

Port Botany CCC

Agenda

Meeting #43

Date: Tuesday 7 May 2024

Time: 5:30pm – 7:00pm

Location: Online via Zoom

Attendees	
Community Members Charles Abela (CA) Peter Fagan (PF) Patrick Medway (PM) John Burgess (JB)	NSW EPA Erin Barker (EB) (for the first 45 minutes of the meeting)
Local Government No representatives from Bayside Council in attendance.	Port Authority of NSW Nerida Green (NG)
Members of Parliament No members or representatives in attendance.	NSW Ports Jon Stewart (JSt) Jonathan Lafforgue (JL) Erika Jimenez (EJ) Bryan Beudeker (BB)
Business Representatives Wayne Gibson – DP World (WG) Karen Jones – Opal (KJ) Jennifer Stevenson – Hutchison Ports (JS) Lucy Mercer – Hutchison Ports (GP) Creagh Debrabander – Elgas (CD)	Roberta Ryan – Independent Chairperson (RR) Isa Crossland Stone – Minute taker (ICS)
	Apologies Bronwyn Englaro – Randwick City Council (BE)

Agenda Items

Commencement

1. Welcome, apologies and introductions

RR introduces herself and welcomes all attendees to the meeting.

WG introduced himself to the group; he is the new Safety, Security, and Environment manager at DP World, and entered this role 6 weeks ago. WG is looking forward to being apart of this committee going forward.

All regular attendees introduce themselves.

CD reintroduces himself to the group. He is the General Manager at Elgas and has not attended the last few meetings due to scheduling conflicts.

EJ introduces herself; she is the new Corporate Affairs Manager at NSW Ports.

RR asks for any changes in pecuniary interests amongst the group.

The minutes from the previous meeting (Meeting 42) are endorsed by JB and PF.

Matters arising

1. JB and NG to confer offline about the issues of seagrass and shore bird monitoring at the Port Authority and update the group as necessary.

JB has noted that this discussion has not occurred.

NG says that she does not have an update on this matter but can take it offline. She will schedule a time to meet with JB offline.

JB explains that there were requirements, under the approval for the port extension, that required the translocation of affected sea grasses and ultimate replanting and ongoing monitoring for health and regrowth.. This monitoring process seems to have stopped unofficially in 2022 after being extended from the original end date in 2020. There is very little sea grass left on the northern side of the bay. Monitoring of shore birds was also a condition of approval and this ceased in 2018

JB would like the Port Authority to reinstate seagrass and shore bird monitoring and to also look at funding of sea grass on the northern side of the bay. JB also mentioned that under the terms of approval for the Kamay Ferry wharves there was a requirement for sea grass planting and monitoring but it is now official that these activities will be confined to Kurnell - not Laperouse. JB is aware that the Kamay Rangers and the local Land Council did recently receive a grant from NSW Ports for conservation and restoration initiatives within Botany Bay but none of

this was committed to sea grass restoration at or around Laperouse or the northern side of the bay. He would like to see the Port Authority and or NSW Ports consider funding a sea grass restoration project and to take more responsibility for the health of the bay.

NG would like to follow up offline on the phone with JB. NG and JB will provide an update to the group on their discussions at the next meeting. ACTION.

Presentations

1. NSW Ports Bunnerong Canal Pollution Trap Initiative – BB

BB presents on the NSW Ports Bunnerong Canal Pollution Trap Initiative. BB's presentation is attached to these minutes.

JB says that in recent bad weather, along the southern side of Foreshore Road there has been major flooding in the gap between the side of the road and the bushland barrier abutting Foreshore beach. Historically, these flood waters would drain into Foreshore Beach however the increasing height of the bushland barrier along the side of the road means that the water can't flow away as easily. With heavy rain it is common for the much of the left hand lane of Foreshore Road to be under water. This is a safety concern and requires investigation for improved drainage.

BB suggests that it may become a traffic hazard and is a worthy concern. Perhaps this matter is within TfNSW's scope of responsibility. BB will try to raise it with them. ACTION.

Business Representatives Updates

1. DP World update – WG

WG says that there is initial site construction at the Block 13 development. This section will be used to store empty containers. The company is overseeing the construction closely.

The DP World was signed off on by DP World and the Union approximately 3 weeks ago. The agreement will stand for four years.

2. Patrick Terminals update – NC

NC is not in attendance to provide an update.

