

That Council write a letter of congratulations to the SA Rural Women's Gathering on the conduct of the event in the Alexandrina region.

Strategic Plan Impact:

ACTIVATE	Livability of Townships and Rural Areas - Visible and connected rural areas
PARTICIPATE	Self Sustaining Communities - Encourage community participation across all age groups, including sharing of intellectual assets
THRIVE	Progressive Approaches to Climate Change - Reduce vulnerability through preparing climate-suitable community buildings and assets
INNOVATE	Productive Community Assets – Expand and renew community infrastructure for economic, community and environmental benefit

Report Objective

1. To inform Council of the results of the public consultation on public lighting in Clayton Bay, which was held from 7 November to 29 November 2019.
2. To seek consent from the Council for the Administration to prepare a Public Lighting Plan which addresses the potential for lighting the road reserve to Australian Standards and the low light ambitions of the community.

Executive Summary

At the Council meeting on 21 October 2019 a report was presented that summarised the unique situation occurring in Clayton Bay where public street lighting had been installed as part of land development but has been subsequently switched-off.

It was resolved at the Council meeting on 21 October 2019 that formal community consultation with Clayton Bay residents would occur and for the Administration to continue investigations into technical solutions that address the current level of low lighting - that does not comply with the Australian Standards.

The consultation included an online survey which detailed the individual preference for lighting in Clayton Bay on a scale of Strongly Agree to Strong Disagree, as well as opportunities to submit anecdotal reasoning for their opinions. Dark Sky Accreditation was also put forward as an option for Council to pursue.

There is significant and clear opposition to lighting in Clayton Bay detailed in the responses with the overwhelming majority strongly opposing any lighting increase.

Recommendation

1. That Council receives and acknowledges the report and the findings from the public consultation.
2. That Council grants the Administration consent to prepare a Public Lighting Plan for Clayton Bay which addresses the potential for lighting the road reserve to Australian Standards (AS1158:2005) and the low light ambitions of the community.

Context

Previous reports to Council have addressed key decisions and events surrounding public lighting provision and use in Clayton Bay. The Council reports that address Clayton Bay can be found per the following dates:

- 21 October 2019;
- 3 December 2007;
- 18 June 2007;
- 5 March 2007; and
- 18 December 2006.

The Council report on 21 October 2019 summarises the street lighting history in Clayton Bay and gives further explanation of the risks and general community sentiment garnered from a public information meeting held on 7 September 2019.

A description of various legislative, industry requirements and agreements that bind Council to decisions made regarding street lighting is further addressed in the report on 21 October 2019.

At the meeting on 21 October 2019, Council moved:

1. That Council grants the Administration consent to undertake consultation with the Clayton Bay community to ascertain the level of community sentiment for public lighting, and determine the anecdotal reasoning behind the community concerns.

And

- 2.(b) That Council instruct SA Power Networks to retain the current level of lighting with the knowledge that it does not meet Australian Standard AS1158, while Council Staff continue to investigate technical solutions that embrace the low light ambitions of the community, where practical.

Public consultation commenced on Thursday 7 November and was concluded at 5.00pm on Friday 29 November 2019. Prior to completing the survey recipients were prompted to consider key issues including:

- Light pollution affecting astronomy activities;

- Lighting impacts on the native flora and fauna;
- Safety for pedestrians; and
- Safety for homes and property.

The overall level of community sentiment has now been captured as well as details raised by the community both for and against public lighting.

REFER ATTACHMENT Item 8.1 – Consultation Summary Report (page 57)

General Analysis

During the consultation period, letters were mailed to Clayton Bay residents inviting them to participate in a survey by responding via the My Say webpage, via written submissions or alternatively over the phone. A breakdown of the data is as follows:

- Total submissions in all formats = 127
- Do you agree or disagree with lighting the road reserve in Clayton Bay?
 - 84% of responses disagree or strongly disagree with lighting the road reserve in Clayton Bay;
 - 13% agree or strongly agree with lighting the road reserve in Clayton Bay; and
 - 2% remain neutral on lighting the road reserve in Clayton Bay.
- From the responses 83.3% indicated that their residential suburb was Clayton Bay with the remainder from outside Clayton Bay
- Do you think Dark Sky Association Accreditation should be a goal Council could pursue (which may include the installation of appropriate LED lighting to Australian Standards)?
 - 66% Yes;
 - 20% No; and
 - 13% Not sure.

