
Tuesday, 26 May 2009

FUNDING FOR DREDGING WORKS IN THE SHIRE

Minister for Lands Tony Kelly today announced that the Rees Government would provide \$60,000 to two separate dredging projects in the Sutherland Shire.

Mr Kelly was joined by Member for Miranda Barry Collier and Member for Heathcote Paul McLeay at Swallow Rock to inspect one of the sites that will receive funding under the NSW Government's waterways program.

"This funding will enable detailed investigations and environmental studies to be conducted so that dredging can be carried out in the future," Mr Kelly said.

"The total cost of the two projects is \$120,000 with Sutherland Shire Council providing matching the Rees Government's \$60,000 on a 50/50 basis."

Mr Kelly said the monies would fund the following projects:

- **Swallow Rock (Grays Point Port Hacking)** - investigations for dredging of the approach channel to the boat ramp: total project cost \$60,000
- **Fisherman's Bay (Maianbar-Port Hacking)** - investigations for dredging of the boating channel to Maianbar: total project cost \$60,000

Local Miranda MP Barry Collier said that the money for investigations at the Swallow Rock Boat Ramp would pave the way for a future comprehensive dredging plan.

"Swallow Rock Boat Ramp is used by many recreational boat users throughout the Shire and provides a great gateway for locals to explore the Port Hacking River.

"It is important that these investigations and environmental studies occur before we can move forward to dredging projects."

Heathcote MP Paul McLeay said that the project at Fisherman's Bay is a great investment in the future of the bay.

"This project will provide a detailed report so that any future dredging strikes the right balance between any environmental concerns and the needs of recreational boat users.

"The Shire has some extraordinary beautiful natural sites and everyone should have the opportunity to enjoy our waterways."



New South Wales Government

The Hon Tony Kelly MLC
Minister for Police
Minister for Lands
Minister for Rural Affairs
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Leader of the House in the Legislative Council

Mr Kelly thanked both local MP's for their constant advocacy on behalf of their communities to improve the Shire.

“These two projects are part of seven projects worth over \$1 million that have been selected across four local government areas including Port Macquarie-Hastings, Great Lakes, Wyong, as well as Sutherland,” Mr Kelly said.

“The funding, offered under the government’s waterways program, will be made available to council on a dollar for dollar basis,” Mr Kelly said.

“The successful projects were selected after a detailed assessment to ensure dredging projects are compatible with the outcomes of estuary planning processes, are sustainable and will improve navigability for recreational boaters.

“Both these projects were identified in the Port Hacking integrated environmental management plan and have strong support from recreational boaters and NSW Maritime.”

Mr Kelly said dredging works are scheduled for the 2009/2010 financial year.

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