3. Hutchison Ports update – LM

LM says that an osprey nest has been found on a light pole at the property.

An ecologist is scheduled to come out on Thursday to assess the situation (and to see whether there are eggs in the nest) and remove it safely.

4. Qenos update – MW

MW is not in attendance to provide an update.

5. Opal – KJ

KJ says that this week they are having their annual major maintenance shut down, where they do the big jobs that they only do annually or infrequently. This shutdown occurs within a 5-day-long period.

6. Port Authority of NSW– NG

NG explains that she has been on leave, so has been a bit behind.

There has been a bereavement at the organization which has meant that she is not entirely across all updates and current works. NG will follow up internally and can circulate info to the group offline.

7. NSW Ports– JL/JST

JL says that there have not been large variations between imports and exports. The volumes at the ports have generally been steady in this quarter. Bulk liquids figures are normal for this time of year.

JL notes that there has been some protest activity at both Port Botany and Port Melbourne. Pro-Palestinian groups have been protesting against an Israeli-owned shipping line. The police have managed these protests effectively with minimal disruption to port operations.

8. Elgas– CD

CD advises that there is no update from Elgas.

Government/Community Member Updates

1. Randwick City Council update – BE

BE is an apology, and there is no update from the Randwick Council.

2. Bayside Council update – AS

As there is no one in attendance, there is no update from the Bayside Council.

3. EPA update – EB

EB has nothing particular to report on behalf of the EPA. No updates to draw attention to and have not been a significant number of complaints.

JB notes that there was a recent serious sewerage overflow at the Mill Stream. He recently became aware that Sydney Water had recently gained approval for a further 3 year extension of the license to discharge sewerage overflows into the stream. This approval was granted by DITRDCA following consultation with the EPA, Bayside Council, Sydney airport and the Port Authority. There was no community consultation - only a small notice in the Daily Telegraph.

JB and his colleague Lynda Newnam (LM) have taken up with the CEO of Sydney Water the need for the community is kept better informed in the future. JB says that Sydney Water has been responsive and positive about the community's concerns. They have said that they will endeavor to be better at community engagement in future.

EB is not aware of this matter and asks JB to forward her the information on this license and the relevant correspondences - JB says he will this post the meeting welcome a move from the EPA to take steps to end the Sydney Water overflow concession at the Mill Stream, and to find an alternative to pumping raw sewerage into Botany Bay.

EB, after reviewing the material JB forwarded her and noting the community's stance, will aim to have an update on the EPA's response to the community's requests at the next meeting. ACTION.

4. Community member updates

PF lets the group know that he is co-chair of the Bay Beach precinct. Chris Hanson is the other co-chair. PF notes that CA has stepped down from the Precinct this year after many years of service at the Precinct.

PF asks JSt for an update on the NSW Ports Community Grant Program.

JSt says that after running considerable amounts of ads for the program, they have received 170 applications and applications have now closed. They are assessing applications and will announce outcomes in June.

JB mentions the new planning requirements that will likely be imposed upon Randwick Council. If the NSW Planning policies for urban development are adopted and the residential land subdivision minimum size reduced there will be a lot of pressure for high density housing development in the area adjacent to the Port precinct. s.

JB would like to get some more information on the status of the risk management plan for the northern side of Botany Bay including the Port itself and the Port precinct. This is important to establish, given then range of risks and potential emergencies around the Ports. JB and his colleague have written to various government agencies to enquire about the status of this strategic plan.

JB says that the project at the Kamay Wharf does not seem to be progressing forwards in a linear way. The operation of a ferry service has been put on hold and the latest PR spin is that the jetties will serve as

viewing and fishing platforms and for the docking of personal watercraft. Despite input from the recreational fishing sector there are no dedicated areas for recreational fishing (out of the way of general jetty users) and no provision for those with disability. Also the height above sea level of the fixed jetties may not render them safe for use by small boats due to tidal variation. For a cost of some \$80mill it is a ridiculous spend if all we get is viewing and fishing platform which the great majority of the local community and recreational fishers never wanted. The environmental implications on fish and the marine ecosystem are concerning.

JB says that he is part of an environmental group that has put in a deepwater artificial reef between Kurnell and the southern shipping channel. The reef has been monitored and there seems to be a healthy and growing community of sea-life here (lots of marine growth, wobbegong sharks, rays, small migratory fish) and it's expanding rapidly. JB is yet to go diving there to view it himself, but it seems to be successful, and it is hoped to replicate this project at 2 other locations within the bay when the funds are available.

