

Frequently Asked Questions

Safety Bay Shoalwater Foreshore Master Plan



What is a Master Plan?

A Master Plan is an over-arching, conceptual interpretation of how an area will develop over the medium to long-term, in this case 20 to 30 years. It provides a basis to funding decisions and pre-construction detailed design.

A Master Plan is not a statutory document. Following adoption of the Master Plan, the City will make decisions on what parts of the Master Plan will be implemented and when at which time the necessary statutory approvals will need to be secured.

Why is the City developing a Master Plan for the Safety Bay and Shoalwater Foreshore?

The City recognised that a coordinated approach is required to plan for the foreshore and a Master Plan was seen as the best instrument to achieve this outcome.

In the absence of a Master Plan, changes and improvements to the foreshore have the potential to be uncoordinated and reactionary.

When it decided to proceed with the Master Plan, the Council was seeking to develop a strategic vision for the foreshore which gives direction to:

- *Realising its tourism potential, including 'marine based tourism', with a focus on the emerging wind and kite-surfing industry;*
- *Coordinating the existing and future commercial activity within the foreshore;*
- *Maximising community use by enhancing the existing recreational experiences; and*
- *Protecting key environmental and built assets.*

What is the project area for the Master Plan?

The project area for the Master Plan project includes the two foreshore sectors at Safety Bay and Shoalwater, shown below.

The Safety Bay sector is generally from the intersection of Safety Bay Road and Warnbro Beach Road in the east to Mersey Point. The Shoalwater sector is from Mersey Point to the intersection of Arcadia Drive and Boundary Road in the north.

The Master Plan will make recommendations relating the foreshore reserve (ie. Beach, dune and parkland) and the roads which abut the foreshore.



What matters will not be addressed in the Master Plan?

The influence of the Master Plan is limited to the foreshore reserve and abutting road reserves.

It will not discuss or seek to resolve external matters such as marine water quality, the manner in which the beach or parks are currently maintained or private land in proximity to the foreshore.

How can I give feedback on the Master Plan project?

Consultation with stakeholders is an important part of developing the Master Plan.

The first stage of the project involved a coastal values survey in February and March 2019, which invited visitors to the foreshore and other stakeholders to provide an account of how they use the foreshore, what they value about it and how it could be improved.

The survey responses were then assessed and common themes established in arriving at 'design drivers' to inform the content of the Master Plan. The 'design drivers' were adopted by Council in June 2019.

The draft Master Plan has been prepared and approved by Council September 2019 to be released for public comment.

Comment is invited on the draft Master Plan until the 8th November 2019.

There are various avenues available to inspect the plans, ask questions and lodge submissions; refer to the details on the project webpage.

What is the future of the Safety Bay Yacht Club?

The Master Plan proposed that the Safety Bay Yacht Club building be removed and that other buildings be established within The Pond Activity Node. The structural condition of the Yacht Club building, and the fact that the Master Plan is a 20 – 30 year vision, has prompted this outcome.

That is not to say the Yacht Club, or a similar entity, will cease to operate. One of the proposed buildings within The Pond Activity Node is proposed to accommodate a community use, and should it be established that the Yacht Club has a sustainable future, it could occupy the new building.

It is not the role of the Master Plan to resolve the ongoing presence of the Yacht Club.

What is the relationship between the Master Plan and the CHRMAP?

In September 2019, the Council adopted the Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaption Plan which forecasts the extent of coastal erosion and inundation across the City and recommends a pathway to adapt to the changes.

The Master Plan acknowledged the CHRMAP approach and includes its predicted 2030 and 2070 erosion lines.

In the event that it is proposed to implement an element of the Master Plan that is in proximity to the erosion lines, the City will make decisions based on the recommended CHRMAP adaption pathway, the cost of the infrastructure, the predicted life of the asset and the community benefit that will be derived.

Why is the draft Master Plan showing commercial activities within the foreshore?

A common theme of the first consultation was a desire for there to be more destinations within the foreshore, and food and beverage opportunities were identified as being important in this regard. This feedback was translated into the following design driver:

“Investigate the potential for permanent leisure based commercial activities, such as cafes, bars and restaurants, in strategic locations.”

The draft Master Plan identified potential commercial activities within The Pond and Waikiki Beach Activity Nodes.

In the event that the City seeks to facilitate these commercial activities, it will be necessary to resolve the management requirements of the foreshore reserve and consider the impacts on the existing commercial uses within proximity to the foreshore.

When will the project be completed?

The project will be complete when the final Master Plan is adopted by the Council, which is expected to be in December 2019.

When will we see the changes proposed in the Master Plan?

As mentioned earlier, the Master Plan is a broad, long-term interpretation of how the foreshore may evolve over the next 20 – 30 years.

The City has allocated some funding (approximately \$1.1M) to implement a project from the Master Plan which will be determined following its adoption.

There is no other financial commitment to implement the recommendations within the Master Plan and it is likely that implementation will occur over the short, medium and long terms.

How do I get more information on the project?

The City welcomes your comments and enquiry about the Master Plan project.

The best way to stay informed is to sign-up to [Rockport](#) and select 'Safety Bay Shoalwater Foreshore Master Plan' as a topic of interest.

Otherwise, please visit the City's website www.rockingham.wa.gov.au and search 'Safety Bay Shoalwater Foreshore Master Plan' or subscribe to the City's social media platforms.