

Reference E2022/70063

Project Name **Community Education Strategy and Review of Flood Options**

Type Community capacity recovery building and resilience

Project Location Northern Byron Shire – New Brighton, Ocean Shores, South Golden Beach communities

Lot and DP Number Lot 2 DP1227659

Commencement Date 1/09/2022

Anticipated Completion 30/06/2024

Eligibility Criteria

The Byron Shire recently experienced unprecedented floods in February and March 2022 where many residents in the northern villages (i.e. New Brighton, Ocean Shores and South Golden Beach) were impacted to various degrees. After most flooding events, there tends to be a push from some within the community to seek blame and identify reasons for the extreme flooding. Staff are aware that historical / legacy issues arise each time there is a flood event and/or community has been significantly impacted, and for the northern areas of the Shire, this tends to revolve around flood mitigation options that have already been assessed as having limited impact on flood levels.

Council has an adopted Flood Risk Management Study and Plan for the northern areas of the Byron Shire, however, the process followed in the development of the plan has not resulted in community understanding or effective comprehension of the issue or feasible potential flood mitigation options for implementation.

Requests have been made to Council to further explore these options and complete further studies. There is strong community interest in the further exploration of these issues and flood options as demonstrated through request to Council from key stakeholder groups, Council resolution, community meetings and local Media.

This project aims to directly support community and social recovery and well-being through exploration of the issues and deep-rooted community opinions through:

- Exploration and further analysis of [key community interest] flood mitigation options, i.e. dredging, removal of rock training walls in Marshalls Creek, estuary siltation, ocean outlets, modelling 2022 flood event with these scenarios.

- Facilitate a Project Reference Group with directly affected residents.
- Discussion with key stakeholders and broader community engagement initiatives.
- Community education around what has been modelled, the results and what causes the results.

The project will involve a desk-top study/analysis (literature review, modelling peer review) and in-depth community engagement initiatives.

A consultant will be engaged to deliver the project, with support from relevant Council staff. Community participation through engagement activities would form a key component of the project.

The project will contribute to the social recovery of residents in the affected areas of the northern Shire, through being better informed about issues and solutions.

Project Criteria	Description
Diverse local recovery needs are balanced	The northern communities have a need for this project in order to move forward on this issue and be better informed about flood mitigation options for their homes and communities.
Alignment	This project is currently unfunded and would contribute to social recovery of residents and communities. It does not duplicate any other flood funded work being administered through other funding bodies.
Resilience building	This project would support the future preparedness of communities in understanding the issue and flood solutions that would work for their needs, rather than being caught up in stories and opinions that are inaccurate.
Local support and delivery	Council and Council's Committee members which include community members understand the necessity for the project and support it going ahead. Engagement with the broader community including Indigenous groups will be undertaken through targeted engagement activities. Where possible, engagement opportunities will aim to incorporate Indigenous knowledge and support active participation in the project.
Feasibility	The project is feasible with staff resourcing available to project manage the successful consultant. Consultant resourcing is becoming more available as flood insurance works reduces. Timing for the project to commence this year (2022) is extremely important in order to facilitate conversations with the community while the issue is still front-of-mind. Any delay for this project may result in less community participation – if the project does not go ahead sooner rather than later, this is a risk to Council's progress in

	future flood preparedness in this space. This issue and similar projects are being delivered elsewhere in the Northern Rivers, and potential collaboration with other Council's may be valuable.
--	--

**Describe the expected
Outcomes Or Benefits**

- Increase community flood awareness and knowledge
 - Consult with community groups and the broader community in a direct and productive way
 - Facilitate a Project Reference Group with directly affected members.
 - Develop a Key Stakeholder and Broader Community Engagement Strategy (develop a variety of engagement material and resources, workshops etc).
- Improve community attitudes towards Council and efforts in the flood space.
- Increase community understanding of potential flood mitigations options available.
- Increase social recovery and community resilience.

**Is the project on Council
owned land/property**

 No ☒ Yes ☐
**Is the Asset or property
covered by Insurance?**

 No ☒ Yes ☐
If Yes, please provide details
Flood Grant contribution \$40,000

Council contribution \$10,000

Total Cost \$50,000

Other relevant comments

This project aligns with Council's existing Flood Risk Management Study and Plan action **RM06: Engage with the community to prepare an ongoing flood education program, with appropriate evaluation by Council and SES following implementation.**

Project location
Project Location 70 Station Street, Mullumbimby

Lot and DP Number Lot 2 DP1227659

Scope of works and deliverables

- Exploration and further analysis of [key community interest] flood mitigation options, i.e. dredging, removal of rock training walls in Marshalls Creek, estuary siltation, ocean outlets, modelling 2022 flood event with these scenarios.
- Facilitate a Project Reference Group with directly affected residents.
- Discussion with key stakeholders and broader community engagement initiatives.
- Community education around what has been modelled, the results and what causes the results.

Governance

Project reporting and evaluation will be undertaken monthly by the Project Lead.

Reporting will occur monthly via Council's internal project management platform (Pulse) and Project Status Report submitted to Council's Works Manager. This will form the basis for updates, internal and external communications. The monthly report will include:

- Key Deliverables and Milestones
- Major Activities
- Accomplishments
- Major issues and risks
- Financials
- Change Requests

Milestone Reporting will occur as per the funding agreement and on request of Office of Local Government.

Project timeline

Timeframe/Milestones	Activity
PROJECT COMMENCEMENT	
01/09/2022	Prepare Request for Quote
PROJECT PROCUREMENT	
Nov 2022	Engage consultant
PROJECT DELIVERY	
Nov 2022 onwards	Desktop review and community engagement
EVALUATION	
XX/XX/20XX	Final reporting

Budget

ITEM	COST	FUNDING SOURCE
Engagement of consultant to undertake desktop review and community engagement	\$40,000	AGRN1012 Joint Commonwealth/NSW State Government Funding
	\$10,000	Byron Shire Council

Risks

Council integrates risk management into its project teams' day-to-day activities. Council developed a project-specific Risk Management Plan to ensure both the mitigation of risks posed to the NSW Government, Council, the community, and the successful execution of this project per its objectives.

Hazard and Risk Management Process

Council is obligated to ensure hazards are identified and eliminated as far as reasonably practicable. If the elimination of the hazard is not reasonably practicable, procedures are established to assess and control risks. Risk management techniques shall be implemented to ensure a proactive approach to risk management:

- a) Ensuring the funding agreement includes achievable outcomes for both parties
- b) When planning work processes
- c) During the establishment phase of the project
- d) Whenever changes are made to the project
- e) Whenever new information regarding the project becomes available
- f) Whenever potential risks are discovered through monitoring and evaluation of the project management
- g) When allocating necessary resources to meet commitments through design or redesign of services and projects.



Risk Item	Risk Consequence	Risk Mitigation
Safety WHS while construction is happening	High	Ensure Safety in setting up workshops or meetings. Maintain safety and compliance WH&S.
Political / Reputational The project has negative impacts on local business, accessibility of the town centre and/or creates unforeseen impacts on the extended road network	Low	Robust engagement plan prepared to ensure inclusive community participation
Financial Project costs escalate and funding is inadequate to complete the project	Medium	Quotes will be provided with deliverables and project scope. If the budget doesn't align with the full scope and deliverables, they will be adjusted to ensure the budget is maintained.
Time overrun beyond completion date	Medium	Inform funding provider of cause of time overrun (eg wet weather, delay in contractor s/suppliers, NSW Health Regulations impacting on events due to COVID-19) and proposed alternative solutions.