

SYDNEY COASTAL COUNCILS GROUP Inc.

AGENDA FOR THE ORDINARY MEETING

TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY 16 JUNE, 2007

AT CITY OF SYDNEY COUNCIL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 12.00 noon

The meeting venue is the City of Sydney, Council Chambers, Level 1, Sydney Town Hall, 483 George Street Sydney. Delegates are to enter via the George St Main Entrance, where the Commissionaire will direct delegates to the Council Chambers. Some very limited parking is available under the building (this must be pre-booked). Alternative parking is available in the various parking stations on Kent Street, however public transport is recommended.

A lunch will be provided by the City of Sydney Council prior to commencement of the meeting.

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| 1. OPENING | <u>Page No.</u> |
| 2. APOLOGIES | |
| 3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES | |
| 3.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the SCCG held on 17 March (Attached) | 1 |

Recommended that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the SCCG held on 16 March 2007 at North Sydney Council be confirmed.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

4.1 Appointment of Climate Change Adaptation – Project Coordinator

Recommended that the verbal report from the RCEO be received and noted.
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4.2 Host Service Provider Agreement (City of Sydney) **15**

As resolved by the SCCG the Chair wrote to the Lord Mayor seeking consideration to re-new the SCCG–City of Sydney Hosting Contract for a further 3 years. The Secretariat has now been operating efficiently and comfortably in their locations on Level 12 since August 2003 and are seeking some continuity.

The Lord Mayor wrote back to the Group on December 2006 confirming the City of Sydney's pleasure in hosting the SCCG for a further three year period to conclude on 30 June 2010.

A draft Host service agreement has now been updated and is attached for consideration.

Recommended by the Executive Committee that the SCCG adopt and sign off on the revised Host Service Agreement 1 July 2007 – 30 June 2010.
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5. BUSINESS ARISING

Business arising from minutes other than those items listed below in Reports.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Sent and Received Correspondence report (attached) 22

Recommended that the circulated “sent” and “received” correspondence be received and noted.

6.2 SCCG correspondence from the last meeting (including responses where available)

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|----------------------|--------------------------|
| ○ Brooklyn STP | Awaiting a response |
| ○ Landcare Australia | \$500K Coastcare funding |

Recommended that the SCCG correspondence and Ministerial responses (where available) be received and considered.

7. PRESENTATION

7.1 Quantifying the Value of Sydney’s Beaches – PhD Candidate David Anning (Macquarie University) 20 minutes – 5 minutes questions 29

Briefing Notes

The Quantifying the Value of Sydney’s Beaches project will be undertaken in partnership with Macquarie University by PhD candidate David Anning over three years. The project will undertake an economic valuation of selected Sydney beaches and provide a baseline dataset on values. These values will relate to multiple sectors (e.g., housing, tourism, commerce, environmental goods and services etc). In this presentation David will outline the aims, objectives and key expected outcomes of the project, the types economic models available to undertake this form of assessment and details of participation from member councils.

Recommended that:

- 1) The report be received and noted,
- 2) The presentation be heard and considered at the meeting,
- 3) David Anning be thanked for his presentation.

7.2 Systems Approach to Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategies in Metropolises – Beth Beveridge (Project Coordinator) 10 minutes Total 41

Briefing Notes

Sydney Coastal Councils Group (SCCG) have partnered with two CSIRO Divisions (Sustainable Ecosystems, and Marine and Atmospheric Research) to undertake research on regional approaches to managing climate vulnerability in the Sydney region. This program has been funded through the Australian Greenhouse Office (AGO) “National Climate Change Adaptation Program” (\$430K). The project was scoped over the last 18 months following interest in systems approaches to the management of climate variability in the Sydney region by local governments.

The Project Coordinator will provide a brief update on recent activities to date and those planned for the rest of 2007 and into 2008.

Recommended that:

- 1) The progress report be received and considered,
- 2) The Project Coordinator’s presentation be received,
- 3) All SCCG be strongly encouraged to assist Champion this project in their Councils and local areas.

8. REPORTS

8.1 Beachwatch & Harbourwatch Programs – Clr. Harvey OAM (Attached) 48

Recommended by the Beachwatch Advisory Committee representatives that the report on Beachwatch and Harbourwatch Programs be received and noted.

8.2 Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Management Authority Update (Attached) 51

Briefing Notes

An update report prepared by the Sydney Metropolitan CMA is attached for delegate's information. The report has kindly been prepared by the Sydney CMA support Team.

Recommended that the report be received and discussed.

