

# Community and Stakeholder Engagement Report

## North Steyne Stormwater Improvement (Stage 1 of 1)

Impact level: Four

Report date: August 2020

### Contents

1.	Summary.....	2
1.1.	Engagement date.....	2
1.2.	Who we engaged .....	2
1.3.	How we engaged .....	3
2.	Background.....	3
3.	Engagement approach.....	4
3.1.	Engagement objective(s).....	4
4.	Findings .....	4
5.	Appendices .....	5
5.1.	Full list of community comments and Council responses.....	5

---

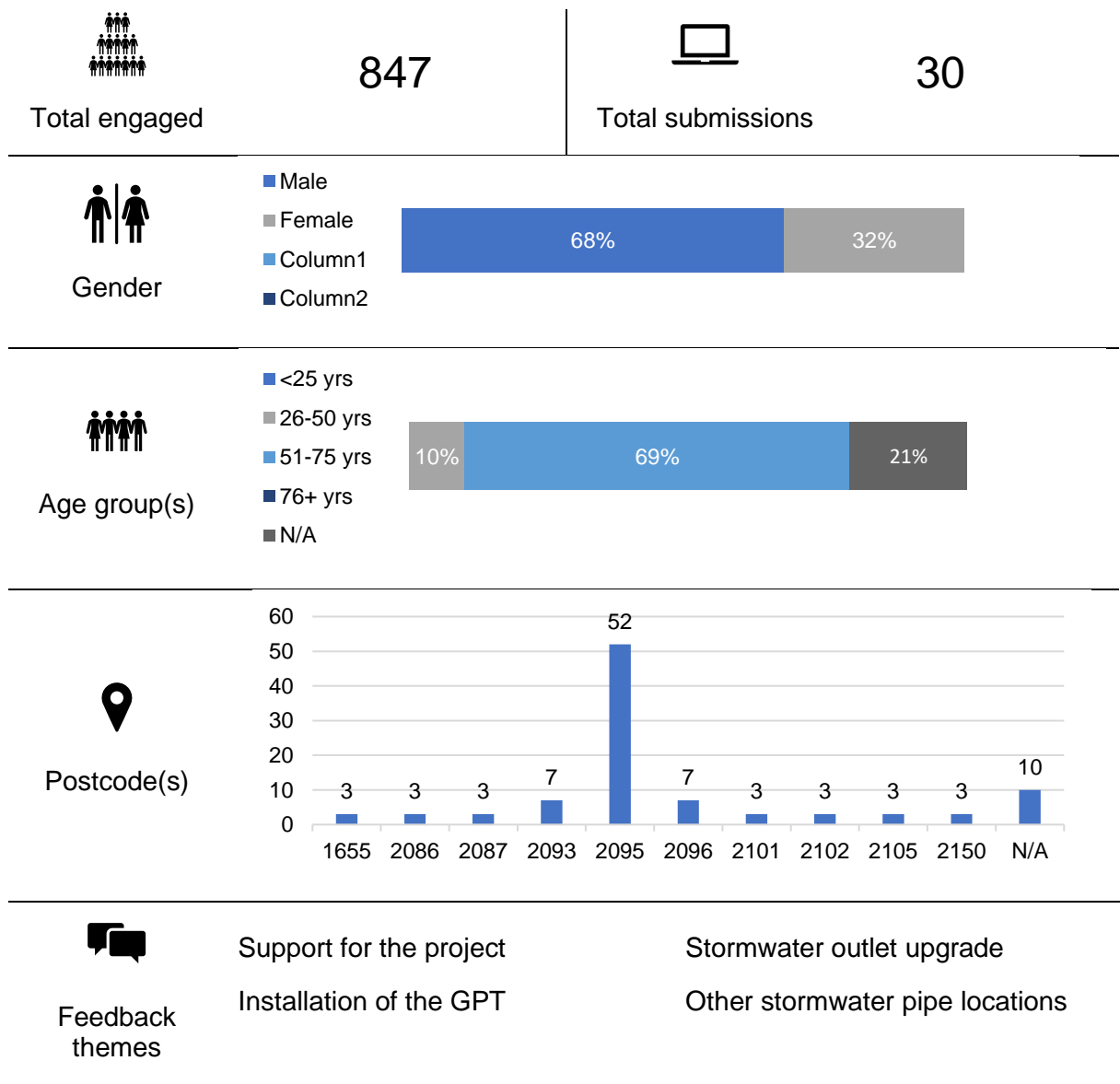
# 1. Summary<sup>1</sup>

This report outlines the community and stakeholder engagement conducted as part of the North Steyne Stormwater Improvement project.

