

BYRON FORESHORE

BYRON FORESHORE LANDSCAPE CONCEPT *SHORT VERSION*

Prepared by Plummer & Smith Pty Ltd
with Byron Shire Council

Byron Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Aboriginal Custodians and recognises the continuing connection to lands, waters and country.

We recognise and respect the Bundjalung of Byron Bay-Arakwal and the Widjabul Wia-bul Peoples' native title interests within the Shire.

Byron Shire Council also acknowledges the Tweed Byron, Jali and Ngulingah Local Aboriginal Land Councils, under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act NSW 1983.



Authorship
Plummer and Smith
PO Box 204
Murwillumbah NSW 2484
www.plummerandsmith.com.au



Council Contact
Byron Shire Council
70 Station Street
Mullumbimby NSW 2482
02 6626 7000

Introduction

Cavanbah (Byron Bay) has a cultural history as a meeting place, with people drawn to the environment, the community and the lifestyle.

The Byron foreshore is one of the community's most beloved places, as well as attracting a huge amount of visitors every year. One of Australia's most iconic locations, it is also under the strain of ever increasing use and environmental impacts, with aging and degraded infrastructure.

This plan aims to create a space that addresses these challenges, while retaining the local rituals and rhythms out of our place and celebrating its natural beauty. The design proposes a space where everyone is safe and welcome, a canvas on which the community can tell its stories and show its creativity through future play and art elements.

In this concept we want to create space for people to linger, inspire the investment in infrastructure that Byron Bay requires, and provide for the future needs of the community and the environment.

The following document provides landscape proposals and management strategies for the Byron Bay foreshore. The foreshore zone investigated for this projects includes:

- Main Beach car park;
- Apex Park;
- Denning Park; and
- Clarkes Beach

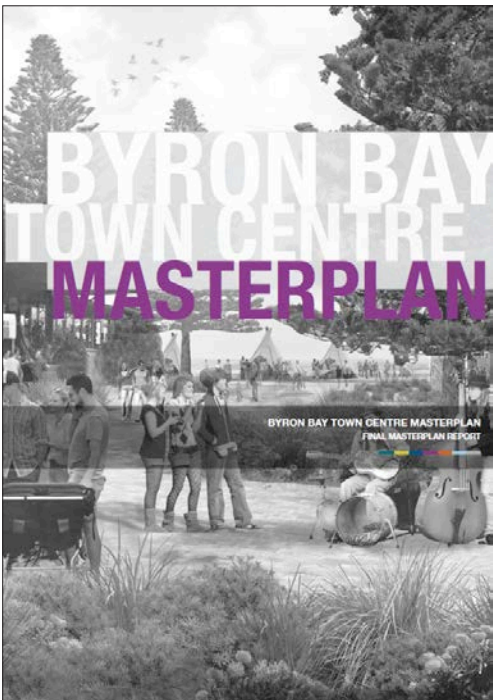
The Landscape Concept integrates cultural, historical, community, and environmental considerations. By leveraging the insights gained from background documents, site analysis, and community/stakeholder engagement, the proposed design seeks to create a vibrant and sustainable public space that honors the past while embracing the future.

This concept plan is designed to provide an overarching vision for the foreshore, which can be delivered in stages over the next 5 – 10 years. After the community provides their comments and feedback, Council will revise the concepts for final adoption, and then move on to detailed design for early stage works which will be focussed on new amenities, play elements and opportunities for art and culture.

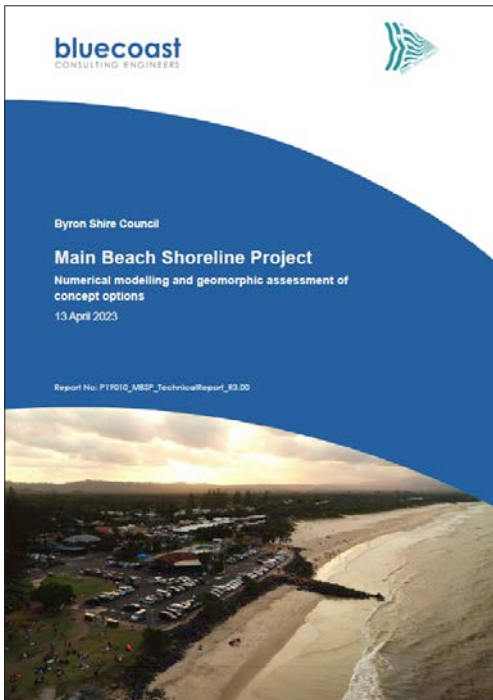
Supporting Documents

There are existing planning and strategy documents that form part of the supporting material for this Landscape Concept, including:

Byron Bay Town Centre Masterplan
by McGregor Coxall



The Main Beach Shoreline Project
by BlueCoast Consulting Engineers



This document provides a high level overview of the foreshore concept plans for a quick and easy summary. The full package covers the project objectives, site analysis, materials palette and other background details more extensively, for those wanting to delve further into the why of this project.