PF asks who funded this project.

JB says they received grants from an array of supporters.

PF asks if it was EPA approved.

JB says that it was. They had to receive approval from EPA, Port Authority, Maritime, NSW Fisheries etc.

PM asks if JB's group put an oyster bed down. JB says that this project involved oysters but not the typical shallow/ tidal water variety. There are projects under consideration for the Georges River and Ozfish is a major player in this field with numerous successful oyster reef projects up and down the coast.

JB says that the Bayside Council is trying to shut down the Muddy Creek boat ramp/boat servicing the facility near Cooks River. He was aware of plans to expand the boat jetty/marina and trailer parking facilities which were viewed favourably by Maritime. In support of its case for shutting down the Muddy Creek facility, Council has claimed it has received advice from Transport NSW that the loss of trailer parking at Muddy Creek can be offset by adding another 30 or more trailer parking spots at Foreshore Rd ramp in the area currently designated as an emergency/ evacuation zone. This is nonsense as the emergency/ evacuation area has for many years now been used as an overflow trailer parking area on busy weekends. The only way to effectively create more parking space at Foreshore Rd ramp would be to repurpose some of the adjoining bushland. He asks NG what she knows of this, since a genuine expansion does not seem likely or practically possible.

NG says that she has not heard about this, but she will check in with her team. She asks which of the Minister's advisors JB has spoken to. JB says that he is not at liberty to tell the group. She will check with the Port Authority Planning Team.

CA says that there is some disappointment from his community about the seagrass rehabilitation not being taken forward.

CA supports JB's interest in developing an emergency risk management plan. Since the opening of the Port, there has been a lot of hazardous infrastructure installed and the management planning should reflect this and should prioritise safety.

JB acknowledges that there are major infrastructural problems which have been well-recognised in the past.

There is a lot of dangerous infrastructure in the whole area, not just in the inner part of NSW Ports.

Environment Update

1. Summary of complaints and incidents – BB

BB says that in this last period, in total there were 11 complaints and 22 observations (not quite complaints) from the community, mostly about noise-related disturbance.

NSW Ports wasn't always possible to establish which ship was being problematic, but every community member who sent in an observation/complaint has been responded to.

BB recalled a very large ship on the weekend of Jan 26. The ship was scheduled to return March 1-3.

Following a review of noise data, NSW Ports understood that the ship was not consistently loud, and that it on occasion went from quiet to noisy while in port. In discussion with the ship's master, it was determined that this ship has 2 large and 2 small auxiliary engines, and that the ship was using one of the larger engines at the times that noise complaints were received.

NSW Ports notified the community of this information on the Botany & Banksmeadow Community Facebook group. The community responded very well to this communication. On the scheduled weekend, the ship ran the smaller engines, and it was demonstrated that this could avoid being disturbing. The ship operator has subsequently agreed in future to only operate the smaller quieter auxiliary engines when at Port Botany.

There were 2 Noise complaints relating to DP World, which have been addressed.

SE has offered to organise a CCC site tour at DP World, so BB will plan to help him organise one in the coming months.

Quantum had a BTX vapour release in February. The EPA is seeking information from Quantum determine what corrective actions have been taken, and NSW Ports has been requested by the EPA to provide what information it has on the event.

EB notes that the EPA is investigating this. They did issue a Clean-Up Notice and there is an active investigation in place currently.

BB notes that there was a dichloroethylene chemical leak at the Australian Border Force facility in April. It was contained within the site, and was no threat to the community. This is being investigated internally by Border Force.

Other Business

There is no other business.

Next Meeting

RR says that she and ICS will liaise with JST about the next meeting date. ACTION.

