

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

Issue 9 – August 2023

## Fact check

This regular newsletter aims to keep all property owners and residents informed of this project as it progresses, and 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](https://engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/surfbeachroads).

We highly recommend signing up to Engage Bass Coast, so you are immediately notified by email when we update information. 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.

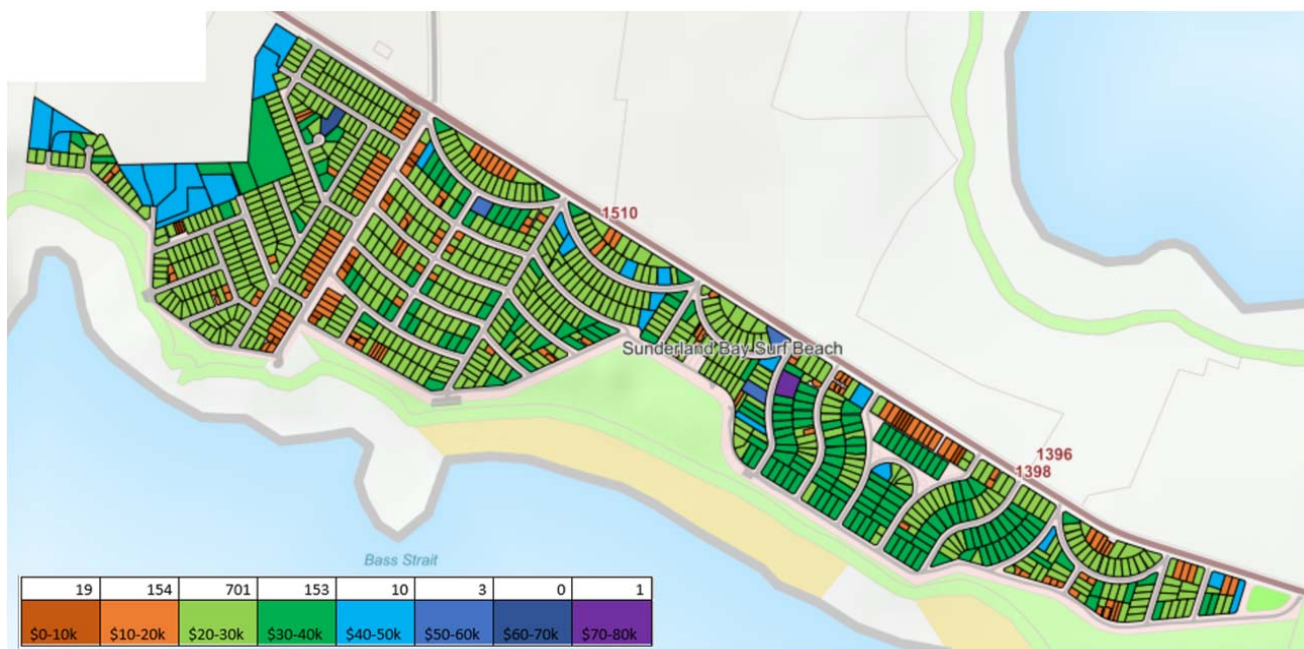
## Intent to Declare a Special Charge

At the 16 August Council Meeting, Council decided to formally start the special charge scheme for road and drainage upgrade works at Surf Beach and Sunderland Bay estates. Formally starting the declaration process of the special charge scheme does not mean it will go ahead. This process will allow residents to be informed about the costs involved if the project goes ahead, and then ascertain the level of support for the project. Letters outlining the proposed costs and further details about the next steps will be sent to all property owners in the scheme area in approximately 2 weeks time.

Once you receive the above mentioned letter from Council, please consider the information provided and then make your submission and/or objection.

## How does the Special Charge benefit property owners?

Less Flooding			Less Dust			Less Stagnant Water		
less risk of property flood damage	less risk of house foundation instability	less muddy backyards	cleaner air to breath	less dust to clean from vehicles	less dust to clean from houses	less smell	less mosquitoes and risk of diseases	less risk of children falling in drains
Improved Road Safety			Better Development Options			Improved Pedestrian Accessibility		
less risk of running off road or vehicle collisions	improved intersection priority clarity	improved surface rideability	potential for improved access points	less cost for stormwater pumps and tanks	no need for driveway crossing pipes	smoother paths to encourage active transport	connectivity to the Phillip Island Road path	connectivity to The Esplanade and beach access



Map of property costs

## Individual property costs

A map of estimated costs for each property has been uploaded to the [engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/surfbeachroads](https://engage.basscoast.vic.gov.au/surfbeachroads) website for those interested in viewing how the costs have been distributed.

## 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 the 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).

## For more information and next steps

Our next step is to notify property owners of the intent to declare a special charge and then review the feedback received from the community. Submissions and/or objections will be collated and considered at the December Council Meeting.

Please visit our dedicated web page:

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

Email the team on:

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

Or call customer services on:

1300 BCOAST (226 278) or 03 5671 2211

## Financial hardship and counselling support services

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.

If you are experiencing stress, depression, anxiety or other mental health concerns, please reach out to your local GP or support services such as:

Beyondblue [www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au)

Lifeline ph.13 11 14

Better Health [www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au](http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au)