

BeCA Public Meeting
Monday June 3rd
6:45pm
Bellvista Meeting Place
Neighbourhood Watch?
Caloundra SES,
106 Caloundra Cadet Unit,
Councillor Barberowski,
Snr Constable Peter Update.



The Connector

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May Volume 2019

for the Bellvista & Bells Reach Community Association

Issue 2

Bus Stop Closures

At a recent Extraordinary Management Committee Meeting, BeCA formulated its next steps in endeavouring to have bus stops closed on the old Caloundra 603 route re opened. Representatives from the local community, Bellcarra Retirement Village (Dave Thomson), Sunshine Coast Council and BeCA were in attendance to discuss the situation, what action had already been taken, to consider offers for further discussion on why the stops were closed from Translink, and where to next.

It was agreed there was a need to take the campaign to a level where decisions can actually be made and to where the power to reopen bus stops would be possible.

There was a vibrant round the table discussion on actions already taken and where to next.

BeCA has created a document which contains the thoughts of all in attendance at the meeting to present to an area of the State Government or Translink where the document can have the greatest affect.

The document is currently being forwarded to where we believe it can have the greatest effect. It seeks specific information from Translink on the number of users from Bellvista and Bells Reach from a recent period using the Caloundra 603 bus service to the number of Bellvista and Bells Reach users on the revamped 606 service.



The document will point out the demographic issues of original home buyers (51% were 50 years or more) into Bellvista who bought in this area because of access to Public Transport, the difficulties some residents with special needs will have crossing Bellvista Blvd, especially when it is extended to 4 lanes, and the wasted funds spent by Council in upgrading seating, bus shelters and the lighting of bus stops, especially those in Bellvista.

It also remarks on how many elderly residents are now required to find alternative transport as the nearest bus stop is now so much further away, especially on days of wet weather or extreme heat.

The document will be made available to representatives with the best access to

people who are decision makers and have influence with the relevant authorities.

BeCA believes both our local State Government Member Mark McArde and the ALP State Government candidate for the seat of Caloundra are in the best positions to knock on the doors of power and present evidence where it may best count.

A copy of the document has been posted on the BeCA website and accurately reflects the views of all in attendance at the recent meeting.

State member Mark McArde has supported a petition on the issue and BeCA urges all residents to sign at the local Bellvista Medical Practice or at the office of the Positive Property People, both of which are situated at the Bellvista Market Place.

Website April 17th

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**Bus Stop Closures,
Our Councillor's Response**

The following is a reprint of Cr Baberowski's immediate response to the closure of Bus Stops in Bellvista and Bell's Reach, BeCA website March 19th:

"I have today written to Minister Bailey outlining the implications of the cessation of Route 603 within Bellvista and the new Bus Route 606 to our community. I have done so because despite this being a state government responsibility, as the local Councillor I know the affected communities feel completely let down by Translink and the state government. I also know that as a community we have very little time to get the state to reconsider what I believe is a really poor decision.

To illustrate what I mean, in the justification provided by a representative of Translink last week, I was advised that 'approximately 20 passengers per day will have an increased walk distance to access the service'. There was no demonstration of any understanding of the age demographics of the affected 20 passengers. Furthermore, the statement that 'Route 606 was designed to replace the existing route 603 services between Caloundra and Baringa via Caloundra West, providing more flexible route options to support development as the area continues to grow' does not offer any assurance that adversely affected communities have been engaged with on the basis of a loss of service.

Residents of all three communities – Bells Reach, Bellvista and Baringa – are aware of the financial contribution that Stockland have provided to Translink to help fund the provision of a new public bus service to Aura. However, the decision to reduce an existing service in order to establish another appears to the community and myself to be nothing more than a cost saving mechanism by Translink. If this is not the case, I have suggested that it is only fair and reasonable

for the Minister to explain to the affected communities the reasons behind this decision. The rationale for the decision is even more questionable when you take into account that less than 6 months ago council delivered agreed upgrades to the existing bus stops/shelters around the Bellvista area.

As I have said before, my key concern is that the reduced Route 603 will now not service Bellvista and neither will the new Route 606. The change also does close to nothing to solve the pressing need for new/extra Buslink services for the Bellvista / Baringa school communities.

On behalf of the impacted residents and communities, I have requested through the Minister's office that appropriate consultation and engagement be undertaken with the three communities of Bells Reach, Bellvista and Baringa on these service changes. I have also requested that the commencement date for the planned changes (ie. March 25) be immediately reviewed and that the existing Route 603 be maintained until a thorough and fair community engagement process takes place. Cr Rick Baberowski." Website March 19th

BeCA Meets With Mark Baily, the Minister for Transport and Main Roads.

BeCA met with the Minister and members of his entourage at the office of The Positive Property People here in Bellvista. The meeting had been arranged by Jason Hunt, the ALP Candidate for Caloundra.

Mark was accompanied by two of his senior advisors, one of whom is Amanda Yates with whom BeCA had met previously when her

role was to oversee Main Roads issues on the Sunshine Coast.

The faster than expected growth of Aura and Caloundra South was bringing pressure on the State Government to bring forward planning for a connecting road between Pelican Water Blvd and Aura Blvd.

Eventually this will complete a second east west corridor road connecting Caloundra and the Bruce Hwy and ease traffic on Caloundra Rd. The State Government has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Sunshine Coast Council to share and stage road improvements around Caloundra. Council has pledged to create another entry into Caloundra from Niklin Way and connect into an area close to the Caloundra RSL hopefully removing some traffic from Bowman Rd.

Meanwhile Stockland has pledged to extend the Bells Creek Arterial as land sales push further south into Aura. Originally this was expected to occur around 2030 but at the current growth rate this will be brought forward to perhaps the mid 2020's.