Date: TBD

Time: 5:30pm – 7:00pm

Location: Online via Zoom

Presentation to

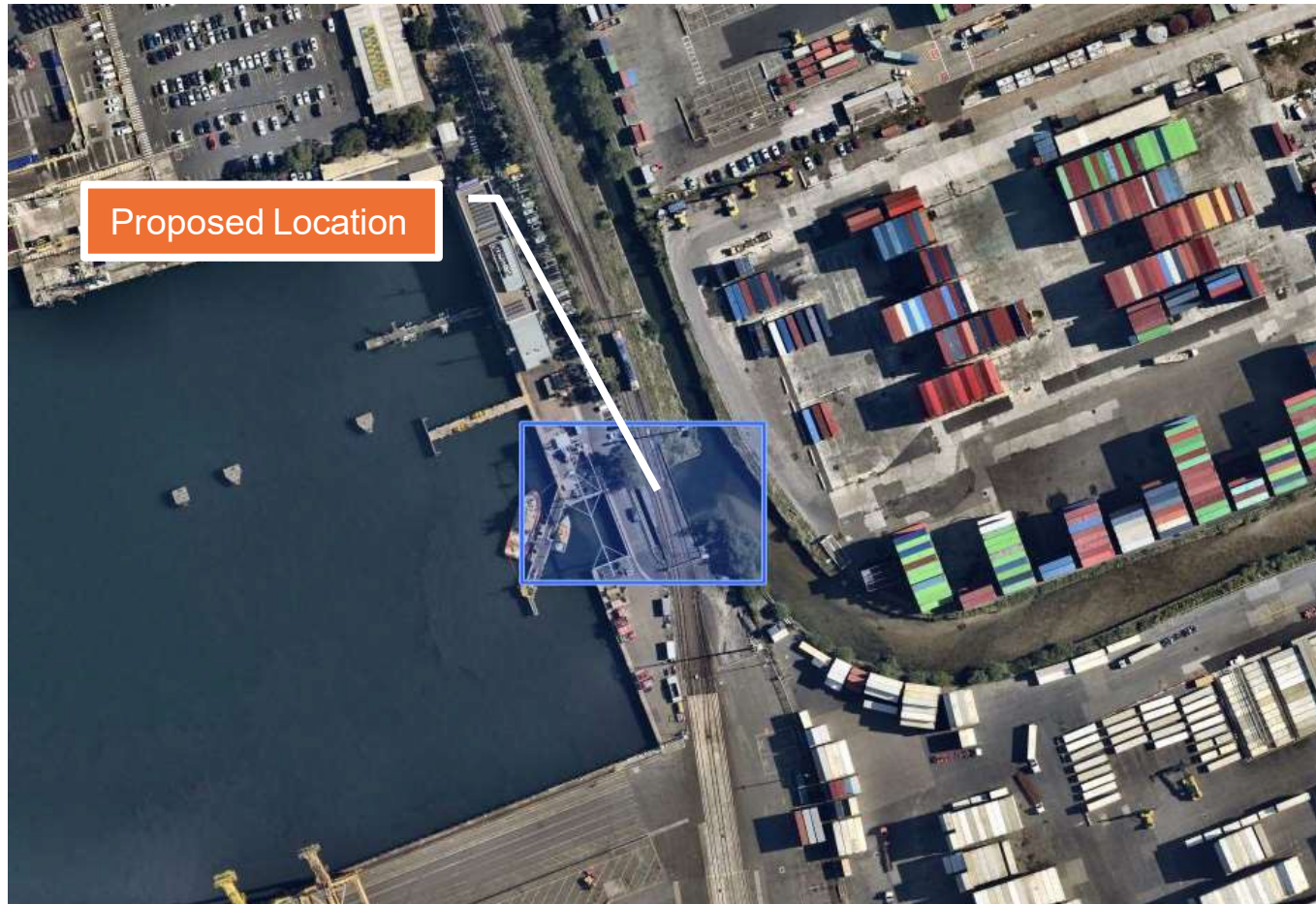
Port Botany CCC

7 May 2024



nswPorts

NSW Ports committed to installing a Floating Litter Trap at Bunnerong Canal, Port Botany



NSW Ports voluntary initiative to remove rubbish entering Botany Bay from upstream suburban stormwater catchment



System Example: Cooks River Litter Boom

- Capture Capacity: 15-18m³/week
- Historically:
 - Removed 435 m³ in one year
 - Averages 8.4 m³/week
 - Reports average 85% leaf litter and 15% litter/rubbish
 - Servicing
 - Service Frequency: Weekly
 - Service takes approximately 3 hours to empty



Cooks River Litter Booms

Canterbury-Bankstown has partnered with Sydney Water to reduce floating litter on the Cooks River. Three litter boom and traps have been installed at Croydon Park, Boat Harbour in Hurlstone Park and another at Fifth Avenue, Campsie. The traps capture floating litter, which is directed into the trap by the boom and assisted by the outgoing tide.

