

## Mackay Community Reference Group Meeting Minutes

5.15pm Thursday 7 March 2024 – Volunteer Marine Rescue Base

### Chair:

Chair NQBP Chief Executive Officer, Brendan Webb

### Attendees:

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| <p><b>Community representatives</b><br/>Neville Duncan<br/>Edan Stolberg* (left at 6pm)<br/>Neale Proctor</p> <p><b>Yuwi Native Title Holder representative</b><br/>Patricia Corrie</p> <p><b>Recreational Group representatives</b><br/>Alison Jones</p> <p><b>Business representatives</b><br/>Michael DePinto<br/>Maree Sturdy</p> <p><b>Environmental representative</b><br/>Katrina Dent</p> | <p><b>Port Industry/PAG representatives</b><br/>Aaron Wood – Smit Lamnalco<br/>Wayne Tonga - Daltugs</p> <p><b>Mackay Regional Council representative</b><br/>N/A</p> <p><b>NQBP representatives</b><br/>Tim Lewis<br/>Emilie Power</p> <p><b>MSQ representative</b><br/>Jason Sweetman</p> <p><b>Guests</b><br/>Michael Corrie - Yuwi Aboriginal Corporation<br/>Senior Constable Steve Smith – QPS<br/>Senior Constable Dave Saxby - QPS<br/>Acting Sergeant Carl Butcher – QPS<br/>Kate Large – NQBP<br/>Tim Connor – RPS Group</p> |
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**Apologies:** Lindsay Richardson, Rachael Haycock, Kev Kane, Cr Paulie Townsend, Darren Brownsey, Cr Pauline Townsend, Elizabeth Warren, Shane Hamilton,

| Item  | Discussion  | Action |
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| 1. Meeting open and apologies                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting opened at 5.12pm</li> <li>• Community Reference Group members were welcomed by Chair NQBP Chief Executive Officer, Brendan Webb.</li> <li>• Aunty Pat provided a Welcome to Country to open the meeting.</li> <li>• Guests welcomed – Michael Corrie – Yuwi Aboriginal Corporation, QPS Senior Constable Steve Smith, Senior Constable Dave Saxby and Acting Sergeant Carl Butcher, Tim Connor – RPS Group, Kate Large - NQBP</li> <li>• Apologies recorded were Lindsay Richardson, Rachael Haycock, Kev Kane, Cr Paulie Townsend, Darren Brownsey, Cr Pauline Townsend, Elizabeth Warren and Shane Hamilton</li> </ul> |        |
| 2. Disclosures of interest                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All members have disclosed their interests.</li> <li>• The register was presented, giving members the opportunity to manage appropriately.</li> <li>• No other conflicts of interest were declared for this meeting.</li> </ul>  |        |
| 3. CRG Correspondence, Questions and Actions Register | <p>Email received from Lindsay Richardson to table on Southern Breakwater. To be tabled during NQBP Update.</p> <p>Actions register update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some actions still outstanding but all are in various stages of progression. Will remain on register until completed. Refer to Actions Items Register for further details.</li> </ul>  |        |
| 4. NQBP update  | <p><b>Presented by Chair and NQBP CEO Brendan Webb</b></p> <p><b>Southern Breakwater</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email from Lindsay Richardson was tabled at the start of the discussion.</li> <li>• NQBP is collecting data to support a full public safety, amenity and access review.</li> <li>• Includes monitoring of noise, traffic and complaints.</li> </ul>   |        |