Culture & History

Bundjalung of Byron Bay Arakwal People are the traditional owners of Cavanbah (Byron Bay) and have lived in the coastal landscape around Cavanbah for at least 22,000 years.

Cavanbah has always been an important meeting place for Arakwal People and the People of the Bundjalung Nation.

Native Title Rights

Native Title is the recognition in law of traditional owners' rights and interests in land and waters according to their own traditional laws and customs.

Bundjalung of Byron Bay Aboriginal Corporation hold Native Title rights and interests on behalf of the Arakwal People of certain lands and waters in and around Cavanbah (Byron Bay).

Nguthungulli (Julian Rocks)

Nguthungulli, said to be the Father of the World, is a significant and sacred Aboriginal site associated with several dreaming stories.

Walgun (Cape Byron)

Walgun, meaning shoulder of the creator in the Bundjalung language, is the Australian mainland's most easterly point and is significant to the Arakwal and other Bundjalung People as a place for gatherings and ceremonial practices.

Cavanbah (Byron Bay)

Cavanbah means meeting place in the Bundjalung language, which speaks to its importance to Arakwal and other Bundjalung People.

Totems

Totems connect Arakwal and other Bundjalung people to Country, each other, and to culture.

Some totems Arakwal share as messengers to introduce culture and explore Country, including:

- Kabul (Carpet Snake);
- Wajung (Dolphin);
- Miwing (Sea Eagle);
- Wollum (Brush Turkey);
- Bijahlin (Pied Oystercatcher); and
- Binguing (Turtle)

Arakwal and Bundjalung Culture

Arakwal invite everyone to come and learn about their Culture. Arakwal say it helps to look and listen with hearts as well as heads to experience their way of sharing knowledge and to better understand who Arakwal are and how they connect to Country.

Maintaining cultural traditions and looking after Country are important for Arakwal and other Bundjalung People's identity and well-being and it shows respect to ancestors.

This project will identify opportunities for Aboriginal cultural education, protection and celebration.

Key Issues

Foreshore Car Parking




The intention is that there is no net loss of parking, irrespective of which option is chosen



Main Beach Carparking Options

The proposal includes 2 options for the Main Beach car park:

- **Option 1**- retains ocean front parking while providing open space and access improvements. There would be a reduction of approximately 20 car parks in this option – these would be relocated to Bay St and Lawson St
- **Option 2**- removes 80+ car parks from the beach front and relocates them to a proposed new multi-story car park to be constructed behind the pool. The beachfront will become an extensive ocean-front green space. Allowance will be made for a drop off zone and priority parking areas for accessible carparks.

-  Existing car park with 86 car and 13 motorbike spaces
-  Lawson Street North carpark developed into a multistorey carpark
-  Re-orienting existing parking on the north side of Lawson Street to be investigated for increased parking yield
-  Consider increases in accessible parking spaces and parking spaces prioritising pram users and the elderly

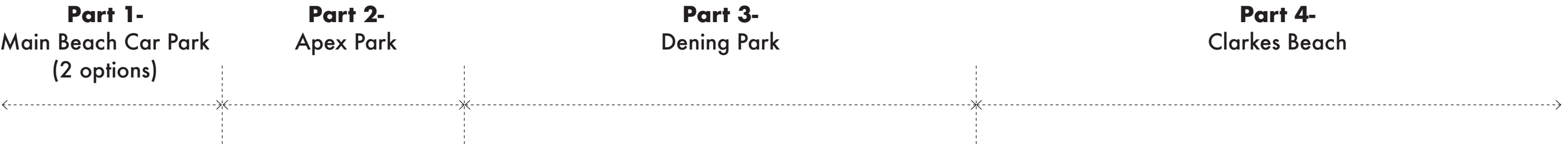
Key Issues

Coastal protection

Council's Coastal Management Program will drive the redesign and modification of the coastal protection structure (eg the removal or not of spur groynes, landward realignment or not, materials). This foreshore concept plan has been designed to the existing rockwall structure but will be updated if required once the preferred design option for coastal protection has been determined



Proposal- Foreshore Key Plan- the parts



Part 1- Main Beach Car Park Option 1

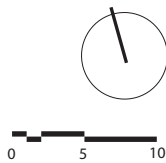
ocean front car parking retained
but reduced and open space
extended



