

Frequently Asked Questions

City of Rockingham Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Plan

What is a Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Plan?

The Department of Planning's *State Planning Policy 2.6 - State Coastal Planning Policy* (SPP 2.6) provides for the long term sustainability of Western Australia's coast. Under SPP 2.6, the City of Rockingham is required to prepare a Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Plan (CHRMAP) for our 37km of coastline.

A CHRMAP is a strategic planning document that informs the community and decision makers about potential coastal hazards, the consequences and necessary actions. The CHRMAP will outline key directions for coastal adaptation over a 100 year planning timeframe, as well as prioritising management works over the next 10 years.

What are coastal hazards?

The three main processes that are considered hazards are erosion, accretion and inundation.

Coastal erosion is the loss of sand as a result of sediment being transported by waves and currents, reducing the size of sandy area on the beach.

Coastal accretion is a result of sediment being deposited on the beach by natural processes, such as currents and waves, which increases the size of sandy area on the beach.

Inundation is the temporary flooding of a portion of land within the coastal zone, particularly during severe storm events.

Has any coastal hazard mapping already been undertaken for the City of Rockingham coastline?

The City has undertaken a range of coastal studies through partnerships with Cockburn Sound Coastal Alliance (CSCA) and Peron Naturaliste Partnership (PNP). These studies have identified that parts of the City's coastline are potentially vulnerable to the impacts of coastal hazards over the next 100 years. The CHRMAP will build upon previous studies and undertake detailed analysis for the entire coastline.

Examples of coastal hazards experienced along the City's coastline are shown in Figure 1 and 2 below.



Figure 1 Hymus Street, Rockingham - erosion experienced during a winter storm [top] and the same location after earthmoving machinery was used to distribute more sand over the area to remediate the impacts of erosion [bottom]



Figure 2 winter storm inundation experienced at the Rockingham Foreshore

Will the mapping prepared as part of the CHRMAP show shoreline movements over the next 100 years?

The coastal hazard maps will indicate the areas of the mainland that may be vulnerable to erosion, inundation and accretion over various planning timeframes, rather than providing a prediction of future shoreline movements.

What work is proposed?

In accordance with the Coastal Hazard Risk Management and Adaptation Planning Guidelines 2014, preparation of the CHRMAP will be delivered in the following five phases:

Phase One: Establish the context

Consider the natural coastal processes and assess the existing values along the coast.

Phase Two: Coastal hazard risk identification/vulnerability assessment

Establish an understanding of historic and potential impacts of erosion, inundation and accretion on built, natural and community assets. This will include modelling coastal hazards.

Phase Three: Coastal hazard risk analysis and evaluation

Analyse the coastal hazard risks against the community and stakeholder values to determine priorities for coastal management and adaptation.

Phase Four: Coastal hazard risk adaptation planning

Identify risk management and adaptation options from the SPP2.6 hierarchy (avoid, retreat accommodate, protect) for priority assets.

The adaptation responses are defined by evaluating the methods against multiple social, economic, environmental and economic criteria.

The final CHRMAP will include the outcomes of each phase and outline directions for future coastal use and development.

Phase Five: Monitor and review

The performance of the coastal adaptation measures and coastal changes will be regularly reviewed.

How can I be involved in the CHRMAP process?

Community and stakeholder engagement is fundamental to development of the CHRMAP. The City wants to know what the community values about our coastal areas and what elements are considered most important as a focus for future coastal planning and protection.

A Community Coastal Values Survey will be available for completion online in September 2017.

The City will also be holding a series of public information sessions and community workshops early next year following completion of the coastal hazard mapping. These workshops will inform the key actions and priority adaptation options to be included in the draft CHRMAP.

The draft CHRMAP will then be made available for public comment towards the end of next year.

Should you wish to receive CHRMAP project updates and be notified of upcoming surveys, information sessions and workshops, please subscribe through RockPort, the City's online portal which can be accessed using any PC, tablet or mobile device.

Alternatively, you can email the City's Coordinator Sustainability and Environment, Natalie Elliott, at customer@rockingham.wa.gov.au to be placed on the CHRMAP project stakeholder register.

You can also keep up to date by checking the CHRMAP project page on the City's website.

When will the CHRMAP be completed?

The City anticipates the final CHRMAP, developed in consultation with the community and key stakeholders, will be completed in early 2019.