Boom & Trap

The litter boom and trap have been installed to capture floating litter, which has been blown or washed from discarded rubbish from our streets and riverside parks. The boom has a floating trap, which provides ease of access for maintenance and regular cleaning. The boom is made of polyethylene, have submerged skirts protruding into the water that deflect floating debris into the collection chamber with the outgoing tide. The one way gate at the opening of the collection prevents the escape of trapped debris. The trap is inspected and serviced weekly to remove the litter.

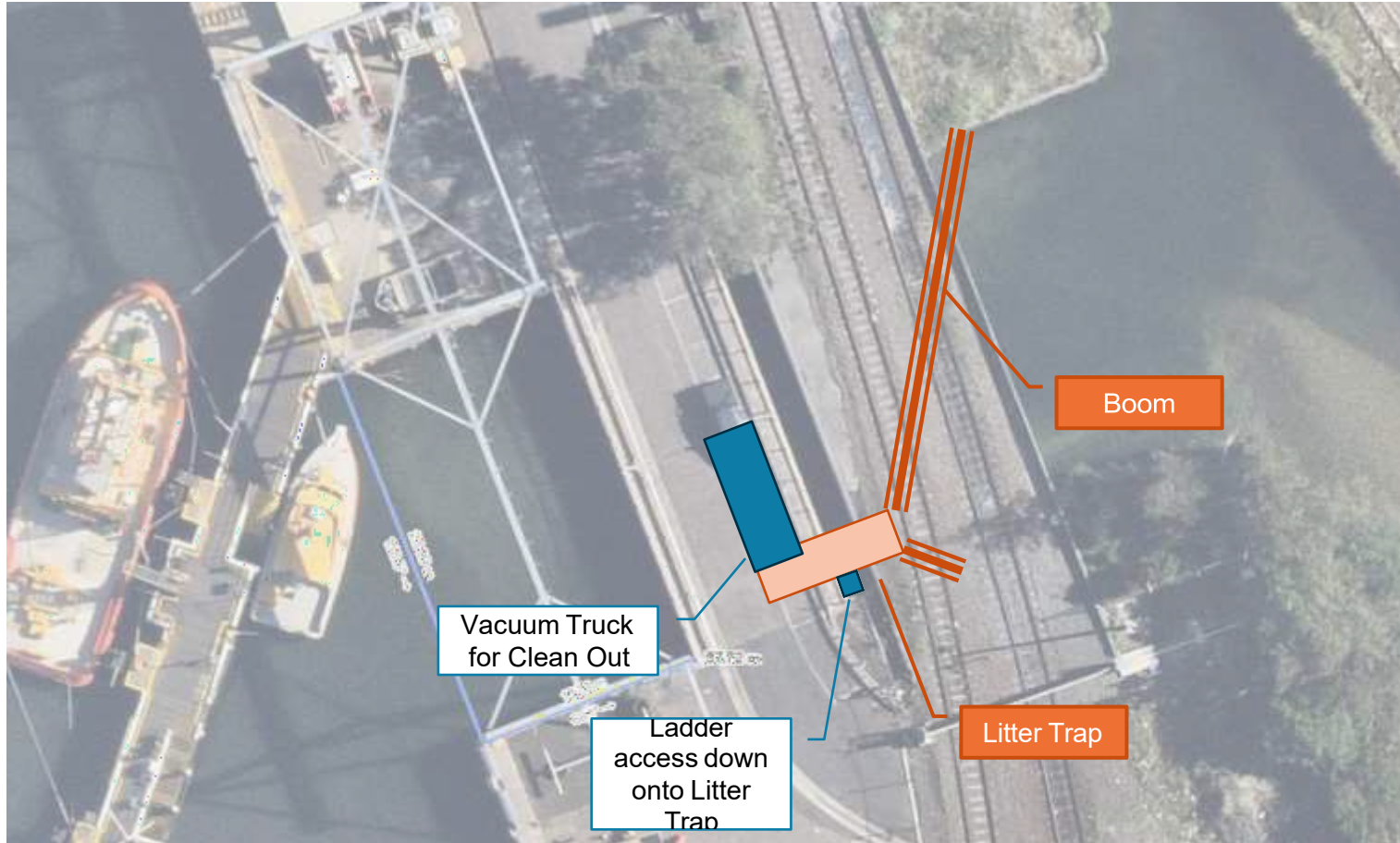
The booms can capture as much 15 - 18 cubic meters of litter per week. In one year the Boat Harbour boom has removed 435 cubic meters of litter from the Cooks River. This is equal to 1,612 large wheele bins. On average 85% is leaf litter and the remaining 15% is plastics and other rubbish.

