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CC Lucilla Marshall

**re: PMHC Draft One Year Operational Plan 2020 – 2021**

Dear Craig,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Council's Draft One Year Operational Plan 2020-2021.

As you are aware Bonny Hills has a Community Plan in place with agreed Actions and timelines. Unfortunately, because of the current situation with COVID-19 the Bonny Hills CCAT is out of action so BHPA has decided to respond to the request for submissions on behalf of the Bonny Hills Community, albeit a few days late.

Overall, the Operational Plan (OP) is improving year by year and has become very readable and easier to understand. The summary tables and sections are great, and it is useful to carry the same project numbers over from year to year. But there are still some problems, such as:

- many of the Performance Indicators are not correctly framed as PIs and delivery dates are generally absent.
- there is room for confusion with items in the Capital Works section being found again in the Themes sections. A suggestion is to reverse the order so that the Capital Works section appears as a 'succinct summary' of these items drawn from the former.

We are pleased to note that there are eight projects for capital expenditure directly relevant to Bonny Hills, totalling \$1,149,224 in the Capital Works program, viz 2.3.3.6, 2.3.4.18, 2.3.4.23, 4.1.5.08, 4.1.1.26, 4.1.1.28, 4.1.1.39, and 4.1.3.30. And of course, there is considerable expenditure proposed elsewhere that will benefit all who reside in our LGA.

Please note that project 2.3.2.4 – Commence Review of the BH Reserves Master Plan, has already commenced.

On a less positive note, when we look back at our submissions on previous OPs there is a depressingly familiar ring to our observations for some items.

1. Again, a major concern to Bonny Hills residents will be that beyond the three (?) large coastal pathway projects (allocated \$1,651,000?) there is only \$500k<sup>1</sup> allocated for footpath, cycleway and pedestrian works in the OP [4.4.1.03cw] for the entire LGA! Given the demand demonstrated through the Community Plans for these works, this is a demonstrably unfair distribution of resources. The Bonny Hills CP has identified a large number of path works, and prioritised five for immediate attention. Nothing has been delivered for the last two years and it seems there is no guarantee for the upcoming year.

2. Project 4.4.1.32 *Commence corridor planning - Kendall Road - Ocean Drive - Hastings River Drive regional road corridor (MR538 / MR600) (multi-year project)* has been on the books since 2016 for commencement, and unbelievably, it appears that it has yet to commence!! We were advised four years ago to await the results from this study before submitting requests for works, on the basis that it should provide a foundation for a strategic approach to resolving vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian problems along Ocean Drive including through Bonny Hills. Please explain what is going on here?!

We have already provided a submission on the adequacy of the location on the corner of Ocean Drive and Houston Mitchell Drive for a light industrial development, 4.5.1.11, (previously 3.1.2.2?) and look forward to being kept up to date on developments towards producing a final report to Council, 31 December 2020.

In relation to bushfire preparedness and risk mitigation – 4.2.1.01, 4.2.1.17, 4.8.2.1, we encourage Council to incorporate the knowledge of our Aboriginal communities in using fire to continually manage bushland for the benefit of people, flora and fauna, rather than seeing the problem as simply one of reducing fuel load. There is a strong training component in achieving this so that all parties are working off the same hymn sheet, but there are precedents for other Councils and RFS units coming on board with this logical approach resulting in demonstrable benefits.

BHPA is pleased to note continued implementation of actions from Council's Biodiversity Strategy, 4.8.3.1, but we are concerned there are no timelines for the PIs? Similarly for projects 4.6.1.16, 4.6.1.19 and 4.6.1.22, which link strongly with the foregoing in our view.

We can only encourage development of an agreed Management Plan for Lake Cathie (4.2.1.16).

BHPA would welcome the opportunity to further discuss this submission with Council as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

John Drinan  
Secretary

22 April 2020

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<sup>1</sup> For multi-purpose 2.5m wide pathways, we estimate that \$500k will enable less than 2km for the entire LGA  
*BHPA Submission on Draft One Year Operational Plan*