

Recognising and upholding excellence in local government

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23 October 2020

Ms Gillian Smith

Sunshine Coast Regional Council Email: gillian.smith@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

Dear Gillian,

RE: SCRC presentation of the CHAS development, proposed outcomes and engagement processes.

We write as a follow up and in response to interest and issues raised by our member groups relating to the Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy (CHAS) being undertaken by Sunshine Coast Regional Council (SCRC). The Organisation Sunshine Coast Association of Residents (OSCAR) kindly invites Council representatives and consultants to present at an OSCAR meeting regarding progress on the CHAS process.

We understand that the date of 26 November has been suggested to you. Given the significance of the CHAS we are concerned that insufficient time would be available for a presentation and full discussion, as that is the night of our AGM and General Meeting.

Since proposing the November meeting as a possible time for a presentation re the CHAS, we have heard that the CHAS community engagement process will be occurring in November 2020. We are concerned that a late November meeting may also be late in the CHAS engagement process time and therefore reduce the time in which OSCAR member groups have to make any formal response or seek other opportunities for presentations to their groups themselves.

Given the importance of the CHAS initiative, we are open to arranging a special meeting where the whole time can be dedicated to discussion of the CHAS. As we wish to allow as much time as possible for your presentation and discussion, we respectfully suggest that a different date and time for your presentation would be in order.

Also, given the relatively short time frame for the engagement process, making the best use of SCRC officer and consultants' time and in the interests of allowing time for community members to understand the processes and outcomes of the CHAS, OSCAR and SCEC are happy to co-host the meeting.

We understand that attendance in person by SCRC officers and consultants may not be possible owing to COVID-19 policy and restrictions. We can facilitate an online platform as well as face to face for some members. OSCAR currently uses the Zoom platform. We seek your advice as to whether SCRC officers are able to participate via Zoom and/or face-to-face?

We would also be interested in discussing with you and/or your team how to best use technology to afford a larger number of people being able to participate in such a session, than what can be accommodated currently under COVID-19 protocols. Of course there may be a change in numbers allowed inside public meeting places under COVID-19 protocols by that time.

Should you feel that this new proposal is possible please let me know the availability throughout November of yourself and any consultants.

I can be contacted on 0433 214 320 if it is easier to discuss over the phone with follow up emails.

Thanking you for your consideration of this request.

Yours sincerely

Melva Hobson PSM President, OSCAR

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