

MEDIA RELEASE

Shire of Esperance

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11 October 2018

Draft Concept Design Supported

The Esperance Community has shown strong support for the Draft Concept Design for the Replacement Jetty, with approximately 80% declaring it was acceptable.

The results in both the Opt-in and Sample Group surveys reflected overall support for the Draft Concept Design, with 79.5% in support from the Online and Hard Copy Opt-in Survey and 83.9% in support from the Random Mail Survey. The number of valid surveys returned were 1096 Opt-in surveys and 403 Random Mail Sample Group surveys (duplicate surveys were removed and have not been included in these figures).

The Shire also received 62 written submissions during the commentary period, with the majority being in support of the Draft Concept Design. The comment period was open for 3 weeks and invited the Esperance Community to provide input on the Draft and participate in a survey indicating if the design was acceptable.

The Random Mail Group survey was mailed to 2000 randomly selected addresses of Esperance residents and ratepayers. The results from this survey are a strong indication that the Draft Concept Design has met the needs of the Esperance community with respect to honouring the Esperance Tanker Jetty while developing a sustainable recreational jetty for the future. This was further supported by the results of the Opt-in survey which highlighted the option put forward by the Shire would be an acceptable replacement and that timeliness is a priority.

The survey and feedback forms were publicised and made available online, through social media, in hard copy at multiple locations including the administration building, the Bay of Isles Leisure Centre, the library and at pop up stalls at the Boulevard Shopping Centre, Post Office Square and Markets and through local media.

Shire President Victoria Brown said, "The commentary period was the best opportunity for the people of Esperance, and those with an interest in the jetty, to have their say in a way that can be recorded and measured. Everyone and anyone could find and fill the survey in.

"We were delighted with the positivity we heard at the Pop up displays from individuals who approached us for a chat. The overall message we got from the consultation was 'yes, let's move forward.' With these results finalised and indicating support for the Draft Concept Design we can now continue with a detailed design, complete a business plan and start applying for funding. It's time for us to get a jetty that we can all use again.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in the media for giving the survey a lot of coverage over the commentary period, encouraging the Esperance community to have their say. Thank you to everyone who took the time to fill in the survey and provide feedback."

The survey results and feedback will be available on the Shire website tomorrow and will include a copy of all comments received. The Jetty Replacement Working Group and Council will be meeting next week to discuss the feedback and how the ideas can be incorporated into the Detailed Design of the replacement jetty and this will be forwarded to H&H Architects.

Ends

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