



Hawkesbury City Council

supplementary
ordinary
meeting
business
paper

date of meeting: 08 September 2009

location: council chambers

time: 5:00 p.m.

ORDINARY MEETING - SUPPLEMENTARY

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SUPPLEMENTARY REPORTS

SECTION 2 - Mayoral Minutes

MAYORAL MINUTES

MM - Nepean River - (79353)

REPORT:

Issues have been identified through the Hawkesbury River County Council whereby extraction from the Nepean River near McCanns Island for construction material for Warragamba Dam and later from the Yarramundi area by a gravel company for building materials has left sections of the River in a highly modified state resulting in a large number of channels, bay and backwaters which make weed control in those areas difficult, time consuming, costly and hard on equipment.

Issues are also arising where sand deposits are forming in shallows where decomposing plant material allows ephemeral (short lived, transitory) plants to establish which are then followed by more advanced plants until an island forms. The shallows provide ideal conditions for weeds to grow and combined with the islands create barriers impeding water flow and make weed control operations more difficult and expensive.

I suggest that Council make representations to the Office of the Hawkesbury Nepean seeking assistance in identifying strategies to restore those modified areas of the river system to a more natural and manageable environment.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council make representations to the Office of the Hawkesbury Nepean seeking assistance in identifying strategies to restore those modified areas of the river system to a more natural and manageable environment.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF MAYORAL MINUTE Oooo

SECTION 4 - Reports for Determination

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Item: 191 IS - Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program - (95495)

Previous Item: 262, Ordinary (9 December 2009)

REPORT:

Council at its meeting on 9 December 2008 considered a report regarding the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program (RLCIP). At that meeting, Council resolved to submit a program of works to the Department of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development and Local Government for approval.

It was resolved as part of these program of works, that \$50,000 be allocated to construction of pathways for cyclists and pedestrians preferably between Windsor Station and the Bligh Park / South Windsor area or a link between the Clarendon Cycleway and the Windsor Cycleway, subject to specific locations to be determined by the Hawkesbury Bicycle and Access Mobility Committee.

When the matter was reported to Council, the projects recommended were in accordance with what was interpreted to be eligible projects from the guidelines, which had been recently issued at that time. The projects had to be submitted by 30 January 2009. Since the matter was reported to Council there has been a series of 'Frequently Asked Questions' posted on the Department's website which indicate that funding will not be provided for road infrastructure covered by the Roads to Recovery or Blackspot programs, which includes a bicycle path that:

- is located within the road reservation; or
- where removed from the road reservation, provides a route between points on the road that is shorter than or broadly similar in distance to the road route.

Subsequently, footpaving/cycleways between Windsor Station and the Bligh Park / South Windsor area or between the Clarendon Cycleway and the Windsor Cycleway, does not meet the funding criteria.

In relation to specific locations to be determined by the Hawkesbury Bicycle and Access Mobility Committee, it was anticipated that the Pedestrian and Access Mobility Plan (PAMP) would be nearing completion and suggestions could be provided from within the Plan. Currently the PAMP is in draft form and is not expected to be completed until end September 2009.

Given that the RLCIP funding requires full expenditure by 30 September 2009, a suitable location for the construction of a new footpath/cycleway, outside of a road reservation, needs to be determined.

It is proposed to extend the existing footpath/cycleway located in Howe Park, Windsor towards Rickaby Creek, for a distance of approximately 300m, to provide a circular route to form a future link to the proposed pedestrian cycleway bridge crossing over Rickaby Creek. This section of cycleway is identified in the Hawkesbury District Bicycle Network Plan, and is also included in the proposed draft PAMP.

Conformance to Strategic Plan

The proposal is deemed to conform with the objectives set out in Council's Strategic Plan i.e:

"A network of towns, villages and rural localities connected by well-maintained public and private infrastructure, which supports the social and economic development of the City."

Funding

To be provided from within the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program.

RECOMMENDATION:

That in view of the circumstances outlined in the report, the funding of \$50,000 from the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program for the provision of pathways for cyclists and pedestrians, be utilised to extend the existing footpath/cycleway located in Howe Park, Windsor towards Rickaby Creek to provide a circular route, to form a future link to the proposed pedestrian cycleway bridge crossing over Rickaby Creek.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF REPORT Oooo

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