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Speed Activated Signs in place since late 2023.</li> <li>• Noise monitors recently installed, including one monitor on local resident balcony.</li> <li>• Road Safety Audit also to be conducted.</li> <li>• New cameras to be installed which will have better recognition and AI capabilities.</li> <li>• NQBP investigating an upgraded gate to be installed at the breakwater entrance with ability to be controlled by 24/7 Port Operations Centre.</li> <li>• Discussions to be held with Mackay Regional Council and private business owner regarding footpath near entrance to allow installation of a new gate.</li> <li>• Unsafe or illegal behaviour to continue be reported to Queensland Police Service.</li> </ul> <p>QPS update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hooning is prevalent across Queensland, not just isolated to Mackay.</li> <li>• Pre-COVID, QPS were making headway with hoon related activity at Harbour because they were at full strength. They were regularly conducting joint activities with TMR.</li> <li>• Vehicle defect infringements were proving to be a good deterrent.</li> <li>• Post-COVID - Highway Patrol resourcing is not currently back to full strength. QPS are aware of hooning activity that occurs at Harbour, but have been unable to go back to previous level of patrols. Bruce Highway and Peak Downs Highway are current focus due to risk of fatalities.</li> <li>• QPS do take action when they have the opportunity to and have recently fined people.</li> <li>• QPS have noticed an increase in complaints on the breakwater, but information in these complaints is not always sufficient to act. They need video, information about the vehicles, number plates etc.</li> <li>• Current complaints seem to be on any given night and not just on Thursday nights as per usual local traditions.</li> <li>• While some vehicles are accelerating quickly between speed bumps, this is not necessarily illegal hooning.</li> <li>• Prevention is better than reaction – QPS would be supportive of implementing a vehicle access curfew on the breakwater to curb unsafe behaviours.</li> <li>• QPS can also request additional surveillance cameras for the breakwater, they would require support from NQBP to install (power source and preferred location).</li> <li>• QPS reminded CRG members if they see dangerous behaviour, something that is or could threaten life – to call 000. The crime squad could be able to assist immediately, you don't need to report these online.</li> </ul> |  |
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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• QPS can and does share information and publicise new about fines and infringements at the Harbour which helps act as a deterrent.</li> </ul> <p>Question – If a vehicle overtakes another on the breakwater, given it’s a single white line, or enters the breakwater when there is a No Entry sign up, would this be illegal?<br/> <i>Answer – Yes, it would be an offence, the breakwater road is a gazetted roadway.</i></p> <p>Question – Are there places for legal hooning?<br/> <i>Answer – Yes at Palmyra Dragway.</i></p> <p>Question – If a curfew is put in place, will recreational fishers be able to get a permit to access the breakwater during the curfew?<br/> <i>Answer – This is something NQBP would need to consider further.</i></p> <p>Comment – The behaviour on the breakwater seems to have backed off a little bit recently with the recent fines and discussions going on.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NQBP will continue to collect data to support a full public safety, amenity and access review and will provide another update on the progress at the next meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Master Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The final Master Plan was released by TMR in November 2023. The port overlays are still to come.</li> <li>• Now the Master Plan is in place, NQBP has started working on the Land Use Plans for the Port of Mackay and Hay Point. There will be a community consultation process as part their development. CRG members will be updated as this work progresses.</li> <li>• Slides covering the final zones within the Master Plan were provided to CRG members. Changes between the draft and final zoning were highlighted. These were made after the community consultation process.</li> </ul> <p><b>North Wall improvement project</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NQBP will invest \$1M to improve recreational area at North Wall.</li> <li>• Supports continued community access and protection of environmental values.</li> <li>• RPS Group have developed a preliminary layout design for initial consideration by key stakeholders.</li> <li>• Key stakeholders – Yuwi Traditional Owners, Mackay and District Turtle Watch and</li> </ul> | <p>ACTION - NQBP to update CRG members on Southern Breakwater access review</p> |
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|  | <p>CRG members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project to be publicly announced after initial key stakeholder feedback received and considered.</li> <li>• Community feedback on the preliminary layout will then be open for four (4) weeks.</li> <li>• Final layout will be prepared once feedback period has closed.</li> <li>• Project (including construction) to be completed by early 2025.</li> <li>• Project inclusions and exclusions were discussed.</li> <li>• Tim from RPS Group gave an overview of the preliminary design layout.</li> <li>• Survey will be sent to CRG members to complete within the next two weeks.</li> </ul> <p>Feedback from CRG included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall CRG are supportive of the project and congratulated NQBP on initiating this project, it will be of great benefit to those who already use North Wall.</li> <li>• Love that the area is being done up to complement existing features and not as tourist attraction. It's a peaceful place and should remain a 'hidden gem'.</li> <li>• Would like to see Yuwi artwork/elements included in project.</li> <li>• Lighting needs to be turtle-friendly but also good for security.</li> <li>• Emergency/disabled access needs to be considered.</li> <li>• Restricting motorbike and vehicle access to Slade Point Reserve needs to be considered.</li> <li>• Could any facilities for recreational fishing be included (e.g. fish filleting stations).</li> <li>• Fish filleting stations would not be supported, they cause more issues with rubbish etc.</li> <li>• Amenities block should be unisex and have disabled access.</li> <li>• If toilet block if open 24/7, consider facing them towards CCTV cameras to deter behaviour.</li> <li>• Small bus car park or drop off zone for elderly/disabled/community groups.</li> <li>• The area might become popular with caravaners and campers.</li> <li>• Ensure there is a big enough turning circle for caravaners and campers.</li> <li>• Erosion management is still a key issue for community.</li> </ul> | <p>ACTION – CRG members to complete North wall survey</p> |
| <p>5. NQBP infrastructure update / Sustainability and environment update</p> | <p><b>Presented by General Manager Infrastructure, Tim Lewis</b></p> <p><b>Shoreline Erosion Management Plan (SEMP) update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NQBP has gone to tender to engage an expert consultant to undertake the development of a SEMP.</li> <li>• Six tenders have been received this week.</li> <li>• Review of tenders will get underway shortly, NQBP is seeking a volunteer from the CRG to</li> </ul>   |   |

