



Recognising and upholding excellence in local government

Mail: PO Box 105
Coolum Beach QLD 4573
Mobile: 0417 577 881
Email: president@oscar.org.au

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CEO Michael Whittaker
Sunshine Coast Regional Council

Email: michael.whittaker@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Whittaker

Subject: "City Hall" community consultation

At the most recent OSCAR general meeting it was resolved that I should write to you seeking clarification on what form of community consultation is going to occur in relation to the Maroochydore CBD Council Chamber project

OSCAR is supportive, in principle, of the development of a suitable headquarters for the Sunshine Coast Regional Council and recognises the logic of locating such a building in the emerging CBD. The central location of Maroochydore on the Sunshine Coast, proximity to public transport options and capacity for Council to encourage further development in the CBD all seem potentially sound reasons for pursuing this project.


We are very keen to hear from you on how the general community will be consulted in this development. In the following table we have identified relevant references to the "community" in the Sunshine Coast City Hall Building - High Level Project Plan (included as an attachment to the Agenda of the Ordinary Meeting dated 11 October 2018 - Item 8.4.4) and questions we would appreciate answers to:

Page	Text	Questions
7	Community Engagement During the course of the project, community engagement will be incorporated into the evolution of the design and through construction updates. As part of the development of a detailed Project plan, a community engagement plan will be developed for Council consideration. Regular Updates will be provided to community accordingly.	How will this community engagement occur? Does the Council see this as simply keeping the community informed (which is not real community engagement of course) or will there be a real attempt to obtain community input and provide regular updates on progress? When can we expect to first see the "community engagement plan"?
9	High quality commercial office towers and community buildings	What is the nature of these "community buildings"?

Page	Text	Questions
		Will the community have input into the design and ultimate usage of community facilities to be incorporated into the new Council Chambers?
10	The “Maroochydore City Centre Shareholders Representative Group” (SRG) will oversee the interests of Sunshine Coast Council and the community relating to the activities of SunCentral Maroochydore Pty Ltd	We are aware that the shareholder in this project is the Council but it is the ratepayers who are the “shareholders” in the Council and the ones funding this project.
55	<p>Purpose</p> <p>The purpose of the SunCentral Maroochydore Shareholder Representative Group (SRG) is to oversee the interests of Sunshine Coast Council and its community relating to the activities of SunCentral Maroochydore Pty Ltd (the Company).</p>	<p>How will ratepayers be involved in the SRG?</p> <p>As there does not seem to be a community representative proposed for this group what input can the broader community be expected to be offered?</p> <p>Note: We do not accept that the inclusion of one or more councillors on the SRG adequately addresses the need for genuine community involvement on the SRG.</p>

As always, OSCAR thanks you in anticipation of receipt of answers to the above questions.

Yours sincerely



Greg Smith
President