8.3 Control and Eradication of the *Caulerpa Taxifolia* (Attached) 58

Briefing Notes

The SCCG have requested Department of Primary Industries provide the regular quarterly report. This report is attached for delegates information and comment.

Recommended that

- 1) The report be received and discussed,
- 2) Outcomes to date be considered by the Committee for additional actions.

8.4 Natural Resource Management Grants Summary (Attached) 61

Briefing Notes

At the request of the SCCG the Sydney Metropolitan CMA has updated the 2006 grant list prepared by Charlie Hewitt (former Sydney Coastcare Facilitator).

The February 2007 edition contains details of available grants on

- General
- Adverse event
- Energy Conservation and Greenhouse
- Environmental Education
- Invasive Species
- Marine and Coast
- Primary Production and Fishing
- Public Places
- Water and Energy Efficient
- Other
- Foundations and lower amounts

The CMA has sent the list to key stakeholders via their regular enews and newsletter and the SCCG now also hosts the list on the SCCG web page.

Recommended that

- 1) the report be received and considered
- 2) Delegates inform colleagues of the production of this grant list

8.5 Recent SCCG Grant Applications Update (Attached)

90

Briefing Notes

The RCEO will review recent SCCG grant applications that have been submitted on behalf of the Group. See 'SCCG Key Activities Report' (Item 8.12) for further information.

Grant projects underway (listed for discussion on the agenda)

- **Community Action Grant Application:**

"Quantifying the Value of Sydney Beaches in order to assess cost / benefit of necessary coastal protection / abatement measures as a result of enhanced climate change impacts".

- **Australian Greenhouse Office - Urban Integrated Assessment Programme**

"Systems Approach to Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategies in Metropolises" – SCCG- CSIRO partnership grant.

Grant Applications still pending

- **Urban Sustainability Program**

"Urban Sustainability Support Alliance", (LGSA; Eurobodalla; Manly; DEC; Baton Forum; LGMA; SCCG/IES) (\$1,551,500)

- **Natural Disaster Mitigation Program (SCCG has re-submitted 2006 proposal with amendment)**

"Scoping Study for the extraction of sand reserves from the 'Sydney Shelf Sand Body' for development protection and augmentation of beach systems under immediate threat from coastal storm activity" (\$100,000)

- **Environmental Trust Education Program**

"Groundwater Education Project – the sharing of Knowledge and capacity to improve groundwater education and management. " (\$50,000)

- **Urban Sustainability Program (\$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000) – (Expression of Interest)**

"Sustainable beach Management", (SCCG, Department of Natural Resources (Coastal Unit) and the Department of Environment and Conservation (Beachwatch).

Recommended that the report be received and noted.

8.6 SCCG Coastal Walkways Project (Attached)

93

Briefing Notes

The Sydney Regional Great Ocean Walk Proposal is being facilitated by the SCCG with numerous Sydney walking club volunteers, the Department of Planning and SSROC. To progress the project a series of working groups involving council representatives and the walking volunteers have been drafting key walking routes and preparing draft maps. Funding allocations from the participating Councils, SCCG and SSROC has been utilised to prepared these draft brochures for walkway sections of:

1. Palm Beach to Narrabeen Lakes
2. Narrabeen Lakes to Manly
3. Manly to Spit (already existing)

4. Spit to Harbour Bridge (already existing)
5. Harbour Bridge to South Head and Clovelly
6. Clovelly to La Perouse
7. Botany Bay
8. Kurnell to Cronulla

The SCCG and project partners are currently identifying potential funding avenues to produce the final maps for distribution to Councils and be made available publicly.

The CPO will provide a verbal project update.

Recommended that the report provided by the CPO be received and noted.

8.7 Collaborative Partnership Program with SCCG & Institute of Environmental Studies (Uni of NSW) (Final research reports to be tabled at the meeting)

Briefing Notes

Final 1st semester 2007 reports

3 projects have been underway this semester as part of the UNSW Copies of the final 2006 reports will be distributed to each Council at the meeting. This project includes:

- o Appropriate monitoring methodologies and designs to measure and demonstrate the impact of environmental projects, such as Lagoon dredging. (Warringah).
- o Potential Impact of wetlands due to Sea Level Rise (SCCG)
- o Coastal Biodiversity Offsetting Programs – and their local applications (SCCG)

Recommended that:

1. 2007 1st semester reports be received and noted
2. 2007 1st semester reports be posted formally to member council General managers for their information.