The litter booms are emptied on a weekly basis and takes approximately 3 hours to empty. If you notice anything that may be broken or jammed in the traps please let council know on 9707 9000 or email: council@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au.

Please help to keep the Cooks River clean by taking your rubbish home with you or putting it in the bin.

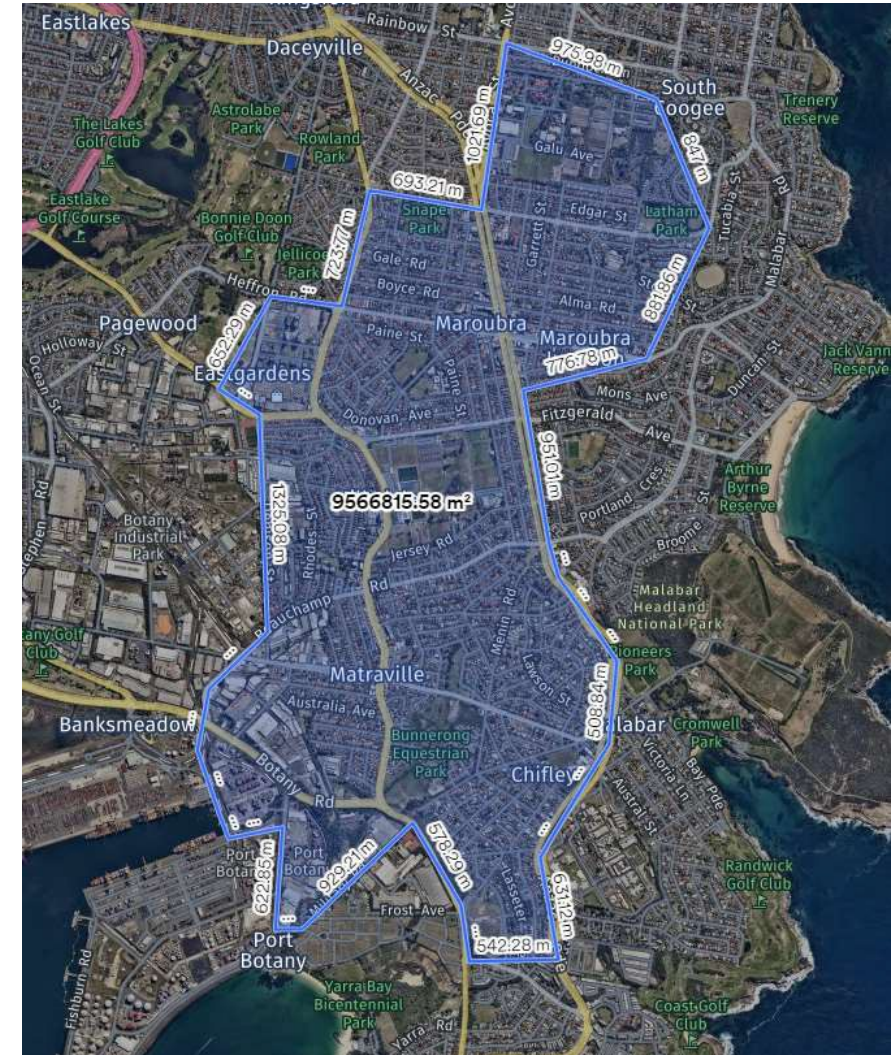


Floating Litter Trap Concept Design



Proposed System Stormwater Catchment Area

- Pollutant trap will remove rubbish entering Botany Bay from upstream suburban stormwater catchment
- Project Catchment Area: ~956ha (57% of the area of the example)
- Projected Servicing:
 - Estimated removal of 250 m³ of rubbish per year
 - That is an average of 5 m³/week
 - Possibly less leaves as Cooks River has trees lining the upstream riverbanks
 - Actual rubbish volume t.b.d. following installation
 - Servicing
 - Service Frequency: Once every two to four weeks
 - Will depend on rainfall and stormwater run-off
- Planning for acquisition and installation commenced May 2024



THANK YOU

nswPorts