## 1.1. Engagement date

21 May to 21 June 2020






## 1.2. Who we engaged<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Community and stakeholder views contained in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Beaches Council or indicate a commitment to a particular course of action.

<sup>2</sup> No demographic data was captured for respondents who contributed feedback outside of the online Your Say submission form.

### 1.3. How we engaged

 Your Say	Visitors: 788	Visits: 913	Av. time onsite: 1m20s
 Print media and collateral	Letter drop: 2095 Site signs: Yes		Distribution: 152 Number: 1
 EDM(s) <sup>3</sup>	Community Engagement newsletter: 2 Council eNews: 3		Distribution: 20,000 Distribution: 70,000
 Key stakeholder meeting	Meeting: Manly Community Forum: 1		Attendance: 45
 Survey and form	Form: 1		Completions: 29

## 2. Background

As part of our Stormwater Asset Management Plan<sup>4</sup>, we propose to upgrade the existing stormwater outlet and install a Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT) at North Steyne, Manly to improve the water quality in the area. This would result in the replacement of the existing treatment solution (Net Tech) that is inefficient and at the same time remove the damaged stormwater outlet pipe.

This project was engaged on to provide the local community an understanding of the proposal and seek feedback in relation to the upgrade. Engagement details included overview of the proposed works, GPT installation, stormwater outlet upgrade, project timeline and the aesthetics of the finished work.

Engagement took place from 21 May until 21 June 2020.

<sup>3</sup> Electronic direct mail

<sup>4</sup> The Stormwater Asset Management Plan provides a framework to manage assets throughout their life and provide associated services at a level expected by the community, including improvement of the water quality of our creeks, lagoons and ocean beaches.

### 3. Engagement approach

North Steyne Stormwater Improvements community engagement was planned, implemented and reported in accordance with Council's [Community Engagement Matrix](#) (2017).

Community engagement on this project aimed to inform the community about the proposed works and provide an opportunity for people to comment and ask questions.

The engagement approach gave consistent and accessible information and asked a uniform set of questions of participants in all activities.

#### 3.1. Engagement objective(s)

- Build community and stakeholder awareness of participation activities (inform)
  - Promoted the project via onsite signage, a letter to local residents, Council's eNews and our Have Your Say community engagement newsletter.
- Provide accessible information so community and stakeholders can participate in a meaningful way (inform)
  - Online via the Your Say project page<sup>5</sup> clearly outlining the nature of the proposed work and their intended benefit. Images included an aerial view of the location, a simple diagram of the GPT and an artist impression of the stormwater pipe outlet.

Further details about the proposed works were provided in the 'Frequently asked questions' section.

- Identify community and stakeholder concerns, local knowledge and values (consult)
  - Opportunities to comment both online and in writing were available, as well as a contact details for the project manager to address enquiries.

### 4. Findings<sup>6</sup>

Theme	What we heard
Support for the project	<p>The respondents were generally supportive of the project.</p> <p>The primary message was that the proposed new GPT and stormwater outlet upgrade were long awaited by the local community.</p> <p>Other comments reflected support whilst suggesting alternative treatment approaches, concerns for the brick pavement and damage to the grassed area.</p>

<sup>5</sup> <https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/north-steyne-stormwater-improvements>

<sup>6</sup> Note: This analysis does not include any 'late' feedback received after the advertised closing date for consultation.

Installation of the GPT	<p>The majority of respondents who commented on the proposed GPT were in favour of it.</p> <p>Queries relating to the cleaning and maintenance of the GPT were raised and have been responded to in Section 6.1 below.</p>
Stormwater outlet upgrade	<p>The majority of the respondent who commented on the stormwater outlet upgrade highlighted that the removal of the existing stormwater outlet would have a positive visual impact.</p>
Other stormwater pipe locations	<p>While this consultation focused on North Steyne stormwater improvements, we received a number of comments requesting stormwater outlet upgrades in other locations on the Northern Beaches.</p> <p>This includes a few requests for the removal of other nearby pipes along Manly Beach.</p>

## 5. Appendices

### 5.1. Full list of community comments and Council responses

Comments are published as verbatim and inclusive of spelling and grammatical errors. Clear spelling errors are highlighted with (sic). Some minor formatting is corrected by Council.