8.8 National Disaster Mitigation Program – Landslide Taskforce (AGS/SCCG documents) (Final documents to be tabled at the meeting)

Briefing Notes

The 2 grant projects funded under the National Disaster Mitigation Program are now completed. Final documentation has been published in the March edition of “Australian Geomechanics” Journal and News of the Australian Geomechanics Society.

The final documents are currently being printed for member councils and the SCCG with AGS will also provide CD-Rom versions to all local government’s across the country together with other key stakeholders and industry bodies.

Recommended that the report be received and considered.

8.9 Finalisation of SCCG Fact Sheets (Finals to be tabled at the Meeting)

Groundwater Management and Climate Change

Briefing Notes

The CPO will present the final Fact sheets for member councils and their communities. Final copies will be distributed at the meeting.

- **Groundwater Fact Sheets**

SCCG has developed 5 Groundwater Fact sheets based on the information contained in the *Groundwater Management Handbook – A Guide for Local Government* published by the SCCG in 2006. The Groundwater fact sheets are intended to provide clear and concise information on key issues such as groundwater characteristics of the Sydney coastal region, groundwater monitoring as well as construction and development guidelines.

- **Climate Change Fact Sheets**

Climate change fact sheets are being produced as part of the Macquarie University MOU. The SCCG has been working with Macquarie University to develop climate change briefing notes based on TC suggestions. 3rd Environmental Science students have been asked to prepare the Fact Sheets for use by SCCG Member Councils to inform their elected representatives and communities of the potential impacts of climate change. As a result 5 briefing notes on the following topics are being finalised:

- 1) How might climate change affect the Sydney coastal region by AD2050 and AD2100?
- 2) Possible sea level rise in the Sydney coastal region by AD2050 and AD2100?
- 3) The frequency and intensity of climate related 'extreme events' in the Sydney coastal region by AD2050 and AD2100?
- 4) Potential socio-economic impacts of climate change in the Sydney coastal region by AD2050 and AD2100?
- 5) What can individuals, households and communities do to respond / adapt to climate change?

Recommended that the final Fact sheets be endorsed and forwarded to member councils for their utilization.

8.10 **Key Activities Report for March - June 2007 (Attached) 96**

Recommended that the SCCG Key Activities Report for March – June 2007 be received and noted.

8.11 **SCCG Submission (Attached) 120**

“Environmental Assessment for the construction and operation of infrastructure to deliver desalinated water from the desalination plant at Kurnell to Sydney’s infrastructure system”. Dept. of Planning.

Recommended that the SCCG Draft Submission be considered at the meeting with delegates providing comments.

9. **TREASURER’S REPORT**

9.1 **Final Audited Annual Financial Statement and Auditors Report for the period 1 July 2005 to 1 June 2006 (Auditors Clarification Statement and Final Statement / auditors report attached) 129**

Briefing Notes

At the March meeting clarification was sort in regards to the statement by the SCCG Auditor Spencer Steer with the statement.

“The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial report has been prepared is to provide financial information to the trustees. Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements have not been adopted in the preparation of the special purpose financial report.” (extract from compilation report).

The RCEO suggested that he would clarify this with the Auditors and report back details to the Executive Committee. Cllr Norton and Cllr Troy recommended that this be undertaken and the report be re-considered as part of the next meeting in June. The clarification statement is attached together again with the final Audited Annual Statements.

Recommended that:

- 1) The clarification statement from the SCCG auditor Spencer Steer statement be considered.
- 2) the Final Audited Financial Statement and auditors report for financial year 2005-2006 be received and adopted.

9.2 Financial Statement for the period ending April 2007 (Attached) 146

Recommended that the Financial Statement for period ending May 2007 be received and noted.

9.3 SCCG Operational Budget Estimates 2007 – 2008 (to be tabled at the meeting following consideration of the SCCG Executive Committee).

Recommended that the SCCG Operational Budget Estimates for 2007 – 2008 be received and adopted.

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

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|---|------------|
| a) Potential Privatisation of Coastal Crown Lands | 157 |
| b) Wilderness Society – Cape York Peninsula World Heritage nomination | 162 |

10.1 Items for Press Release

Recommended that items for press release be considered.

10.2 Agenda items for the next SCCG meeting

Recommended that delegates suggest additional agenda items including presentations for the next SCCG meeting (AGM) proposed for Saturday 15 September 2007 starting at 12 noon.

10.3 Next Meeting

Recommended that the next meeting of the Group be held on Saturday 15 September 2007 at Willoughby Council (pending conformation).

A current contact list of delegates and member councils is attached to the back of the business papers