When this occurs, and the Bells Creek Arterial connects with the Bruce Hwy at Roys Rd, the government expects to be well underway with the proposed connecting road between Pelican Waters Blvd and Aura Blvd.

Though planning has not yet commenced, the proposed connecting road is now well and truly on the local radar whereas several years ago the expected completion date of the still to be designed connecting road was around 2030. Website March 11th



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Mosquito Management Program

Recently BeCA received some concerns from residents regarding mosquito numbers leading to a BeCA inquiry to Council.

A recent call from the Sunshine Coast Council Pest Management Officer mentioned the mosquito control spraying program is on schedule. BeCA was advised that another spray was imminent, residents should see another helicopter spray/pellet drop, making it approx. 9 or 10 drops for this season.

Council also explained that due to the longer and hotter weather and lack of rain during summer, followed by a deluge of rain in March, a perfect storm situation had been created to fast track further mosquito breeding.

There was still plenty of water laying around in the lower parts of the area which had enabled further hatchings to occur.

Council advised residents should see a decrease in mosquito activity with the cooler weather starting to kick in.

In the mean time we all need to cover up and continue with preventative measures.



Other News

Motorists can no longer use Baringa Drive/Steiner Cres to access the Bells Creek Arterial following the opening of the extension to Aura Blvd. Motorists now need to negotiate a further set of



traffic lights before getting on to the Bells Creek Arterial (BCA). The photo above shows what greets motorists if they try to access the BCA as was available previously via Baringa Drive and Steiner Cres.

Stockland have also opened some sections of the new Aura Central with a residential precinct available for lot purchase off Park Ave and Central Avenue. BeCA believes there was an 'official' opening of the bridge that leads into the new precinct.

Residents should take a drive down into the new area, it is a huge development.

There remains some delays to the opening of Council's new Baringa Community Centre.

Meanwhile construction surges ahead on the Baringa shopping complex. The new Tavern is beginning to take shape as well. There are exciting times ahead for all.

Federal Member Andrew Wallace has secured a grant for 50% of the funds required toward a comprehensive business case and design work for congestion-busting improvements to the road network around Caloundra and Kawana. The funds would be used to undertake a Network Planning Study to

identify what projects would make the biggest difference right across the local network and then do the detailed design and approvals work required to get those projects shovel ready.

The other 50% of the funds would need to be provided by the Queensland State Government. Wallace has gained these funds despite the roads under consideration not falling under the Federal Government's area of responsibility. This is something that BeCA has been advocating for some time, an area wide plan to address the current issues. A second east/west corridor road would be a major feature of any future plan, a connecting road between Pelican Waters Blvd and Aura Blvd eventually connecting to the new Bells Creek Arterial and exiting onto the Bruce Hwy at the Roys Rd Interchange.

BeCA Management Committee Welcome's Kevin Baty.

President Les Thomas' plea for a final BeCA Management Committee member was greeted with a positive response when Kevin Baty announced he would become involved. The Management Committee has now all 10 of its positions filled. Welcome aboard Kevin.

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Caloundra West Lions Club

Lions Club of Caloundra West has celebrated its 1st Charter Anniversary. They are proud that the Club has grown and goes from strength to strength. At their dinner meeting on 12th March, they were delighted to have Past District Governor Greg Rollason and Zone Chair Wendy Rollason as their guests and Greg presented District Governor Awards to our members Wendy Jensen & Sue Scott and Long Service Awards (15 years) to husband and wife Jack & Pam Emery.

Since January 2019 the local Lions have inducted new members, Jan Grant, Kelly Woodbridge, Chris Madsen, Dennis Doolan, Margaret Richter, John Platell, Christine & Terry Sheppard & Sharnii Costain. The guest

speaker for April was Carolyn from 'Rosie's Friends on the Street' talking about the homeless in Caloundra and surrounds.

The Club continues to support local residents with specific needs and the local State Primary School in Baringa. The Bunning's BBQ's and Stockland BBQ's remain a constant with a dedicated team working tirelessly both behind the scenes and during the events. They are pleased that they are the "go to" organisation when support and fundraising is a focus.

Dinner Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 'The Birdcage', Parklands Tavern, Meridan Plains Q 4551 6.30pm for 7.00pm start. If you would like to visit and get to know who and what the Caloundra West

Lions do please contact Club Secretary, Chris Pentecost on 0431 971 849 and you will be most welcome.

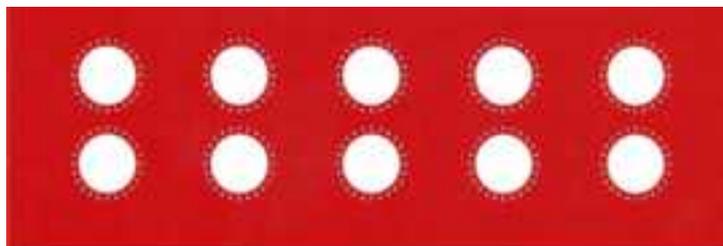
BeCA Suspects a Softer Line on Rain Garden Maintenance and Beautification

Biopods/Rain Gardens were initially very tightly controlled by Council with strict stipulations on what residents may or may not do to beautify or just maintain one of them right outside their home.

BeCA senses a softening of the approach by Council on how residents may now take steps to beautify and maintain a rain garden. Some residents have just taken the by-laws into their own hands after having a rain garden right outside their home and watched as it developed into a dangerous eyesore.

BeCA encourages residents to contact Council prior to carrying out any maintenance or improvements on a rain garden right outside their home and arrange an on-site meeting with Council officers on what you may be able to do. BeCA expects residents who take the trouble to inquire first may be pleasantly surprised at Council's position!

Website April 18th



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