



COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

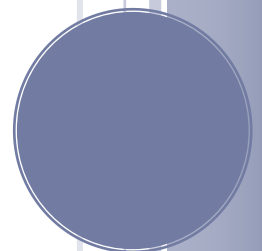
PROGRAM & FINDINGS

MACS REEF WASTE TRANSFER STATION

Palerang Council & Quadro Australia Pty Ltd

Environmental Planning Services Pty Ltd

February 2011





1 INTRODUCTION

The Community Consultation Program has two principle aims:

1. Raise awareness of the proposal within the local community; and
2. Provide opportunities for all stakeholders and interested parties to comment on and provide feedback to the design and development of the project.

2 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION PHASES

The community consultation process can be broken down into phases that incorporate the following elements:

- Preparatory Stage
 - Preparation of a database of contacts including Council contacts
- Phase 1: Project Introduction to Key Stakeholders
 - Councils and applicant
 - Introductory consultations with adjacent landowners, agencies and key stakeholders including Palerang Council and Quadro Australia Pty Ltd
- Phase 2: Community Feedback and Information Sessions
 - Compile database from respondents
 - Seek comment from Councils Community Engagement Panel
 - Attend community briefing and information session
- Phase 3: Development Application Process
 - Community opportunity to provide submissions
- Phase 4: Construction
 - Advisory letters of commencement dates and times for construction
 - Face to face meetings with adjacent landholders, agencies and key stakeholders
 - Media releases
- Phase 5: Operation
 - Media release
 - Community opening ceremony
 - Ongoing community liaison officer



3 TOOLS FOR COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The following tools will assist with the Community Consultation process:

- 1.** Identification and registering of stakeholders on a stakeholder database by Palerang Council. The database will be updated as correspondence is received from concerned parties or parties are contacted by the project team.
- 2.** Letters: Introductory letters to residences within close proximity to the site will be sent out by Palerang Council prior to Christmas 2010. (17th December 2010)
- 3.** Media: Using local media, residents and stakeholders will be advised of a consultation meeting to be conducted in January 2011 (24th January 2010) to discuss the proposal with the public. This can also be utilised to provide ongoing project updates.
- 4.** Website/Email: Council website may provide base information about the project and allow for regular updates. Key stakeholders and relevant landowners should also be contacted by email to inform of any feedback on the proposal.
- 5.** Questionnaires: Council has previously distributed a questionnaire within the community surrounding the Macs Reef site to identify their position on the proposal. It was concluded that residents within the community preferred the construction of a Waste Transfer Facility as opposed to a kerb side pick-up service.

4 TIMEFRAME FOR EVENTS

At this stage, initial consultations have been undertaken with Palerang Council. Environmental Planning Services have undertaken works on the Statement of Environmental Effects and sub-contractors have been engaged to produce specialist reports for the proposal. These reports accompanied Councils letter of introduction to adjoining land owners and relevant stakeholders sent prior to the 25th of December 2010. This commencement letter and provision of specialist reports allowed residents to understand the proposal prior to the Local Resident's Consultation Meeting held on 24th of January 2011.

Following this briefing period, residents may also make submissions in relation to the proposal during the exhibition period as part of the planning process.

The following table outlines the key community consultation phases and their pertaining timeline:



Table 4-1 - Timeline for Community Consultation Program

Phase	Process	Description	Time/Date for Completion
Phase 1	Project Introduction to key stakeholders	Initial consultations with Palerang Council and Quadro Australia Pty Ltd	Complete
Phase 2	Community Feedback	Palerang Council advises of results of community questionnaire in relation to the proposal	Complete
	Resident liaison	Palerang Council to send letter of introduction to adjoining land owners along with specialist reports, if available, for review	Complete 17 th December 2010
Phase 3	Residents Opportunity to Provide Feedback	Palerang Council to host a residents consultation meeting during which residents can ask questions pertaining to the proposal	Complete 24 th January 2011 7pm
Phase 4	Development Assessment Exhibition Period	Applicant and Council to review any submissions from landowners and key stakeholders - amend proposal as required	Second quarter 2011
Phase 5	Ongoing Community Liaison	Palerang Council to maintain ongoing community consultation and utilise media releases; and through the Community Working Group and Council's quarterly newsletters to inform of progress of the WTS	Ongoing through 2011



5 MACS REEF WASTE WORKING GROUP MEETING

On the 24th January 2011, Council staff and the project consultants met with the Macs Reef Waste Working Group. At this meeting a presentation of the project assessment findings and discussions of the proposal were undertaken. Various matters were raised and discussed and amendments to the proposal in accordance with the directions from the Group have ensued.

6 LOCAL RESIDENT'S CONSULTATION

On the 24th January 2011, a local resident's consultation session was held at Palerang Council. Residents surrounding the proposed Waste Transfer Station site were contacted by letter from Council advising of the meeting and the opportunity to meet with Council staff, Macs Reef Waste Working Group and the project consultants to discuss the proposed Waste Transfer Station.

Only two residents (husband and wife) from one residence attended the meeting. A presentation was provided by the project consultants outlining the project, illustrating 3D images and photomontages of the proposal, and providing an overview of the assessment process and findings undertaken so far.

The meeting provided a good opportunity for the couple to discuss all of their concerns and also ask questions to increase their understanding in relation to the proposal. Topics of discussion included, but were not limited to the following matters:

- Visual impact;
- Roof structures;
- Windblown debris control;
- Fencing
- Landscaping and tree removal retention; and
- Operational matters.

The recommendations that resulted from the community consultation include the following:

- Fencing should be of black chain wire with no barbed wire to minimise visual impact and potential injury to wildlife;
- Landscaping of the understorey of the site should be undertaken to soften the visual impact from the road and adjacent properties; and
- Landscaping around the Waste Transfer Station should aim to retain existing trees where possible.

On the 22nd of November 2011, a second community information session was held at the Bywong Community Hall. This meeting provided a more in-depth



discussion of the proposal as substantial progress had been made since the initial meeting in January of last year. The number of attendees reached a maximum of 20 people, including local landowners, community members and personnel from Quadro Australia and EPS. Topics of discussion included, but were not limited to the following issues:

- Water for Wash-down
- Safety and Security
- Road Upgrades

Peter Evans, a local resident in proximity to the Waste Transfer Station, voiced his concerns over the proposed road upgrades which aim to provide a new intersection between the site and the unnamed road running adjacent to the Waste Transfer Station. Mr Evans' concern was that the upgrades would provide motorists with a false sense of security at the intersection which, could in turn result in more accidents. A seagull intersection was suggested as an alternative.

The recommendations that resulted from the community consultation include the following:

- Council should consider the potential for increased accidents resulting from the road upgrade in making a determination for the proposal
- Investigation into the likelihood of a seagull intersection offering increased safety to motorists as opposed to a standard t-intersection



7 CONCLUSION

The limited attendance at the local resident's consultation meeting can be inferred to demonstrate that local residences do not have sufficient concerns with the proposal to attend the meeting. The residents that did attend provided good feedback and reasonable recommendations that can be implemented into the proposal.

Local residents and the wider community will have another opportunity to provide submissions in regard to the proposal when the Development Application is placed on Public Exhibition. Any submission received during the exhibition period will be assessed by Council and the relevant project consultants before determination of the development assessment.

The ongoing community consultation program will primarily be implemented by Palerang Council with assistance from the project team. The wider project team, including Environmental Planning Services and Quadro Australia may be called upon to provide consultation with resident or relevant key stakeholders relating to their discipline.