Within the responses, there were a number of themes that were consistent within the various groups. In opposition the themes included:

- Views that all artificial light should be considered pollution;
- Preferences for minimal impact on the natural landscape;
- There is minimal traffic at night time - lighting seen as wasteful;
- Minimal lighting is a point of difference for Clayton Bay;
- Perception of negative impacts on wildlife; and
- Limits ability to observe the night sky.

In favour of lighting, the main themes were:

- Perception of an improvement in safety for property as well as a reduction in crime;
- Perceptions of an improvement in pedestrian safety;
- Desire to be able to walk around the neighbourhood at night time; and
- Limits on social and economic activity at night.

An overwhelming voice from Clayton Bay land owners strongly disagree with lighting the road reserve and a dominant portion suggest that International Dark Sky Association Accreditation should be a goal for Council

Approximately 25% of Clayton Bay land owners have Clayton Bay as their primary address. This tells us that a significant proportion of the community travel to Clayton Bay specifically for recreation and leisure. This ought to be considered should Council grant consent for the Administration to prepare a Public Lighting Plan.

Once a Public Lighting Plan has been developed by the Administration, a subsequent report seeking consent for community consultation on the details of the plan will be undertaken and presented to Council for consideration. This report will include the method and steps required to ensure satisfactory levels of engagement.

Should Council grant consent for the Public Lighting Plan consultation, a report will be written detailing those findings and the impacts on the implementation of the Public Lighting Plan. This report will also include an option to implement the Public Lighting Plan.

This process has been designed to ensure any recommended changes are done with and for the community while also ensuring the inherent risks of not lighting the road to AS1158 are mitigated for Council.

Comparative Analysis

River Murray International Dark Sky Reserve received accreditation in early November 2019 and has become Australia's first official International Dark Sky Reserve. Strict policy controls the type of lights used on private property and in road reserve and parks and gardens. Mid-Murray Council have prepared a Light Management Plan to allow the transition of all outdoor lighting to become compliant to the criteria of the International Dark Sky Association.

It is understood that the Mid-Murray Council is working with Planning SA to integrate Dark Sky Lighting Policy into their Development Plan.

Other Dark Sky areas have been declared recently in Australia. These include the Warrumbungle National Park in central western NSW that became Australia's first Dark Sky Park in 2016. Winton in Central West Queensland became Australia's first Dark Sky Sanctuary.

Informal discussions with staff from Mid-Murray Council has indicated that specific and appropriate street lighting can be incorporated into road reserve lighting that meets the criteria of the International Dark Sky Accreditation. Should Council wish to consider dedicating the Clayton Bay area as a Dark Sky Sanctuary, this can be investigated further and presented in a subsequent report to Council.

Financial and Economic Implications

Costs associated with achieving accreditation by the International Dark Sky Association are currently not established.

To achieve accreditation by the International Dark Sky Association, there will be requirements of staff time to implement policy change as well as considerations regarding adjustments to road lighting infrastructure.

Should Council grant consent for the Administration to prepare a Public Lighting Plan, the costs of increasing service levels with specialised technology as part of that process, will be presented at that time.

Likewise, any increase in insurances premiums or risk profile will also be presented once the Public Lighting Plan has been finalised.

Risk Management

According to the direction of Council from the 21 October 2019 meeting, the current level of street lighting in the road reserve has not changed and it continues to not meet Australian Standards AS1158. The risk and legal advice presented at the 21 October 2019 remains the same.

8.2 Ratalang Basham Beach and Horseshoe Bay Advisory Committee Minutes - 15 August 2019

File Ref: 9.24.003

Responsible Officer: Simon Grenfell (General Manager Environment)

Report Author: Simon Grenfell (General Manager Environment)

Elected Member Reps: Cr Bronwyn Lewis, Cr Michael Scott

Report Objective

To receive the Minutes of the Ratalang Basham Beach and Horseshoe Bay Advisory Committee meeting held on 15 August 2019.

REFER ATTACHMENT 8.2 (page 63)

Discussion

Highlights of the 15 August 2019 meeting include: