

# MOOLOOLABA FORESHORE

*Revitalisation*

SEPTEMBER  
2023



## Mooloolaba Foreshore Revitalisation - Stage Two Update

Following the successful completion of Stage One of the Mooloolaba Foreshore Revitalisation project (the Northern Parkland), Stage Two progress is continuing.

Stage Two includes the **Central Meeting Place** which encompasses 6,500 square metres of beachfront parkland near the Brisbane Road entry point to Mooloolaba Esplanade.

As a result of extensive community engagement in 2022, the community's chosen design for the Central Meeting Place will be a place to arrive, meet, gather, celebrate and connect with nature and each other.

It features a new shaded event and meeting space, open grassed areas, a viewing deck, new beach showers and toilets (to replace the ageing Loo with a View amenities), landscaping, public artwork, a new coastal pathway, and a terraced seawall with wide steps which double as beachside seating with plants and shade trees.

A key focus of Stage Two is improving accessibility to the foreshore and beach, particularly for people using wheelchairs, mobility devices, prams and the vision impaired.

The Central Meeting Place will feature a 'Changing Places' facility for the convenience of people with high support needs and a new all-abilities access ramp to the beach.

Stage Two works will also provide enhanced protection from the future impacts of climate change for Mooloolaba's public spaces, foreshore, roads and underground services.

This project is delivering world class facilities for residents and visitors, as befitting Mooloolaba's reputation as a premier tourism destination. It is helping to ensure that Mooloolaba is 'ready' for the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, when the Sunshine Coast will host a range of events, many in close proximity to Mooloolaba.

NOW  
OPEN

MOOLOOLABA  
FORESHORE

Stage 1 - Northern  
Parkland

MOOLOOLABA  
FORESHORE

Central  
Parkland

MOOLOOLABA  
FORESHORE

Stage 2 - Central  
Meeting Place

MOOLOOLABA  
FORESHORE

Southern  
Parkland



## Protecting our community and coastline

The existing vertical seawall adjacent to the Surf Club dates back to the 1960s. Based on future climate change predictions it is unlikely that the ageing seawall will adequately protect the foreshore for the next 50-plus years, particularly if impacted by multiple extreme weather events.

Council's 2021 Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy and Shoreline Erosion Management Plan indicate that areas of the foreshore, transport infrastructure and underground services are at significant risk of rising sea levels, coastal erosion, storm surges, coastal inundation and cyclones.

In 2013 the remnants of Ex-Tropical Cyclone Oswald caused significant damage to our region's coastline due to the impacts of high rainfall, cyclonic winds, large waves and extreme sea levels.



Figure 1 Mooloolaba Surf Life Saving tower damage from Ex-Tropical Cycle Oswald in January 2013.

At Mooloolaba, significant coastal erosion was experienced impacting the existing vertical seawall, lifeguard tower and access to the Mooloolaba Surf Lifesaving Club. Emergency works were required to stabilise the site, reinstate the lifeguard tower and provide public and emergency services access back to the beach.

Now ten years later it is predicted that extreme weather events will become more frequent in our region due to climate change.

## Acting now, to benefit our future

Replacing a 290-metre-long section of the existing seawall from the Central Meeting Place south to the Surf Club forms part of Stage Two works to protect the foreshore parkland and will deliver significant cost and time efficiencies for our community as part of the foreshore's overall revitalisation.

## Federal Government funding contribution

In June 2023 Council successfully secured a \$7.95 million funding contribution from the Federal Government, through the National Emergency Management Agency Disaster Ready Fund, toward replacing the existing vertical seawall as part of Stage Two works.

This significant financial contribution will minimise the cost of construction to ratepayers while providing enhanced protection of Mooloolaba.





## Replacement seawall design



Figure 2 An artist's impression of the new terraced seawall integrated from Brisbane Road to the Surf Club, part of Stage Two – Central Meeting Place and Southern Parkland seawall.

The new seawall has been designed as wide terraced steps that will double as community seating, with no railings. Some vertical seawall elements are needed to allow ramped beach access and a viewing deck to enjoy sweeping views of the coastline.

Designed to reflect the coastal landscape, following the natural form and colours of the foreshore, the seawall will provide enhanced access to the beach including an all-abilities access ramp for people using wheelchairs, prams or mobility devices.

The wide terraced steps/seats will be the perfect place to watch the waves or attend major Mooloolaba events such as New Year's Eve celebrations, festivals, the ANZAC Day service and beach sports like volleyball and rugby.

The seawall will be further enhanced by attractive landscaping, including shade trees and revegetation of adjacent dunal areas.





## Stage Two construction timeline

Council is now calling for expressions of interest from suitably qualified, expert contractors to construct Stage Two of the foreshore's revitalisation including the Central Meeting Place and seawall replacement.

The construction methodology, including potential staging and timelines will be determined in consultation with the contractor, with early works anticipated to start next year (2024).

Council will continue to work with our community, including local businesses and tourism operators to help forward plan for future construction including communication about this world class project, and developing strategies to ensure locals and visitors continue to visit Mooloolaba during construction.

*This Mooloolaba Foreshore Revitalisation Project received funding from the Australian Government.*

## How to stay informed and register for email updates

We will continue to keep our community informed.

For more information about the project and to subscribe to Mooloolaba Foreshore Revitalisation project news and updates:

- Visit the webpage [sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/mfr](https://sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/mfr)
- [Subscribe](#) to receive email project updates
- Email the project team [mfr@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au](mailto:mfr@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au)



Figure 3 Illustrative plan, Stage Two – Central Meeting Place and Southern Parkland Seawall.