the policy adopted by Council, surrounding issues and the recent flood events.

The Minister expressed knowledge and understanding of the issues raised and indicated that Council's views would be considered as part of the Government's consideration of the issues relating to flood mitigation in the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley and the matters associated with the recent flood events, including the operation of Warragamba Dam and its possible use for flood mitigation purposes.

The efforts of Council's Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Committee, Councillors and local State Members of Parliament have been very beneficial in highlighting and bring these important matters to the forefront with the State Government and I would suggest it would be appropriate for Council to acknowledge these efforts.

Accordingly, as a result of this Mayoral Minute I move the following Recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council acknowledges the lobbying work undertaken by Council's Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Committee, Councillors and Council staff in conjunction with Council's three local State Members of Parliament to bring to the attention of the State Government issues relating to regional flood mitigation in the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley and to successfully instigate a review of the issues with the Sydney Catchment Authority to undertake flood mitigation activities as well as water storage.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

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ordinary
meeting

end of
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