Phegans Bay Waterfront Masterplan

Engagement summary



Summary

Between 27 November 2023 and 1 February 2024 we asked for community feedback to help us develop a masterplan for the Phegans Bay Waterfront.

This engagement followed a meeting between Council staff and the Foreshore Resident Group on 8 November 2023.

Once finalised, the masterplan will outline the overall vision for the Phegans Bay waterfront precinct and provide a conceptual layout to guide future projects and infrastructure.

We asked the community to add suggestions to an interactive map and complete a short survey for this engagement.

Engagement results

You told us:

- the masterplan should be sensitive to the unique charm of the bay and its natural setting. Over development is discouraged.
- you would like us to address foreshore erosion with a preference for environmentally sensitive design
- to improve access to the waterfront
- road condition, safety and drainage need improvement
- safe pedestrian walkways and seating are important
- to provide heritage interpretation
- additional space must be provided for bus turning movements
- the existing bus stop is loved
- the informal boat ramp may need attention, and there are different views on which kind of watercraft should be launching here
- views are important to many residents and we should avoid planting trees, rehabilitating mangroves or building new infrastructure that will impact outlook
- mangrove restoration is important for bank stabilisation and encouraged in areas that won't block views
- the jetty could be widened to allow wheelchair access

How you connected



713 visits to the Your Voice Our Coast website



230 flyers distributed by letterbox drops in the local area



63 pins from 24 individuals dropped on the interactive map, 152 'upvotes' and 152 'downvotes' on all community suggestions and proposed elements



17 online surveys completed,17 paper surveys completed at the community meeting

- the open grassed area in the north of waterfront is highly valued and there are differing views on how it should be used
- the domestic bin enclosure near the bus stop should be upgraded
- the bay needs the public phonebooth
- the area in front of 70 Phegans Bay Road could be made more suitable for swimming and paddling
- you would like a walking track to Horsfield Bay and Woy Woy.

You can view all the comments from the interactive map at: yourvoiceourcoast.com

You said:

"I appreciate the unique charm and character of the bays, which is a major reason many of us chose to move here. It's important to preserve this distinct appeal as any changes could potentially alter the very essence of our beautiful area. Let's leave the bays as is..."

"The existing bus shelter is gorgeous, historic looking and I think perfect. The magnificent work of locals to create the look cannot be improved in my opinion. The mailbox setup could be improved."

"It would be nice to create some sort of low-impact discreet area for residents to sit and contemplate the view, without imposing on adjacent residents view or privacy. Using [this open space] as their private parking lot is not sharing and caring of our one tiny little patch of green space in the bays. Would be good to find a compromise to make this a more attractive and usable space for everyone since it is public - without over-developing it."

"Leave this space as it is. We do not need more cars / car spaces down here, we don't need more noise down here. People use this space, native animals live around here and use the space, dogs use this space, as long as the grass is maintained it is a beautiful section that doesn't require any man-made additions."

"Motorised boats should be avoided from being used here as it is very shallow and their motors would rip up the important sea grass beds. It should mainly be used for tenders and kayaks."

"The [bus] driver can usually manage [turning around] and there have been occasions when they have reversed back too far and hit the water side edge, moving the boundary log and damaging that edge. A smaller, more regular bus to service The Bays would be a good solve for this issue, and would also address other issues further up the road coming into Phegans Bay."

"Residents are seeking preservation of the foreshore which is eroding away at an exponential rate. A simple but safe and long lasting structure is required."

"There are a couple of existing large cruisers in this northern area of the bay and a few vacant moorings, so a tender storage post or two might be needed similar to what has been erected at Koolewong Boat ramp. The storage post would tidy up the area and not have tender boats lying around on the foreshore."

What's next?

We'll be using feedback to develop a draft masterplan. This plan will be placed on public exhibition for further community feedback, before going to Council for adoption.