
Community and Stakeholder Engagement Report

Manly Dam Link Trail

Consultation period: 11 February 2022 to 13 March 2022

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1. Summary

This report outlines the outcomes of community and stakeholder engagement as part of a proposal to construct a Manly Dam Link Trail, including a raised boardwalk, between Picnic Area 2 and Picnic Area 3 at Manly Dam.

The consultation process highlighted how treasured this area is for local residents and visitors and how well used it is by a diverse range of people. People appreciate Manly Dam both as a place for peaceful contemplation and for the recreational activities and outdoor pursuits it offers.

Most respondents acknowledged the need for the safer connections at Manly Dam while recognising the need to be sensitive to the existing natural environment and landscape.

Feedback revealed a high level of support for the proposed boardwalk between picnic area 2 and picnic area 3, with comments citing the anticipated benefits for pedestrian safety and ability for people with less mobility to immerse themselves in the natural environment.

As part of this consultation, we sought feedback from environmental educators at our Coastal Environment Centre (CEC) who expressed support for the safe linkage between the picnic areas and the deck area to be used as an outdoor classroom.

Feedback also suggested Council should consider extending the proposed connection to other areas of the park and provide additional accessibility to the top of the dam wall itself.

There was also a strong desire to upgrade other path connections and amenities in the park which would make it more inclusive.



Some respondents felt that the park should be left alone and kept natural and did not support the proposal. Many felt that the existing road was an acceptable way to access the picnic areas.

Concerns and questions were raised in the comments about the impact of the boardwalk on local wildlife, loss of native vegetation, flood management and ongoing maintenance.


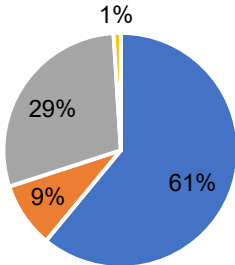
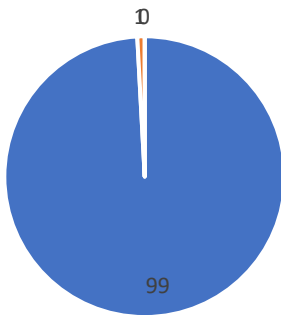

Some respondents who were not supportive of the proposal felt that Council should not be spending money on this connection when there are other priorities in the park.

Feedback was sought through the traditional means of submissions through Council's Your Say platform and also through a randomised intercept survey of people using the park.


1.1 Key outcomes

 Total unique responses	349	
	Online Your Say comment form Written responses (email/letter)	Completions: 338 Number received: 14 ¹





¹ Three emailed comments were duplicates or in addition to an online comment.

How responses were received		
 <p>Online sentiment question²:</p> <p>Do you support the proposed Manly Dam Link Trail?</p>	 <p>■ Support ■ Support with changes ■ Don't support ■ Neutral</p> <p>Total responses = 338</p>	
<p>Intercept Survey Results – do you support the proposed Manly Dam Trail Link</p>	<p>Would you be supportive of a boardwalk to link Picnic Areas 2 and 3?</p>  <p>■ Yes ■ No ■ Neutral</p>	
 <p>Feedback themes</p>	<p>Fantastic initiative</p> <p>Environmental Protection</p> <p>Dangerous road</p> <p>Can boardwalk be wider</p> <p>Over urbanisation</p>	