No.	Comments	Council response
1	<p>The stormwater entering the beach area will be high in pathogens. In addition, bacterial levels (not necessarily pathogen levels though) can often be higher after a GPT than before it.</p> <p>Given that there is the possibility that members of the public can come into direct contact with either the stormwater or contaminated sand I suggest</p> <p>a) Installing a biofiltration system to reduce pathogen, nutrient and suspended solids level</p> <p>b) Investigating if other interventions could reduce pathogen levels further, either catchment management actions or end of pipe solutions.</p>	<p>Thanks for your interest in the project. Council undertakes priority assessment on its stormwater assets within the Local Government Area based on a review of the hydraulic capacity, conditions, risk to the community and the environment as well as budgetary constraints.</p> <p>For this outlet, the stormwater run-off is not expected to have high level of pathogens as the stormwater is separate to the sewer. Council undertook extensive analysis of the existing stormwater system, including catchment use and pollutants however due to the location and constraints of the site, the focus for the upgrade has been on the removal gross pollutant and coarse sediments.</p> <p>We thank you for raising this matter and will consider your comments for future projects.</p>

2	<p>Congratulations on mitigating some of the pollutants from storm water. The State &amp; Federal Governments continue with "Primary Treatment" at Blue Fish Point at Manly's ocean outfalls. Shelley Beach &amp; Manly Beach bacterial pollution could be reduced substantially if the waste-water/sewerage was treated properly before release into the marine environment. "Secondary Treatment" is long overdue. A Melbourne sewerage/ waste water treatment plant can afford "Advanced Tertiary Treatment" before release into the marine environment. Depressing.</p>	<p>Thank you for your feedback. The sewerage system is designed to contain sewage flows only and not designed to receive the significant stormwater flows. The stormwater system is owned and managed by Northern Beaches Council, whereas the sewer network is managed by Sydney Water.</p>
3	<p>Great to see at last, the current pipe/outlet is an eyesore considering the beautiful beach and surrounding area....and the collection of rubbish and pollution in the current trap is a health hazard.</p>	<p>Thank you for your time to provide feedback on the proposal.</p>
4	<p>Would council please remove the other unsightly stormwater outlets along Manly beach. Rusty pipes draining dirty water into the surf is not what the locals and tourists want to see. Can you imagine them in Honolulu at Waikiki?</p>	<p>Thank you for your interest in the project. Council undertakes priority assessment on its stormwater assets within the Local Government Area based on a review of the hydraulic capacity, conditions, risk to the community and the environment as well as budgetary constraints.</p>
5	<p>May you please connect me to the relevant person who can send me the plans etc so we can quote this work.</p>	<p>Thanks for your interest on the proposal. At this stage, Council plans to use its pre-qualified civil panel to carry out these works. Should Council proceed to open tender, your organisation will have an opportunity to tender at that point.</p>
6	<p>Stormwater drains are essential to clean living</p>	<p>Thank you for your time to provide feedback on the proposal.</p>
7	<p>The gutter along the North Steyne seem to block whenever it rains - is this due to the current stormwater outlet and will it improve with GPT - should the grates be lifted and cleared on a regular basis??</p>	<p>Thanks for your interest in the project. The stormwater outlet will be upgraded as part of the project which is expected to provide some improvement to the conveyance of flows during minor stormwater events. The subject pits are cleaned out regularly by Council's maintenance team however these do sometime block up after a large storm event due to the leaf litter entering the pits from the trees along the foreshore.</p>
8	<p>Great planning to remove the existing outlet on the beach</p>	<p>Thank you for your time to provide feedback on the proposal.</p>

