

RE: The BEC Rotunda & Indigenous Art, Stand-Alone request to Council, outside of the POM process in The Railway Park

It was a unanimous decision NOT to take the position in the shadow of the Commonwealth Bank due to lack of visibility and adjacent to the Bank's "glass see-through wall", bordering on the felled Eucalypts tree and set behind the pathway to the toilets and boardwalk for the BEC Rotunda and Indigenous Art.

Tree plantings will then be possible in the future along the wall of the bank.

As the BEC needs a visible space for all to see, close to the street and thoroughfares, it is agreed by all, the best place is where we are now positioned.. We would like to be incorporated into the design of the park. We feel it is an important cultural statement about our community if it were to remain in situ.

We have discussed other options and we are still open to negotiation if this is what is required.

The other space is to the SE area closer to the public telephones, as there is more space for events in the park and close to the main pathway of Jonson St, the view to the Plaza and down throughout the park. The Indigenous artwork would blend in as we would be near the Public Art and Movement Space for impromptu performances. "The Art Space"

Another option in co-operation with Council design is to move a few metres to the North Side of our existing position so that the Cottonwood Trees will be the main focus when walking across the Pedestrian Crossing

If we cannot hold our preferred position we would be appreciative of some funds to help to restore the structure and indigenous paintings after the move.

Regarding Council's proposal to put the BEC rotunda out for expressions of interest: It is understood this may be an attempt by Council to facilitate BECs tenure however,

1. Council doesn't own the BEC rotunda structure so their ability to put it out to tender is highly debatable.
2. Any community organisation remotely eligible to tender is already free to use the BEC rotunda and equipment as history has already proven.

A great many such organisations have already taken advantage of this including several being auspiced via BEC's insurance and BEC's facilitation of the supply of equipment, all provided free of charge.

To name just a few:

- Youth & Community services for safety & protection of youth
- Knitting Nanas
- Sea Shepard

- Unincorporated Community group tsunami fundraiser
- Patterson Hill Action Group
- Unincorporated Clean up Australia Day
- Anti- Genetic engineering rally
- Stop Becton Project
- Highway coalition rally
- Northern Rivers community partnership rally
- Sandhills Estate Group rally
- Endangered species project event
- Beggars Banquet
- Fukushima Anniversary Anti-Nuclear event
- Anti Monsanto Rally
- Stop Adani Byron Shire group
- Uluru Statement from the Heart event
- Water Places Community group
- Stop West Byron rally

On behalf of the Byron Environment Centre
Sharon Curry
(Committee Member)