



MEDIA RELEASE

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Marieville Esplanade Coastal Conversations

As part of the Marieville Esplanade Coastal Adaptation Project, the City of Hobart is inviting the community to drop-in for a 'coastal conversation' this Thursday and Friday at the Derwent Sailing Squadron in Marieville Esplanade.

The Lord Mayor of Hobart, Alderman Sue Hickey said: "The 'informal' conversation is comprised of a series of maps and images of the area's values, features and coastal hazards to enable 'local' conversations.

"We are interested to learn what the community value about the area and changes that they have observed, as well as share with them information on climate hazards," said the Lord Mayor.

The project combines the principles and pathway options used for the Tasmanian Climate Coastal Adaptation Pathways, an initiative of the Tasmanian Climate Change Office and SGS Economics and Planning, along with the approach developed by Climate Planning in the Kingston Beach Integrated Climate Change and Natural Hazards Project.

Alderman Hickey said that the Marieville Esplanade area is identified as being vulnerable to the impacts of coastal hazards of storm-tide inundation and coastal erosion.

"We have engaged Climate Planning to undertake a conversation with the community so that we are better informed when considering any responses that may be required to manage these impacts," Ald Hickey said.

The Chairman of the Council's City Planning Committee, Alderman Jeff Briscoe said the aim of the sessions is to share knowledge, values and experiences of the Marieville Esplanade area and to learn more about the local coastal climate hazards, what is and isn't at risk and the range of responses that can be used to manage coastal impacts.

"This is an important project and through the Tasmanian Government's coastal hazard mapping, we know that this area is currently vulnerable to coastal inundation and flooding that will be made worse by sea level rise from climate change.

"Marieville Esplanade has significant community and private assets so we need to look at ways we can best manage and protect these assets into the future.

“Managing coastal risks is a shared responsibility between the community and local and state government but it is incumbent on governments to communicate this type of information to the community and begin to investigate ways, as a community, we can adapt to these changes and impacts.

“This project is the first step in understanding the issue and working with the community to understand how they may want to respond over time.

“More detailed work will be required on the best ways to address the coastal risks into the future, before any decisions are made on solutions,” said Ald Briscoe.

The coastal conversations are scheduled for Thursday 6 and Friday 7 April 2017 between 2pm and 7pm at the Derwent Sailing Squadron in Marieville Esplanade. Community members are encouraged to attend, no rsvp is necessary.

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For interview:

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