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|                             | <p>assist with this review. Representatives from Mackay and District Turtle Watch will also review tenders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Once consultant is onboard, there will be a community consultation process and CRG members will also be invited to take part in this.</li> </ul> <p>Comment – Ensure consultants look at the CHAS (Coastal Hazard Adaptation Study) work that Council have done recently.</p> <p>Comment – Alison Jones expressed her interest in being part of the tender review process.</p> <p><b>Port projects update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$4M Northern Breakwater rehabilitation is progressing. Repairing damage caused by waves and weather events over decades. Works will ensure the breakwater continues to protect port infrastructure (tug berths, Wharf 5) into the future. Local contractors – Vassallos.</li> <li>Wharf 5 electrical upgrade are progressing. Local contractors – RGB Industries.</li> <li>Middle Breakwater pipeline project has been awarded. Local contractors – Wisely. Significant project for NQBP.</li> <li>Maintenance of Area 1 near Gudyara Road / Slade Point Road underway.</li> </ul> |  |
| <p>6. NQBP trade update</p> | <p><b>Presented by Chair and NQBP CEO Brendan Webb</b></p> <p><b>Trade update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update on Port of Mackay trade statistics provided.</li> <li>On track for another record year thanks to grain, sugar and fuel.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cruise ships</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NQBP has provided Mackay Isaac Tourism (MIT) with a grant (\$10k) to assist with engagement of expert consultants Tourism Solutions Group.</li> <li>Aim: Assess feasibility of cruise ships for the Mackay Region and if feasible develop a long-term strategy.</li> <li>First kick-off meeting in mid-March 2024.</li> <li>NQBP Pilotage team engaging with SmartShip Australia around cruise ship simulations.</li> <li>Discussions occurred around benefits and issues with cruise ships.</li> </ul>  |  |

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| <p>7. Community update</p> | <p><b>Presented by Senior Advisor Community Relationship Emilie Power</b></p> <p><b>NQBP Sponsorships and Donations Program</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$60k in funding through NQBP Community Fund awarded in late 2023.</li> <li>• New 2023-24 corporate sponsorships include Resource Industry Network.</li> </ul> <p><b>Media coverage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recent media coverage for NQBP included milestone reached at Port of Mackay and Community Fund recipients.</li> </ul> <p><b>CRG survey and recruitment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of year survey for CRG members completed survey results show an improvement in overall score.</li> <li>• Review of Terms of Reference also completed as current term of the CRG ends after this meeting.</li> <li>• Recommended changes were provided to CRG members for review.</li> <li>• Majority of CRG members have reviewed and approved changes.</li> <li>• Areas updated include sponsorships section and inclusion of clause to extend CRG term by 12 months, to be enacted if required due to resourcing / workload etc.</li> <li>• NQBP will extend current CRG membership for another 12 months.</li> </ul> |  |
| <p>8. General Business</p> | <p><b>MSQ representative, Jason Sweetman</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two navigational lights have been stolen from the stop sign on the breakwater. MSQ will look to relocate this light and possibly change to a different light.</li> <li>• Review of ports procedure manual completed and being implemented.</li> <li>• Peter Faust Dam – 6 knot zone around swimming area recently introduced.</li> <li>• Cyclone Kirrily response went well, good test of procedures and processes.</li> <li>• Gold Coast to Mackay Yacht Race announced for Mackay in August.</li> <li>• Assisting NQBP with recent high school port tours.</li> </ul> <p><b>Aaron – Smit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosting display booth Mackay Careers Expo.</li> <li>• Recruitment to marine industry remains a key area of difficulty and priority.</li> <li>• Smit exploring opportunities with NQBP, MSQ and AMC to promote maritime careers</li> </ul>   | <p>ACTION – Invite Stella Maris to present at a future CRG meeting</p> |

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|                                    | <p><b>Topic for next meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stella Maris – invitation to present</li> <li>• Southern Breakwater public access review</li> </ul> <p>Meeting closed 7.25pm.</p> |  |
| <p><b>9. Next meeting date</b></p> | <p><b>Next meeting is Thursday 18 July 2024.</b></p>  |  |