

**Notice of Motion No. 9.1 Alternative Flowpath Bayshore Drive**

File No: I2023/490

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**I move that Council receives a Report at the 25 May 2023 ordinary meeting outlining the progress of the additional/alternative flow path including:**

1. **How often it is used and in what conditions, i.e. wet weather and dry weather.**
- 10 2. **The amount of water transferred down it from the STP under various conditions, including as a percentage of total out flows.**
3. **Any filling that has been done to grade the drain toward west Byron and its effectiveness.**
4. **Performance relative to initial project objectives.**
- 15 5. **Impact on the amount of water leaving the STP through the drain on the Flick's property.**

**Signed: Cr Michael Lyon**

**Councillor's supporting information:**

20 I attended a visit on-site with Councillor Hunter and local farmer Tony Flick recently to view the drainage system on the corner of Banksia Drive and Bayshore Drive, pictures attached. Apparently, the drain has recently been filled to create fall through to Ewingsdale Rd, however it does not appear from the photos that this water is moving at all. Tony expressed concern that the alternative flowpath is not working and that the water ends up  
25 backing up in to the industrial estate drain or elsewhere. One of the purposes of the project, as I understood it, was to enable water volumes from the STP to be transferred down the alternative flowpath so that water down the drain through the Flick's property could be reduced in dry conditions.

30 I would like a Report outlining the success of the project, whether the initial criteria have been met and how it works currently.



## Staff comments

**by Cameron Clark, Manager Utilities, Infrastructure Services.**

Staff are able to bring a further Report to Council on the Additional Flow Path. Attached below is some preliminary advice in relation to the current project.

**5 How often it is used and in what conditions, i.e. wet weather and dry weather.**

10 The BBIWMR (Byron Bay Integrated Water Management Reserve) Operational Management Plan was recently reviewed and updated. Subsequent to this, the Additional flow path has been constructed and commissioned. Operations staff have recently met onsite to discuss the operational context for the additional flow path in conjunction with the revised BBIWMR requirements. The intention is that the additional flow path is to be operated as a dry weather flow release. However, the conditions that define a dry weather flow for the additional flow path need to be defined based on weather information, the needs of the treatment wetland system and the 24ha Melaleuca regeneration area.

15 The operational context for the additional flow path is being developed in response to available information and the communication of that information. One monitoring location has been established in the Industrial Estate drain. In order to finalise the operational context of the additional flow path additional telemetrised monitoring is required in the 24ha Melaleuca regeneration area and the treatment wetland cells. A number of technical issues have arisen that are currently being resolved. These include data communication and automated logging in areas that are not currently serviced by mains power.

**20 The amount of water transferred down it from the STP under various conditions, including as a percentage of total out flows.**

25 This is to be determined based on a hierarchy of use including maintaining the treatment performance and health of the wetlands and effluent irrigation within the 24ha Melaleuca regeneration area.

**Any filling that has been done to grade the drain toward west Byron and its effectiveness**

No filling has been undertaken

**Performance relative to initial project objectives.**

30 The water level sensors and associated automation is still in the commissioning phase of the project. The system is currently being used manually while the automation system is being commissioned and tested in the field.

**Impact on the amount of water leaving the STP through the drain on the Flick's property.**

35 The amount of water leaving the STP is largely influenced by rainfall. It is possible that there may be conveyance issues within and downstream of the Flick's property this requires further investigation.