

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

BUSINESS PAPER

TUESDAY 9 JUNE 2015

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ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Notice is hereby given that an Environment Committee Meeting of the Council of the City of Randwick will be held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, 90 Avoca Street, Randwick on Tuesday, 9 June 2015 at 6:00pm

Committee Members: The Mayor (T Seng), Andrews, Belleli, Bowen, D'Souza, Garcia, Matson (Deputy Chairperson), Moore, Nash, Neilson, Roberts, Shurey (Chairperson), Smith, Stavrinou & Stevenson

Quorum: Eight (8) members

NOTE: At the extraordinary meeting held on 22 May 2007, the Council resolved that the Environment Committee be constituted as a committee with full delegation to determine matters on the agenda.

Apologies/Granting of Leave of Absences

Confirmation of the Minutes

Environment Committee Meeting - 12 May 2015

Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Address of Committee by Members of the Public

Privacy warning;

In respect to Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act, members of the public are advised that the proceedings of this meeting will be recorded for the purposes of clause 69 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice.

Urgent Business

Environment Report

E6/15 Beachwatch monitoring of South Maroubra Rockpool 1

Notice of Rescission Motions

Nil

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Ray Brownlee
GENERAL MANAGER

Environment Report No. E6/15



Subject: Beachwatch monitoring of South Maroubra Rockpool

Folder No: F2004/08246

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Executive Summary

Beachwatch has recently contacted Council notifying that the South Maroubra rockpool which they have been testing since December 2012 have achieved Beach Suitability Grade of 'Good' which means the location generally has good microbial water quality and is considered suitable for swimming most of the time.

Beachwatch have now offered to have the rockpool as a permanent inclusion in the Beachwatch monitoring program where it would be recognised as a site promoted by Council for swimming with Beach Suitability Grades reported in the annual State of the Beaches report.

Background

At Council's request Beachwatch has been sampling South Maroubra rockpool for the swimming seasons since the December 2012.

This sampling covered a period during which the Commonwealth contractors carried out Malabar Headland northern boundary leachate control works. These works which were carried out from February to November 2013 to capture landfill leachate leaving the headland site and diverted it to the sewer for treatment at the Malabar sewerage treatment plant. The water quality in the rockpool has generally improved since the completion of the Commonwealth's northern boundary works.

Beachwatch Results

Beachwatch water quality monitoring for the South Maroubra rockpool to date show it has a Microbial Assessment Category B which would result in a Beach Suitability Grade of 'Good' which means the location generally has good microbial water quality and is considered suitable for swimming most of the time.

However it should be recognised that the proximity of the nearby drain can result in elevated bacteria levels during wet weather with associated stormwater discharge making the site unsuitable for swimming during and for up to one day after heavy rain.

Signage and rockpool closure

In response to Council's 28 August 2012 resolution (Notley-Smith/Matson), signage was erected warning not to swim in the rock pool. This resolution item was actioned with signage, noting that 'water quality in the creek and rock pool is not suitable for swimming'.

This signage was to remain in place until additional Beachwatch testing (due mid 2014) confirmed that the water quality complies with guidelines for swimming.

Financial impact statement

There is no direct financial impact for this matter.

E6/15

Relationship to City Plan

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

Outcome: 10: A healthy environment.

Direction: 10e: A total water cycle management approach including water conservation, re-use and water quality improvements is adopted.

Conclusion

The Office of Environment and Heritage has offered to formally include the rockpool site in the Beachwatch monitoring and reporting program.

This would provide beach users with access to regular, up to date information from the Beachwatch website on water quality forecasts and reporting in this area.

This would also permit the rockpool to be reopened to swimmers with signage regarding not swimming during and following 48 hours after rain to account for any influence from Council's stormwater drain to remain in place.

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) endorse the Beachwatch offer to formally include the rockpool site in the Beachwatch monitoring and reporting program.
- b) review and upgrade south Maroubra beach signage in accordance with this resolution.

Attachment/s:

1. Attachment to April 2015 Beachwatch Report

E6/15

JANUARY 2015 RESULTS FOR MAROUBRA SOUTH BEACHWATCH LOCATIONS

Confirmation of New Sites

Following discussions and a site visit in November 2012, Beachwatch representatives from NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) confirmed three monitoring sites at south Maroubra beach. Monitoring of these sites has occurred since 7 December 2012 on a 6 day sampling cycle. A Byrne Crescent sampling location in the GPT was established in June 2014 to get a representative sample of "catchment" water quality and to ascertain whether there is any additional pollution loads between this location and the drain outlet on the beach.

