

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

Issue 8 – June 2023

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 had the same query. If not, reach out to us at any time via the contact details shown.

Individual property costs coming soon

The next step in the upgrade project is to present the estimated costs and proposed apportionment of costs between Council and the private properties within the scheme area at a Council meeting (likely August). This information to be considered will include individual property costs for each property owner.

The cost estimates have been based on the principles of the adopted concept plans, which include:

- minimal cost
- least impact on the environment and
- retaining the characteristics of the area

No proposed impact to shearwater rookeries

Concept plans have been developed on a principle of minimal impact to the existing vegetation. The majority of roads will have no impact to existing vegetation and some only minimal trimming (as required) as the roads will generally follow the existing footprint of gravel roads. In areas of shearwater rookeries, the proposed upgrades can retain works within the existing road footprint to avoid impacts to these extremely important habitats. If the project is supported, the detailed design phase will ensure there are minor adjustments as required to widths and alignments to avoid and minimise impact on existing vegetation as a priority.

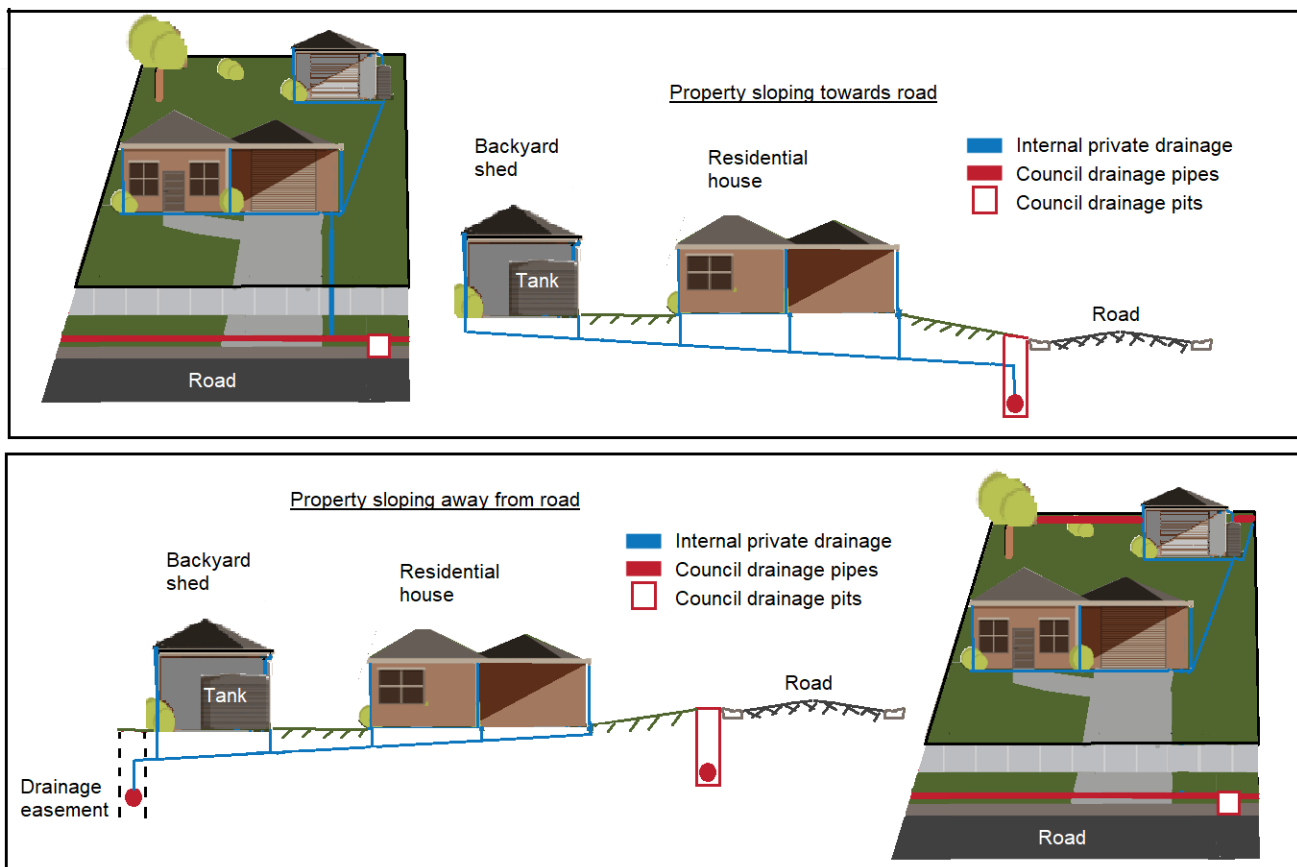
Check your Postal Address

Formal notifications of Council's intention to declare a special charge in relation to a potential road and drainage upgrade project will be sent via registered mail to property owner's postal address. Please check that your postal address is up to date so that you receive this notification in due course. To check your address listed or update it, please contact Council rates department direct on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03 5671 2211).

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.



Schematic drainage examples

House, sheds and backyard drainage included in the proposed upgrade

The drainage improvements proposed within the special charge scheme includes the ability for property owners to drain stormwater from their residential house roof, driveways, backyard sheds and other grate drains as necessary into a legal point of discharge at either the proposed roadside underground drainage or a proposed underground drain in their backyards (within a drainage easement) depending on which way their property slopes. Property owners will then be able to reduce the risk of flooding within their own properties. A sketch of how this works is shown above. Drainage works within private property (shown in blue) in the above sketches will be the responsibility of the property owners. Drainage pipes already discharging from a private property into their legal point of discharge (such as an existing road side table drain) will be connected into the new drainage pipes and included within the scheme costs.

Next steps

Our next step is present the cost estimates and cost apportionment for a funding model consideration through a special charge scheme at a future Council meeting (likely August 2023). If supported at the Council meeting, notification of the proposal will be sent to property owners postal addresses and property owners will have a minimum of 28 days to respond in support or objection to the proposal.

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