9	This is great! Go NB Council! Can we please install one at the north end of Freshwater Beach and pull those two outlet pipes back to the dune area, instead of the shoreline? Could this please be incorporated into the foreshore upgrades for the walkway proposed at Freshwater?	Thanks for your interest in the project. Council is currently undertaking a feasibility assessment for a stormwater quality treatment system at the Freshwater beach stormwater outlet.
10	Great work NBC	Thank you for your time to provide feedback on the proposal.
11	This looks like a great improvement. Is it possible to do the work without disturbing the beautiful, continuous brick paving along the promenade.	Thank you for your time to provide feedback on the proposal. The existing brick work will be preserved and re-instated following the completion of the proposed works.
12	Also believe the stormwater pipe into the ocean is not a good look for a beach environment	Thank you for your feedback.
13	Excellent initiative, why not taking care of the other 2 pipes?	Thanks for your interest in the project. Council undertakes priority assessment on its stormwater assets within the Local Government Area based on a review of the hydraulic capacity, conditions, risk to the community and the environment as well as budgetary constraints
14	This sounds like a huge improvement to manly beach. Thank you!	Thank you for your time to provide feedback on the proposal.
15	A long overdue improvement, congratulations. Being an engineer and involved with many environmental projects, please ensure that the access for maintenance and the design of the trap is easy for inspection and maintenance procedures. if its hard it wont get done correctly or regularly. The existing net m was rarely inspected or cleaned, it was a pretty pointless solution	Thank you for your time to provide feedback on the proposal. The proposed GPT will be a Continuous Deflection Separation (CDS) unit a 600mm diameter lid for cleaning and a 900x600mm lid will be provided for the bypass chamber for maintenance. The proposed junction pit located at the outlet will also be constructed with a removable cover to allow inspection and maintenance.
16	This project has been needed for a long time and I am pleased that it is finally going to proceed. Thank you.	Thank you for taking the time to provide feedback on our proposal.
17	Does this work include the removal of the two sets pipes that cross the beach into the surf? ie the single pipe slightly north of the Corso and the twin pipes slightly north of the Nth Steyne Surf Club.	Thank you for your interest in the project. No, this work involves a new GPT and the removal of the outlet located across from Steinton St.
18	How is the GPT cleared or maintained to ensure it continues to function? Looks like a great piece of work - welcome it	Thank you for your time to provide feedback on the proposal. The GPT will be cleaned using suction method which will involve vacuuming the waste from the GPT into a truck. The waste will be transported and disposing of at an appropriate waste disposal facility and a

		percentage of the waste will be recycled. The GPT unit will be placed on a regular cleaning schedule.
19	Great improvement. Could you please remove all pipe outlets on the beach.	Thanks for your interest in the project. Council undertakes priority assessment on its stormwater assets within the Local Government Area based on a review of the hydraulic capacity, conditions, risk to the community and the environment as well as budgetary constraints.
20	Great idea long over due	Thank you for taking the time to provide feedback on our proposal.
21	This is a great idea to remove the unsightly outlet at the promenade wall. Are there any future plans to remove the large concrete pipe that flows out to beach?	Thanks for your interest in the project. Council undertakes priority assessment on its stormwater assets within the Local Government Area based on a review of the hydraulic capacity, conditions, risk to the community and the environment as well as budgetary constraints.
22	I am a regular user of this area. I support the project. I would like the Council to investigate using WASTOP Valves which have been proven in many countries overseas instead of junking the beach with Duck bill valves. (I know this project doesn't use duck bill valves) but it would be good if WASTOP valves were used.  <a href="https://www.hygradewater.com.au/product/wastop-stainless-steel/">https://www.hygradewater.com.au/product/wastop-stainless-steel/</a>	Thanks for your interest in the project. Council has analysed alternative stormwater outfall configuration comparing them with the current free flowing outfall. Two different check valves, the TF-1 Duckbill and the WaStop DN1000 was investigated. Both check valves require a high level surcharge culvert to minimise hydraulic impacts in the event of blockage by sand. Findings from the DRAINS hydraulic analysis showed that when fully operational (i.e. not blocked by sand), both check valves have only a minor hydraulic impact on the stormwater network. In the 50% and 100% blockage scenarios, the check valve in combination with a high-level surcharge culvert and 1050mm outlet pipe would provide an overall improvement to the hydraulic performance of the stormwater network. Comparison between the two check valves shows that the TF-1 Duckbill has a lesser hydraulic impact than the WaStop due to a lower head loss.
23	This sounds like an excellent plan. My home overlooks this outlet pipe and after heavy run the filth on the beach is frightening. Good Work	Thank you for taking the time to provide feedback on our proposal.
24	Are there any plans to improve the quality of storm-water outflow to the beach from the pipe opposite Pacific Street Manly?	Thanks for your interest in the project. Council undertakes priority assessment on its stormwater assets within the Local Government Area based on a review of the hydraulic capacity, conditions, risk to the community and the environment as well as budgetary constraints.



