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Our Reference: Prop No. 220902

28 July 2020

George Harris
President
Caloundra RSL Sub Branch Inc.
19 West Terrace
Caloundra QLD 4551

Via email: sub.president@caloundra.com.au

Dear Mr Harris

PETITION – RESUMPTION OF PART OF BOB MCINNES WAR MEMORIAL GARDEN

Thank you for your petition which was received by Council on 12 June 2020. Councillor Terry Landsberg tabled your petition at the Ordinary Meeting on 25 June 2020 with the following resolution:

“That Council resolve the petition tabled by Councillor T Landsberg relating to the Caloundra RSL Memorial Garden be received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer to determine appropriate action”.

Council respectfully acknowledges the importance of the Caloundra RSL Memorial Garden and over the last six months has undertaken further work on the design. As a direct result of community feedback, Council has revised the road concept plans to reduce the required land from a width of 7.5 metres to a reduction to 2.5 metres at the southern end, limited to 3.0 metres maximum through the Memorial Garden proper, and then tapering to under 4.0 metres at the northern end, which together ensure the RAAF Helicopter, flagpole and the two Bofors guns remain undisturbed, resulting overall in a greatly reduced impact on the Memorial Garden.

In regard to the Memorial Garden land requirement, some relocation of vegetation and soil will be required. The manner in which this work will be carried out would be a result of consultation by Council's project delivery team with the Caloundra RSL to ensure this is handled sensitively, with costs met by Council.

Council acknowledges the request to consider alternative routes that were identified in the Caloundra Area Transport Study. The study included community consultation and engagement on potential transport options, including upgrading Oval Avenue and Third Avenue.

The Oval Avenue and Third Avenue alignment was determined to be the best route to address current traffic congestion, improve multi-modal access and service future development. Other routes such as Arthur Street did not service the allowable uplift in development and would still require upgrades to Oval Avenue and Third Avenue, requiring transport upgrades and associated land requirements on both the Arthur Street route and the Oval Avenue and Third Avenue route.

The current revised design minimises impacts to the RSL Memorial Garden whilst fulfilling the project's overall objective to improve transport access into Caloundra for public transport, cyclists, pedestrians and motorists. Without these works, travel speeds and traffic congestion in Caloundra will continue to worsen, bringing with it decreased economic activity and reduced job creation.

As the lead petitioner, it would be appreciated if you could please advise your fellow petitioners of Council's response.

Thank you for bringing these concerns to Council.

Yours sincerely



Nick Cooney
Manager, Transport and Infrastructure Planning

cc: Councillor Terry Landsberg, Division 2