



Wagga Wagga
City Council

Flood Futures

MINUTES: East Wagga Community Information Session

Main City and North Wagga Levee Upgrade Project- detailed design and options for North Wagga

Date: 17 March 2015

Location: Wagga Wagga Council Chambers

In attendance

6 community members

Councillors: Mayor Rod Kendall, Councillor Alan Brown, Councillor Gary Hiscock

Council Staff: Director Corporate Services Craig Richardson (Facilitator), Director Infrastructure Heinz Kausche, Director Planning and Regulatory Services Andrew Crakanthorp, Manager Engineering Alex Fenwick, Strategic Partner Corporate Strategy & Communications Brett Koschel, Community Engagement Officer Lauren Fitzgerald, Business Support Infrastructure Jessica Crawford

State Emergency Service (SES): Region Controller David Buchtman, Community Engagement Coordinator Ian Leckie

NSW Public Works: Manager Clients and Project Delivery Fred Spain

Apologies General Manager Phil Pinyon, Deputy Mayor Dallas Tout, Councillor Andrew Negline, Councillor Kerry Pascoe, Councillor Yvonne Braid, Councillor Paul Funnell, Councillor Kevin Poynter, Councillor Julian McLaren

Comments, Statements, Questions and Answers

Q. What impact does the levee upgrades have on East Wagga businesses?

RESPONSE: Upgrading the Main City Levee to a 1 in 100 year level of protection, if there was a flood the same as 2012, there would be no change to the impact. In a 1 in 100 year flood event more water stays in the floodplain, instead of flooding the city.

Q. How will the Riverina Water levee affect Marshalls Creek ?

RESPONSE: The modelling took into account current development (including Masters etc). It doesn't take into account any future developments. Council very much recognises that development is a big part of floodplain management, along with vegetation.

Q. I think you also need to look at stormwater flows

RESPONSE: Tonight only looks at riverine flooding not overland flooding. Council needs to look at how we can

model the two together.

RESIDENT COMMENT: Marshalls Creek banked up like never before. The water was sitting and very quickly became fast flowing.

RESPONSE: Noted

RESIDENT COMMENT: Council needs to really consider that this will likely happen again in the future.

RESPONSE: Noted

RESIDENT COMMENT: Recent rainfall patterns show that the rain falls in big "dumps"

RESPONSE: Noted

RESIDENT COMMENT: Council hasn't held a meeting for those most impacted, outside the levee. We want our own meeting and deserve transparency.

RESPONSE: Council has held 6 community meetings across the communities. Impacted residents can contact Council will hold 1 on 1 meetings with some land owners, and obtain further information. The FloodFutures website will also be updated with information.

Q. Where you have listed a cost of average annual damages for the do nothing approach as \$1.2M, what is that for? What is that made up of?

RESPONSE: This figure only includes property costs. Homes, sheds, carpets etc

Q. Is the financial data from the insurance companies?

RESPONSE: It's from the Australian Treasury.

RESIDENT COMMENT: I have concerns over further development in the floodplain. Mainly that it may cause the water to sit there longer and not disperse.

RESPONSE: Noted

Q. How much will the recurrent costs for maintaining the levee be? You should include it in the summary and presentations.

RESPONSE: Those details will be in the final report.

RESIDENT COMMENT: Evacuations will still be necessary in North Wagga even if houses are raised. As their will be no services like sewer, water etc.

RESPONSE: Yes that is correct. Communities that are

isolated and are without services will be required to evacuate.

Q. With the raising house option. Would you leave the levee as it is?

RESPONSE: Yes. Raising houses would provide property protection. But not protect things like sheds. Evacuations would still be required.

Q. In the voluntary purchase option – would the houses be demolished?

RESPONSE: Yes

Q. Shifting from North Wagga to East Wagga Businesses. The fact is both areas have suffered. Why are these options not being considered for East Wagga?

RESPONSE: Council asked that we look at options for North Wagga. We recognise however that there is a bigger picture, with other communities affected as well. It's a big project and we appreciate your feedback on the options and also how they might relate to other areas.

RESIDENT COMMENT: My greatest fear is future development and how this will impact water flow. There is a lot of growth in the area.

RESPONSE: Noted

Q. Will you have the survey here tonight to fill out?

RESPONSE: It will be available on the Flood Futures website on Friday.