NOTES

- 1. Beach access (emergency vehicle)
- 2. Beach access path
- 3. Sunset / The Wreck viewing deck
- 4. Car park- redesigned to enable accessible promenade path and viewing decks and open space upgrades and extensions- minor reduction in numbers to be offset elsewhere in town centre / foreshore zone
- 5. Foreshore promenade path
- 6. New trees
- 7. Viewing deck
- 8. Main viewing deck and beach forecourt
- 9. Beach viewing and access terraces
- 10. New direct path to beach viewing and beach access forecourt
- 11. Beach showers
- 12. Accessible beach access path
- 13. Pedestrian entry space including feature paving, seating, natural shade and bike racks
- 14. Open space areas with views
- 15. Bus lay-by and 'drop and go'

- New trees
- Existing trees
- Grass open space areas
- Feature paving
- Planting



Part 1- Main Beach Car Park Option 1

Main Beach Car Park Option 1- indicative perspective

view showing a redesigned foreshore car park that allows for viable accessible paths, beach viewing and extended Apex Park open space areas



Part 1- Main Beach Car Park Option 2

ocean front car parking relocated
and open space extended



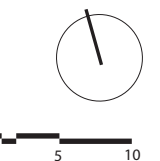
NOTES

1. Beach access (emergency vehicle)
2. Beach access path
3. Sunset / The Wreck viewing deck
4. Ocean front open space- grass and natural shade
5. Foreshore promenade path
6. Beach gathering space including beach showers, picnic tables, seating

7. Potential new accessible amenities
8. Main viewing deck and beach forecourt
9. Foreshore access spine- a combination of paved surfaces and permeable surfaces. Pedestrian access and emergency and service vehicle access
10. Permeable paving and grass
11. Beach access stairs and terraces
12. Open space areas with views

13. Construct multi-storey car park in Lawson Street North car park to service beachfront
14. Bus lay-by and 'drop and go'
15. Accessible and priority car parking spaces
16. Picnic tables, seating and natural shade
17. Accessible beach access path

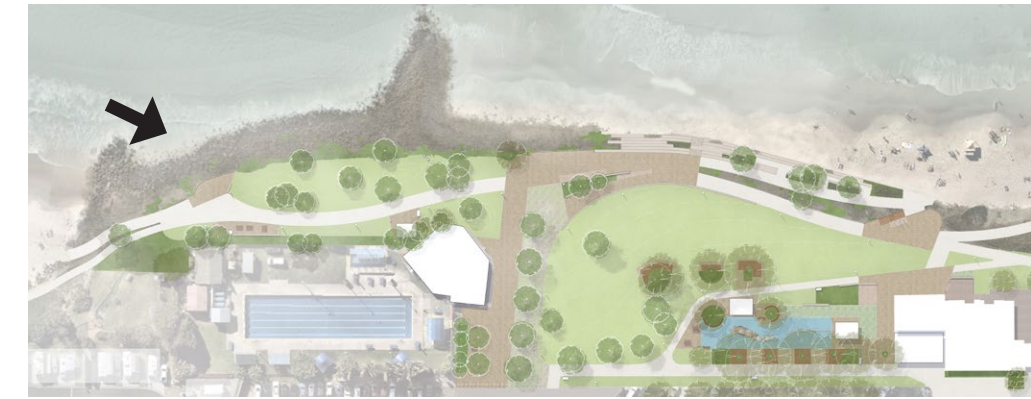
-  New trees
-  Existing trees
-  Grass open space areas
-  Feature paving
-  Planting



Part 1- Main Beach Car Park Option 2

Main Beach Car Park Option 2- indicative perspective

view showing the removal of the car park to allow for continuous and accessible ocean front public open space



Part 2- Apex Park

refer to options 1 & 2 for the Main Beach car park



NOTES

1. Pedestrian entry space including feature paving, seating, natural shade and bike racks

2. Main viewing deck and beach forecourt

3. Foreshore promenade path

4. Accessible beach access path

5. Beach viewing and access terraces

6. Bio-filtration gardens and stormwater management

7. Beach showers

8. Open space areas with views

9. Concrete paths

10. Play activity zone- play structure and swings

11. Picnic shelter

12. Seating

13. Beach / patrol viewing and access deck

14. Stair access to beach

15. SLSC beach access for vehicles

16. SLSC forecourt space

17. New amenities

18. Seating decks in shaded areas under existing trees

19. Bus lay-by and 'drop and go'

20. Accessible and priority car parking spaces

-  New trees

 Existing trees

 Grass open space areas

 Feature paving

 Planting

Part 2- Apex Park

Apex Park- indicative perspective

view showing a realigned and accessible foreshore path along the ocean front of Apex Park, a secondary path along the activity zone of the park (play and picnic shelters), a new vehicle access for the SLSC, lighting improvements, and new beach viewing deck with beach access ramp and terracing beyond



