

The background features a light purple to blue gradient. In the upper left, there are several realistic water droplets of various sizes. A large, faint, light-colored circular pattern is centered in the upper half of the image. The lower half of the image contains more water droplets, some of which are larger and more prominent than others.

# MASS TRANSIT PROPOSAL

**OSCAR PRESENTATION**

**19 MAY 2021**

# INTRODUCTION

- OSCAR is a non-partisan and not-for-profit umbrella/peak organisation covering resident and community organisations on the Sunshine Coast Regional Council and Noosa Shire Local Government Areas (LGAs) in South East Queensland.

The OSCAR vision is:

- The residents of this region enjoy being part of a connected and engaged community living in an area of outstanding natural beauty. They recognise that they are custodians of the unique and abundant biodiversity, beaches and green spaces of the region.
- Presenters – Melva Hobson, President OSCAR and Lindsay Holt representative from Blackall Range Land Use and Planning Association (BRLUPA), apologies from Greg Smith who is in Melbourne.
- Organisation Sunshine Coast Association of Residents (OSCAR)

# OSCAR POSITION RE SCRC MASS TRANSIT PROPOSAL

- Group members will vote on an official position on 3 June 2021
- OSCAR's current position re Transport is:
  - Transport across the whole coast should be a priority for SCRC
  - The Mass Transit proposal (coastal corridor) is only one project for improved transport options across the SCRC LGA.
  - In terms of priority transport projects OSCAR considers proposals that have benefit across the whole of the LGA should take priority, eg. duplication heavy rail and rail along the CAMCOS corridor
  - The MT project should consider ALL options suggested for this project
  - SCRC community engagement must be timely, inclusive, varied and heard

# SCRC CURRENT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT RE MT

- OSCAR supportive of the current process
- Two month time-frame a credit to Council
- Team ensuring all SCRC residents are able to be informed
- Pop ups being conducted across the whole LGA
- People able to complete survey both on line or by paper plus commitment by Council (James Coutts) that all submissions, irrespective of format, be considered
- Opportunities for groups to present to the SCRC & consultant team – OSCAR hopes this is widely available
- SCRC website comprehensive and detailed



# OSCAR CONCERNS RE CONSULTATION AND SURVEY

- What is the consultation really about? There are 9 options (including light rail) for the 13km Stage 1 of the Coastal strip. Only 5 of these are preferred.
- The consultation does not address public transport and congestion issues across the whole region
- OSCAR concerns regarding the survey:
  - Closed question – where there is a closed question and no opportunity to expand or qualify the response but there are other questions where there is the opportunity for comment.

**Question - Will Council consider all responses, even when entered into the “wrong” place?**

- There is no mention of (comparative) costs in the survey itself.

**Question – how can the community determine which option might provide the best financial outcome?**

**Question - Will Council give the community assurance that all responses to surveys, whether using the Council’s on-line survey, paper based versions of the survey or other survey formats, will be captured – even in situations where people use an open comment box to express an opinion that is not directly sought by a specific question in the survey**

# ISSUES & QUESTIONS OSCAR HAS RELATED TO MT PROJECT

- What is the real driver for this project?
- Who will be the beneficiaries of this project?
- What is there in this project to benefit:
  - hinterland residents
  - residents north of the Maroochy River
  - travel to the airport
  - Aura residents
- If densification is a key driver – why hasn't SCRC given details of what that will look like
- If densification of the coastal corridor is a driver then has SCRC “put the cart before the horse?”
- How will the project be funded?
- How much will SCRC have to contribute to the capital cost & how will that be funded?
- How will operational costs be funded?

# What we are hearing from our member groups re their issues

- All groups – densification, who benefits, cost, impact on rates and transport levy?
- Hinterland groups – want west-east access and improved PT across the hinterland
- North of Maroochy River – nothing in it for us, no improvement to PT for far northern end
- Coastal corridor groups – why go along the coastal corridor at Alexander Headland and Mooloolaba?
- Southern groups – we don't go to Maroochydore, we are more interested in transport to the highway and railway line.
- **Question – could urban transformation as envisaged by Council in the transport corridor result in high-rise developments around light rail in the future?**

# SPECIFIC QUESTIONS TO SCRC AND THE TEAM

- **Coastal corridor densification** - If there are 16 stations in the first stage (13km), and densification occurs 400 m around stations:
- Does that mean high density will be every 400m, or in reality all the way along the 13kms?
  - Is that a radius of 400m?
  - Does that include the beachfront along the Nicklin Way route?
  - Why hasn't SCRC clarified the actual densities proposed at all locations – 8.5m to 32m?
  - If the answer is that this response is the domain of the new PS, then surely SCRC has put the “cart before the horse” and should wait until the densification process has been fully investigated and presented in detail to the community as part of Statutory consultation processes for the 2024 PS?



# SOME GENERAL QUESTIONS

- Has or when will an Environmental Impact Assessment and Statement be completed for the densification process?
- The coastal zones of the Sunshine Coast are known habitats for migratory birds, shorebirds and nesting turtles. What impact will such proposed densification have on them?
- Why is there no financial contribution to light rail expected from the private sector (ie developers)?
- What social, health and liveability research has been undertaken in relation to densification and design including private open-space, community open-space both green and communal generally and particularly under pandemic conditions?
- What reference is there in the documentation, and where, to air quality related health impacts such as small particle carbon effects on respiratory illnesses if a transport corridor canyon is created between the urban densified areas on both sides of the road - mostly caused by diesel vehicles which will probably be around for another 20 years!).
- Currently there seems to be a large political divide in relation to support for major transport concepts on the Sunshine Coast. How do you see this playing out?



**THANKYOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE OUR  
ISSUES WITH YOU.**