25	<p>This is a great initiative from the Council. All I would suggest is that they locate the GPT in a position that would allow for the Vacuum service truck to access the GPT without going onto the grass. It's noteworthy that the grassed area contains drainage cells and will not withstand loads of trucks over time.</p>	<p>Thank you for taking the time to provide feedback on our proposal. The proposed location of the Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT) is along the grassed section of the promenade. The location is based on the convergence of the three separate stormwater pipes meeting at the seawall outlet. Further traffic control, location of protected Norfolk trees and services have been considered in defining the location for the proposed GPT with the solution proving the most cost effective. Consideration with regards to protecting of the drainage cell and grass cover has been included in the design by providing a 3m wide turf-pave driveway from the parking bay area to the GPT.</p>
26	<p>I am glad to learn about this upgrade. I believe all stormwater outlets and pipes along Manly beach should be hidden and not be part of the landscape. Manly is a worldwide famous beach, and I can't think of similar examples anywhere else in the world where a beautiful beach is ruined by the view of massive rusty pipes and outlets carrying polluted storm water in the ocean where people swim. I know there are arguments in favour of the effect the storm water outlets have on the surf, but that is not good enough. I believe in nature to provide us with good waves, not rusty pipes. Thank you NBC for this improvement and hopefully for future improvements to the other pipes along the beach.</p>	<p>Thanks for your interest in the project. Council undertakes priority assessment on its stormwater assets within the Local Government Area based on a review of the hydraulic capacity, conditions, risk to the community and the environment as well as budgetary constraints.</p>
27	<p>How is the GPT cleaned?</p>	<p>Thank you for your interest in the project. The GPT will be cleaned using suction method which will involve vacuuming the waste from the GPT into a truck. The waste will be transported and disposed of at an appropriate waste disposal facility and a percentage of the waste will be recycled.</p>
28	<p>I fully support the upgrade at my home beach, particularly the removal of the stormwater pipe. In time it would be great to see the removal of all stormwater pipes on that stretch of beach. DT</p>	<p>Thanks for your interest in the project. Council undertakes priority assessment on its stormwater assets within the Local Government Area based on a review of the hydraulic capacity, conditions, risk to the community and the environment as well as budgetary constraints.</p>
29	<p>While the concept of GPT is excellent, I'm not sure having storm water simply flow into and across the beach from an outlet from under the promenade is a great solution. Not sure what would be better</p>	<p>Council undertook extensive analysis of the existing stormwater system including investigating various alternative options for the outlet. For example, infiltration of stormwater discharge through the sand was</p>

	<p>unfortunately. A longer deeper pipe going out 250 m into the ocean? Too hard to engineer and perhaps cause a submerged hazard.? Are there alternatives we can consider?</p>	<p>considered. Based on the sandy ground conditions and depth to groundwater, it is only possible to infiltrate small quantities of stormwater at North Steyne. While the infiltration potential of the medium to course grained sand is very good, existing services and public assets severely limit the size and capacity of what can be constructed. Large slotted pipes were considered underneath 310m of beach sand to enable infiltration, however this presented a high likelihood of sand erosion along the profile. An extended outlet extending 250m into sea was not considered due to environmental and public safety concerns as well as cost implications.</p> <p>The proposed design will include a Gross Pollutant Trap which will enable the capture of stormwater debris and fine sediment, thereby providing a discharge of clean stormwater flows into the sand profile over a prescribed stormwater overflow route. As such, Council believes that the proposed design provides an effective stormwater treatment solution in a cost effective manner.</p>
30	<p>There seems to be a contradiction in description Vs illustration..... as below. And, we trust that Council intends for the two new promenade pit and pipe lines connect UPSTREAM of the new GPT for treatment before being discharged to the beach?</p>	<p>Thank you for your interest in the project. That is correct; the two new pits and the associated pipelines will divert low flows to the GPT and will be connected to a chamber upstream of the GPT.</p>