

# Surf Beach / Sunderland Bay Potential Road and Drainage Special Charge Scheme

Issue 4 – December 2022

This regular newsletter aims to keep all property owners and residents informed of this project as it progresses and highlight any specific issues you may need to be aware of from time to time.

We've noticed there is some misinformation about this project out in the community and we encourage you to stay informed and up to date by visiting

<https://engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/surfbeachroads>

Plus, it's easy to sign up to the page so that any time we update it, you are notified by email.

Check out the Frequently Asked Questions section to see if someone has already had the same query. If not, reach out to our contact details overleaf.

## Did you know?

Cost proportioning and individual costs per property owners will be developed and considered after the preferred concept plan is considered and adopted by Council which is scheduled for March 2023. Several options for cost proportioning must be considered to ensure costs are distributed in a fair and reasonable manner.



*Urban swale drain example at Seagrove Estate, Cowes*

## Chemical dust suppressants

Council's such as Yarra Ranges and Cardinia use a chemical dust suppressant called 'dust mag' to reduce dust. This product is designed for mining haul roads and lasts for 10-12 weeks. Property owners pay \$350 per year towards this treatment. Bass Coast Shire Council does not use this product as it can cause the roads to become very slippery after heavy rainfall. It is also not cost effective compared to sealing the roads with bitumen. The environmental effects on surrounding habitat, flora and fauna are not known. Specifically, the data safety sheet has no information on ecotoxicity and bioaccumulation and the product recommendation is to avoid discharge into water ways and drains.

## Concept options

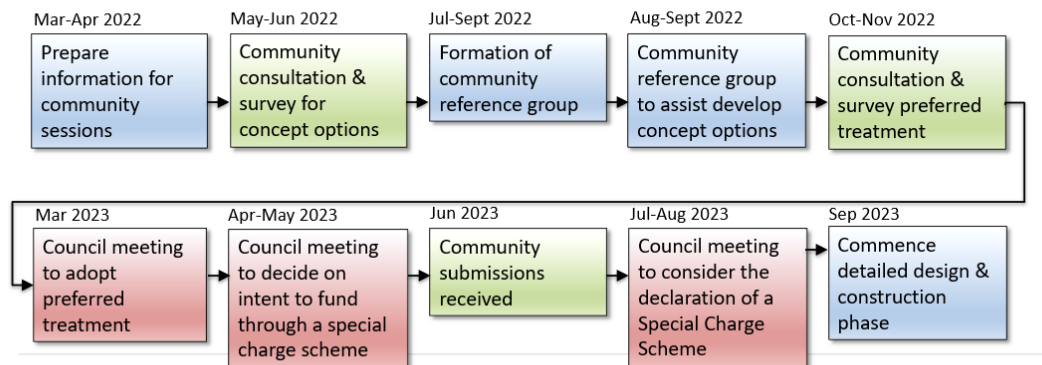
A survey requesting property owners to select their preferred concept design has been sent out this month. Surveys are required to be submitted by 21 December 2022. Three concept options have been developed based on previous feedback from property owners and the community reference group.

It is recommended that you still select a preferred option even if you are generally opposed to the scheme, as this will be the option considered by Council later next year and may eventually be constructed. Now is the time to provide feedback on your preference. Not selecting an option, leaves the option selection process up to others.

## Sunderland Bay and Surf Beach Urban Road and Drainage Improvement Project



### Planning Stage Process



Flow chart of special charge scheme planning project

### Dust concerns

Council would like to reinforce the importance of driving slowly through the estates to reduce dust for nearby property owners and also improving the safety for pedestrians that walk along the roads as there are no footpaths.

Council has now installed the temporary warning signs again in anticipation of dryer conditions when dust is more of a concern.

### Sewage overflows

Westernport Water has informed Council that the sewer system and sewer pump stations at Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay regularly overflow during relatively low storm events. Rain water enters the sewer system and overloads the pumps. This leads to health hazards and environmental issues related to sewage overflows into the residential area and also down stream wetlands. An upgraded road and drainage system will significantly reduce these sewage overflow risks.

### Financial concerns

### hardship

If the special charge scheme is approved in the future and you believe that you may have difficulty paying, please contact Council's Revenue Services team on Ph. (03) 5671 2211. Our officers are more than willing to confidentially discuss payment options with you, taking into account your current situation. Ratepayers who reside in the affected property and their only form of income is a Government pension may qualify for hardship assistance. A copy of Council's Hardship and Covid-19 Policies can be found on our website at:

<https://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/ab-out-council/strategies-and-policies/policies>

For more information on the project please visit the engagement website at:

<https://engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/surfbeachroads>

or email us at:

[sunderlandbayandsurfbeachupgrade@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:sunderlandbayandsurfbeachupgrade@basscoast.vic.gov.au)

or phone our Customer Service Team on

1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211



Reminder to slow down to reduce dust