Part 2- Apex Park

Apex Park- indicative perspective

view showing the main beach forecourt area with seating, showers, and accessible paths, the beach access path and associated terracing, the extended Apex Park open space areas, and the new activity zone of the park including accessible paths, picnic facilities, seats and seating decks, and play



Part 3- Dening Park






NOTES

1. 3m wide accessible foreshore path
2. Upgraded fence to existing beach viewing area
3. New path to car parking / road edge
4. Peace Pole with potential for small paving feature to base
5. Provision of accessible picnic tables and seats

6. Improved beach access and accessible beach shower area
7. New trees to compliment existing and establish succession planting
8. Existing car park
9. Event space- open space
10. Nature play and exercise pod zone
11. Picnic and BBQ shelters

12. Existing amenities block
13. New path connecting to beach access
14. Change current parking layout to gain additional carpark spaces
15. New planting areas
16. Dune revegetation and management areas
17. Existing trees to be retained

-  New trees
-  Existing trees
-  Grass open space areas
-  Feature paving
-  Planting

Part 3- Denning Park

Denning Park- indicative perspective

view showing minor upgrades through Denning Park- path widening, minor path realignment in select locations, accessibility improvements, lighting improvements- informal, low key character retained



Part 4- Clarkes Beach



see following
page 19 for
more detail

NOTES

1. 3m wide accessible foreshore path
2. New trees to compliment existing and to establish succession planting
3. Existing trees to be retained
4. Potential kayak storage facility
5. Picnic and BBQ shelters with equitable access
6. Existing car park retained
7. Picnic zone and beach entry gathering zone
8. New amenities building
9. Upgraded and realigned path
10. Reclaimed public space resulting from relocation of Beach Café
11. Building zone for Beach Cafe
12. Change current parking layout to gain additional carpark spaces
13. Additional picnic facilities under natural shade
14. Accessible beach shower with filtration planting to manage run off
15. Dune revegetation and management areas
16. Beach shower with filtration planting

-  New trees
-  Existing trees
-  Grass open space areas
-  Feature paving
-  Planting

Part 4- Clarkes Beach

Clarkes Beach- indicative perspective

view showing the clarkes beach access zone including new amenities block, new seating and accessible beach shower, picnic facilities, lighting improvements, and paths connecting to the foreshore pathway network



Part 4- Clarkes Beach

clarkes beach car park, beach cafe and access zone



NOTES

1. Circulation paths through and to public space
2. Beach access forecourt including seating, beach shower, amenities, gathering space
3. Picnic tables, gathering spaces and circulation space
4. New amenities building
5. Existing rock seating walls retained and repurposed in park setting
6. Small open space with natural shade, ocean views
7. Fig understory area- potential for minor nature play embellishments
8. Beach viewing and cultural interpretation forecourt with potential for small events- grass areas, paved areas, seating, interpretive and information signage
9. Existing verandah repurposed as boardwalk and viewing platform
10. Dune revegetation / stabilisation
11. Indicative building zone
12. Accessible beach shower with filtration planting to manage run off
13. Existing vegetation areas

THE BEACH CAFÉ

The biggest change in this section is the relocation of the Beach Byron Bay café from its current site, and reconstruction further landward so it sits behind the 2050 coastal hazard line. Crown Lands, Council and key stakeholders have been working together on options for relocation and reconstruction of the building. The size and scale of the new building are under consideration by Crown Lands and the Beach café, and there will be further community consultation as plans progress. In the meantime, early concepts have been included in this foreshore design to:

- a. seek early community feedback on the proposal, and
- b. ensure the café relocation is considered in the broader context of the foreshore upgrades.

The area of the existing café building would be returned to open green space for community use, offering a unique ocean outlook and opportunities for small scale, bookable events such as weddings. This new public open space would include pathways connecting to the existing beach access, car park and Reflections Holiday Park.

It is proposed that the new café building would be similar in footprint to the current one, with casual, kiosk-style dining incorporated into the ground level. An additional, second storey would allow for catered functions and a more formal dining experience.

Part 4- Clarkes Beach

Clarkes Beach- indicative perspective

view showing the new beach front public space resulting from the relocation of the Beach Cafe, including picnic facilities, natural shade, circulation paths, and viewing decks