Beachwatch Weekly star ratings

STARS	Enterococci (cfu/100ml)	RATING	DESCRIPTION
★★★★	<41	'Good'	Bacterial levels are safe for bathing according to National Health & Medical Research Council guidelines.
★★★	41-200	'Fair'	Bacterial levels indicate an increased risk of illness to bathers, particularly those with lower immune function such as the elderly and young children
★★	201-500	'Poor'	'Poor' and "Bad" ratings - bacterial levels indicate a substantially increased risk of illness to bathers
★	>500	'Bad'	

Results to date:

DATE	MAROUBRA SLSC	STH. MAROUBRA SLSC	ROCKPOOL	#RAINFALL 24HRS TO 9AM	#RAINFALL 48HRS TO 9AM MM
13-Dec-12	27	26	96	0	2.8
19-Dec-12	0	0	5	0	0.0
24-Dec-12	10	11	7	0	0
02-Jan-13	1	1	12	0	0
06-Jan-13	1	0	2	0	0
12-Jan-13	20	33	110	0	0
18-Jan-13	2	2	13	0	0
24-Jan-13	5	28	83	0	0
30-Jan-13	11	13	100	0.6	110
05-Feb-13	0	0	630	0.0	1.0
11-Feb-13	4	30	79	8.0	0
17-Feb-13	6	1	480	13.6	1.0
23-Feb-13	60	92	570	7.2	0
1-March-13	10	450	22	28.6	0
7-March-13	1	13	69	0	0
13-March-13	4	2	5	0	0
19-March-13	0	21	16	0	0
25-March-13	33	17	37	0	0.0
2-April-13	16	0	38	0	4.6
6-April-13	46	16	69	12.6	21.4
12-April-13	3	2	18	0	0
18-April-13	8	8	13	7.8	1.6
24-April -13	0	6	16	0	0.0
1-May -13	3	0	10	0	0
16-Sept-13	130	2	8	1.8	1.2
22-Sept-13	7	4	1	0	0
28-Sept-13	1	3	3	0	0
04-Oct-13	0	1	1	3.0	0
12-Oct-13	2	0	7	0	0
20-Oct-13	0	1	12	0	0
28-Oct-13	36	120	210	33.8	0
5-Nov-13	3	0	25	0	0
13-Nov-13	0	0	3	8.8	8.0
21-Nov-13	3	20	2	0.0	0.0
29-Nov-13	11	5	90	ND	ND
7-Dec-13	1	0	79	0.0	0.0
13-Dec-13	0	6	4	0.0	0.0
23-Dec-13	0	3	3	0.0	0.1
31-Dec-13	2100	1200	630	0.0	0.0

E6/15

E6/15

DATE	MAROUBRA SLSC	STH. MAROUBRA SLSC	ROCKPOOL	#RAINFALL 24HRS TO 9AM	#RAINFALL 48HRS TO 9AM
08-Jan-14	0	0	8	2.8	1.2
16-Jan-14	32	23	29	0.0	0.0
24-Jan-14	5	3	16	0.0	0.2
01-Feb-14	3	3	5	0.0	0.0
09-Feb-14	1	0	3	0.0	0.0
17-Feb-14	70	39	190	26.4	5.2
25-Feb-14	28	0	5	0.0	0.0
05-March-14	3	5	18	0.1	5.6
13-March-14	16	15	81	17	0
21-March-14	9	1	160	0.2	0
29-March-14	18	460	41	0.8	7.8
06-Apr-14	4	1	270	2.6	4.4
14-Apr-14	1	0	3	3.4	7.4
22-Apr-14	3	3	52	0.0	0.0
30-Apr-14	46	43	13	3.6	0.0
06-May-14	2	0	7	0.0	0.0
12-May-14	0	0	3	0.6	0
16-May-14	3	2	5	0.0	0.0
22-May-14	2	4	2	0.0	0.0
28-May-14	3	2	40	0.0	0.0
03-Jun-14	2	0	2	0.0	1.0
10-Jun-14	0	1	8	11.4	5.0
19-Jun-14	0	0	1	0.0	0.0
26-Jun-14	1	2	3	0.0	0.0
03-Jul-14	2	0	1	0.0	0.0
08-Jul-14	3	26	0	0.0	0.0
14-Jul-14	3	0	0	0.0	0.0
18-Jul-14	0	0	0	0.0	0.2
24-Jul-14	0	0	12	0.0	0.0
01-Aug-14	2	2	2	0.0	0
05-Aug-14	0	0	0	0.0	0
11-Aug-14	35	2	3	0.8	0.00
15-Aug-14	1	1	6	0	0.0
21-Aug-14	9	4	70	15.2	6.6
27-Aug-14	13	21	68	16.6	16.6
02-Sep-14	1	0	1	0.0	0.0
08-Sep-14	1	0	34	1.4	29.2
12-Sep-14	2	2	3	0.0	0.2
18-Sep-14	0	0	2	0.0	0.0
24-Sep-14	0	0	1	0.0	0.0
30-Sep-14	0	0	5	0.0	0.0
08-Oct-14	87	56	61	3.8	0.0
16-Oct-14	1	2	35	1	76
21-Oct-14	1	0	11	0.6	0.0
25-Oct-14	15	3	7	0.6	0.0
02-Nov-14	1	2	8	6	0
10-Nov-14	3	13	5	0	0
18-Nov-14	1	0	5	0	0.4
26-Nov-14	8	3	8	0	6.6
4-Dec-14	27	34	38	19.4	0.6
13-Dec-14	2	0	14	0	0
19-Dec-14	6	8	8	0	0
28-Dec-14	13	5	780	0.8	0.2
5-Jan-15	1	2	14	0	0
15-Jan-15	2	2	2	0	0.6
21-Jan-15	78	8	18	3.2	21.8
29-Jan-15	5	1	31	15.2	66.6

#Rainfall for Randwick sourced from Climate Data Online www.bom.nsw.gov.au

**Last updated:
15 April 2015**