

# Casey Coastal Framwork Community Engagement Summary

**June – July 2023** 

This report was prepared for the City of Casey by Alluvium Consulting, August 2023



# City of Casey Coastal Framework

To help us prepare for changing climate conditions and increase the resilience of Casey's coastal region, the City of Casey is developing the Casey Coastal Framework. Funded through the Department of Transport and Planning's Coastal Planning Grant program, this framework will help guide how we manage and adapt to coastal hazards while maintaining and balancing our social, cultural, environmental, and economic values.

## **Engaging the Community**

Hearing from the Casey community is an essential part of the development of the Coastal Framework. From 8 June to 13 July 2023, we heard from 197 community members through a range of online and in-person activities. We thank those who took the time to speak to us and submit feedback online.

These activities included:

An online survey

An interactive map

Opportunities to submit photographs of key locations

5 pop-up sessions

2 community meetings

Pop-up sessions and community meetings took place in various locations along Casey's coast including Tooradin, Warneet, Blind Bight, Cannons Creek, and Pearcedale. This included a stall at Tooradin Community Market (pictured).

Over 130 community members attended these in-person sessions and provided feedback.

The consultation was promoted via print and online news, social media, and by direct mail to 1587 coastal residents.

566 members of the community visited the Casey Conversations webpage and provided:

- 25 survey submissions.
- 36 comments pinned to the interactive map.

6 submissions were also received via email.

The survey asked respondents to share their favourite place along the Casey coastline, describe it using five words, recount their experiences of coastal hazards within Casey, and share their vision for the future of Casey's marine and coastal areas.

Figure 1: Pop-up session at Tooradin Community Market, Saturday 18 June 2023.



Figure 2: Interactive map tool used on Casey Conversations webpage.



The map allowed participants to drop a pin and share:

- What they love about Casey's coastline
- Hazards/challenges facing the coast
- Ideas for the future

The range of online and in-person activities allowed us to appreciate some of the highly valued areas of Casey's coast and understand the range of the management changes the community would like to see.

# What participants told us

## **Appreciation of Casey's Coastline**

Casey's coastal communities of Blind Bight, Cannons Creek, Rutherford Inlet, and Tooradin were frequently referred to in the survey.

Through the five-word survey descriptions, the community expressed love and appreciation for the natural and serene areas, emphasising the environment within it, and the opportunities it provides for family and lifestyle.

Out of the 24 descriptions provided, almost half of the respondents used the word "peaceful" to describe the region, and over one quarter mentioned the wildlife.



#### Identifying key values and themes

Key themes expressed across all in-person and online activities related to community identity, the environment, and infrastructure.

Summarised below are the key values and concerns:



## **Embracing and protecting the environment**

- Educational opportunities for the public on Casey's environment, particularly mangroves.
- Stronger regulations on land use and future developments.
- Protection and enhancement of native vegetation.



## **Community character**

- Preserving the tranquility and peacefulness of the surrounds.
- Community involvement in maintenance and development.



#### Suitable and well-maintained infrastructure

- Improved connectivity of boardwalks and coastal trails.
- · Realiable access.
- Well-maintained facilities and infrastructure, such as jetties and boat ramps.

#### Vision for the future

The in-person and online activities provided opportunity for the community to express what they want to see for the future management of Casey's coastline.

These have been split into three main categories and summarised below:



## Planning and development

- · Less subdivisions and development.
- Stricter rules on construction and new developments to protect the environment.

#### Public facilities and infrastructure

- Improved park maintenance.
- · Constuction of new restaurants and shopping centres.
- Improved walkways, boardwalks and connectivity around town.
- Fixing and/or building new jetties.





#### **Environmental value**

- Improved drainage to prevent mosquitos.
- Create an Eco-Education Centre and deliver workshops educating the community and visitors about the environment.
- More native vegetation planting and weed control.

# What happens next?

Community feedback will be considered as part of the development of the draft Coastal Framework, alongside technical assessment of coastal hazards and risk.

We will have more information on local coastal hazards and adaptation planning to share and discuss during a second phase of community consultation later in the year. The draft Coastal Framework will also be available for community feedback.

Please click the green '+ Follow' on the Casey Conversations page to receive updates about this project.