

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

Issue 6 – March 2023

Reduction of footpaths

Council received feedback from our community to reduce or remove footpaths, in the last round of consultation. We have therefore markedly decreased their number in developing the latest concept plans.

Footpaths will now only be included on the main connecting roads of The Esplanade, Batman Street, Glen Street and Dunvegan Street. Footpath alignments have also changed to avoid and minimise impact on vegetation.

Road narrowings

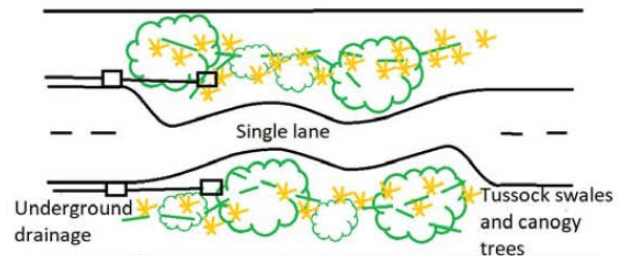
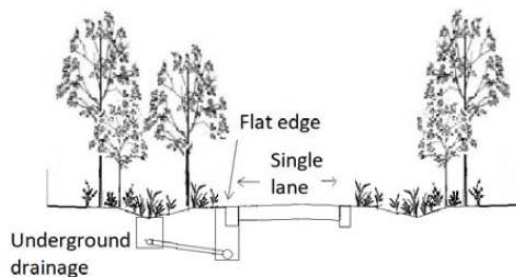
Community asked us to remove speed humps in our consultation, to retain the area's characteristics. As an alternate solution, we are considering the use of road narrowings as a traffic calming treatment.

These reduce noise for nearby properties, while also creating space for swale drains, wildlife vegetation and trees (shade). This will retain and enhance the uniqueness of the estates.



Cross section

Plan view



Road narrowing illustration, cross section and indicative layout

Fact check

This regular newsletter aims to keep all property owners and residents informed of this project as it progresses, plus highlight anything you need to be aware of.

Council are aware that there may be some misinformation circulating, potentially creating confusion and concerns. For accurate, up-to-date information please always refer to engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/surfbeachroads.

We recommend signing up to Engage Bass Coast, so that when we do update any information, you are immediately notified by email. You can also check out the Frequently Asked Questions section to see if someone has already asked the same query. If not, reach out to us at any time via the contact details shown.

Reducing dust

Temporary signs have been installed to remind motorists to slow down and reduce dust.

Driving slowly is important to reduce dust for nearby property owners, while also improving the safety of pedestrians who walk along the roads while there are currently no footpaths.



Please slow down on dusty roads

Dust suppressants

To treat dust, the most efficient, permanent treatment involves road sealing. Chemical dust suppressants such as Dust Mag are not supported by Council due to being inefficient and dangerous due to becoming very slippery during rain. They are also not a permanent solution.

Dust suppressant primer seals were trialled in 2005-07, then abandoned in 2010. In 2013 a management strategy was adopted to remove the remaining seals. Right now, neither a chemical or primer seal dust suppressant option is available.

Petition received

A petition against the Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay special charge scheme was received at February's Council meeting. As per standard procedure, this petition will lay on the table for a minimum of a month without debate. Council will respond to the petition shortly.

Council is listening

We really appreciate all your feedback through the consultations. This highlighted the need to reduce costs, avoid vegetation impacts and retain the area's unique character.

Following this, road widths in the preferred concept plans are now smaller, to be similar to those in Cape Woolamai while reducing costs and vegetation impacts.

We have also added more plantings in road narrowings, a reduction and meandering of footpaths, plus incorporated swale drains into the preferred concept plans to ensure character is retained.

Financial hardship

If the special charge scheme is approved and you are experiencing financial difficulty, please contact Council's Revenue Services team on 03 5671 2211. Our officers are available to confidentially discuss payment options with you, considering your current situation.

If your only income is a Government pension, you may qualify for hardship assistance. Please contact our Customer Services team to learn more.

Next steps

Our consultation goal was to firstly identify the road and drainage problems, then secondly develop a preferred treatment concept to permanently resolve these issues.

Our next step is to have a concept design adopted by Council. We will then work out the costs of the total project, plus a proposal on how costs will be distributed between Council and property owners through a special charge scheme. The preferred concept plans will be considered for adoption at the March meeting of Council.

For more information

Please visit our dedicated web page: <https://engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/surfbeachroads>

Email the team on: sunderlandbayandsurfbeachupgrade@basscoast.vic.gov.au

Or call customer services on: 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or 03 5671 2211