

Minutes

Park Road Boardwalk

10-11:30am | Wednesday, 30.09.2015 | Council Chambers

Attendees:

Tony Wellington – NC Councillor
Mara Ellis – NC Project Designer
Jo Ferris – NC Project Officer
Ingrid Jackson - Noosa Parks Association
Shane Harvey – Hasting St Association
Brian Stockwell – Noosa Residents & Ratepayers Assoc
Steve McPharlin – Tourism Noosa
John McQueeney – Qld Parks & Wildlife Service
Abi Leybourne - Koala Diaries
Bob Ansett – Friends of Noosa
John Chester-Freeman – Former Noosa Biosphere/ Previous PRG
John Jameson – Little Cove resident
Phil Moran – Noosa & District Landcare

Apologies:

Libby Winter – Noosa National Surfing Reserve
Rowland Hill – Noosa Biosphere Reserve Foundation
Adam Britton – Noosa Council Project Manager
Sue Hill – Little Cove Resident

Item
<p>1. History/ Previous Working Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 2 had significant road stability issues and was constrained by the State Govt cycle grant funding conditions (e.g. 3m width). Stage 3 is not subject to State Government grant funding requirements. • Members from the previous working group discussed how they met with State Govt. to reduce the width of the boardwalk on Stage 2 to “previous Noosa” standards. • Tony encouraged the reference group to think outside the box in regards to the design • Stage 3 design doesn’t need to be constrained by Stage 1 & 2 palette. It can have an a more rustic feel or can continue with the existing palette? • Balustrade type and height may vary but will need to meet safety standards. • Individuals on the previous working group included: Bob Ansett, Phil Moran, John Chester-Freeman, John Jameson and Tony Wellington. • Bob Ansett expressed the desire to reflect/restore the boardwalk feeding into the look and feel of the Noosa National Park. • John Chester-Freeman raised concern about losing any car parks which face out to Laguna Bay as these are good for people who have difficulty walking but still want to enjoy the National Park • The current funding is for Stage 3, however the Reference Group can make recommendations regarding future upgrades to Stage 2A.
<p>2. Roles Explained</p> <p>Role of Project Reference Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review previous stages of the Park Road Boardwalk consultation. • Note the findings of technical reports submitted by the Project Working Group and external consultants relevant to the proposed next stage. • Provide feedback on preferred design outcomes. • Provide recommendations to Noosa Council. <p>Council Responsibilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate PRG discussions and gather feedback. • Listen • Highlight constraints and opportunities of different design options. • Endorse media releases and other communications.
<p>3. Noosa Design Principles</p> <p>Copies of the Noosa Council Design Principles were distributed and PRG members are encouraged to become familiar with the principles as these will guide the design brief. The document is also available online http://www.noosa.qld.gov.au/noosa-design-principles</p>
<p>4. Concept Design & Investigations</p> <p>Presented by Mara, please refer to PowerPoint presentation 150930 for extent of zones</p>
<p>5. Technical Reports</p> <p>Geotechnical report is currently being finalised</p> <p>Updated Survey data has captured location and species of all trees on the site. Previous survey had identified only trees over 450mm diameter (no young regrowth).</p>

6. General Discussion/Questions

- Current width is 1.5m; a minimum width is 2m. Stage 2 has 4m wide decks.
- The area from the shower to the start of Noosa National Park (zone 3g) is in the scope.
- Seeking a design life of 50 years for the structure and 25year life for the timber cladding.
- Creating better grades will mean deviating from the existing alignment (zone 3f).
- In zone 3f, suggestion for alignment to follow the coastal track instead of the asphalt pathway.
- Investigations into exemplars from around the world. The Noosa boardwalk, is in a unique location and maintaining a scale in keeping with the local character is important.
- Engage people, make the walk an experience.
- Telescopes, QR code interpretive info are all nice to have add on's
- Bio-mimicry - concept of the 'serpent' to inspire design (form and connection to place)
- Design could feature different levels, e.g. close to the ground or viewing platforms that allow users to see vegetation/water underneath.
- Phil raised the need for the design to include: Shade, minimise removal of trees, include a shrubby layer to combat erosion, don't narrow Park Road, preference for lighting at foot level and importance of disability/pram access
- Budget: \$300,000 in the 2015/16 financial year for design and \$5.8 M for construction in the 2016/17 financial year subject to confirmation by Council with the budget adoption next year.

7. Confirmation of Agreed Design Requirements

1. Storytelling/artistic elements
2. Maintain existing vegetation where possible
3. Remove weeds
4. Timber where possible including the possibility of timber decking on the steep section which is currently asphalt (Stage 3f refer to Powerpoint slide 10)
5. Timber decking preferred for full length
6. Include natural elements/bio mimicry into the design but ensure that it is not too contrived
7. Disability access is desirable including accommodating prams
8. Subdued foot lighting/ sensor lighting
9. Roadway should not be narrowed

8. Actions

- PRG members to walk the Stage 3 section of the boardwalk – **All**
- To assist staff in developing the design brief, PRG members are asked to complete a short survey which will be emailed early October - **All**
- Ali to ask Carolyn how to manage koala movements around structures - **Ali**
- Council to conduct pedestrian counts on the two existing stairway accesses from Park Road. – **Council**
- Council to investigate options for improving pathway grades - **Council**
- Investigate the visual impact with regard to realigning the boardwalk closer to the ocean in zone 3f - **Council**
- Council staff to develop a design brief for consultants – **Council**

9. Next Steps

More detailed concepts to be presented at the next PRG for discussion (date to be confirmed).