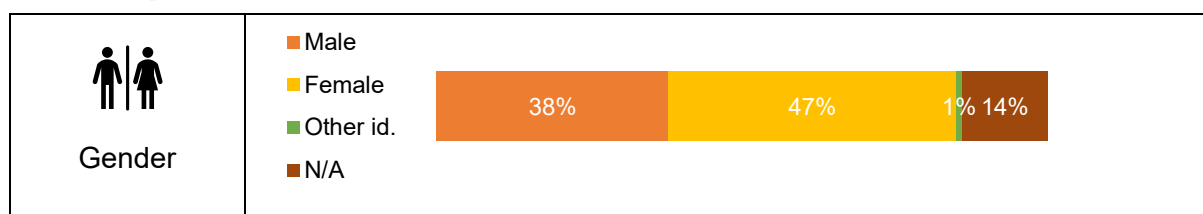
1.2 How we engaged

	Visitors: 1747	Visits: 2212	Average time onsite: 1min30sec
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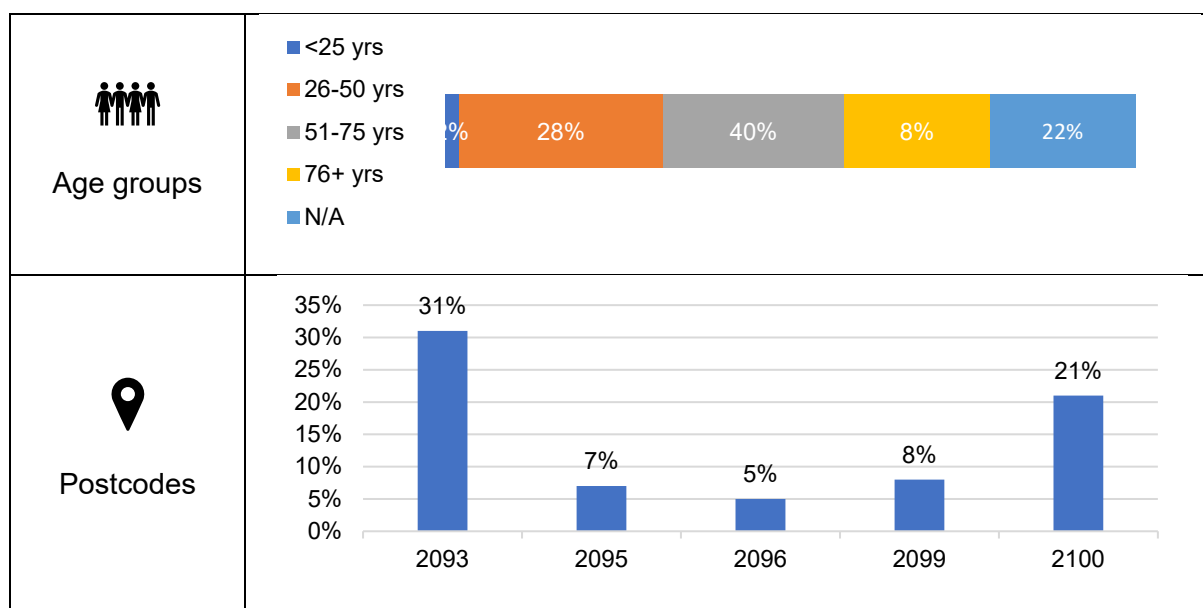
² Only the people who filled in the online comment form answered this sentiment question.

Have Your Say: visitation stats			
 Notifications	Letterbox drop: 2093, 2100 Site signs used: Yes	Distribution: 3382 Number of signs: 10	
 Electronic direct mail (EDM)	Community Engagement (fortnightly) newsletter: 2 editions Council (weekly) e-News: 2 editions Disability Newsletter: 1 edition	Distribution: Approx. 22,000 subscribers Distribution: Approx. 160,000 subscribers Distribution: Approx. 1288 subscribers	
 Face-to-face or online sessions	Online information session (Teams): 1	Attendance: 5	
 Key stakeholder engagement	Phone call with Sunnyfield Disability Services Regular briefings to Manly Warringah State Park Advisory Committee Internal meeting with environmental educators at Council		
Intercept Survey	Intercept surveys were undertaken on 6 different days from 9 th May to 6 th June 2021. Three days were weekend days and three mid week and all at various times.	118 people interviewed across 6 two hour timeslots at different times of the week.	

1.3 Who responded³



³ Demographic data was gathered by request only. The data represented only includes those respondents who provided this detail.



2 Background

Manly Dam and its surrounds (Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park) is a significant environmental, cultural and recreational site enjoyed by both our local community and visitors.

This historic State Park provides a peaceful, bushland setting for walking, running, bike riding, picnics, swimming as well as memorial services and some recreational events.

This project follows on from the accessible playground and amenities block upgrades in picnic area 1 where Council successfully implemented actions from our Disability inclusion Action Plan 2017-2021 by making key design changes to the facilities to allow for access and inclusion.

The current link trail proposal is to help improve safety and accessibility by offering a new boardwalk that connects Picnic Area 2 and Picnic Area 3. The trail has been designed to fit the terrain and be sensitive to the existing natural environment and landscape.

We are also preparing a comprehensive wayfinding signage plan for the entire park that would help visitors navigate the trails.

The Manly Dam Link Trail project is part of Council's Capital Works delivery program and the proposed link trail is underpinned by the following plan and investigations:

- Manly Warringah War Memorial Park Plan of Management 2014 (PoM)
- Traffic Safety Assessment of the following design options:
 - Option 1 – Off-road bush boardwalk (separated from the roadway)
 - Option 2 – Edge of road boardwalk or footpath (along the roadway)
 - Option 3 – Shared Zone (on the roadway)
- Review of Environmental Factors (REF)

The Manly Warringah War Memorial Park Plan of Management 2014 (PoM) identified the need to address public safety and environmental issues, and to provide a better experience for visitors to the recreational spaces around Manly Dam.

The proposal and brief for the design of the link trail were guided by key management actions contained within the PoM. These actions prioritise safety, compliance, sustainability and equity requirements.

The off-road boardwalk (Option 1 above) was found to be the safest for pedestrians by the Traffic Safety Assessment as it separates them from general vehicular traffic entirely. This is especially important for more vulnerable groups such as children, older adults and wheelchair users. The REF assessment considered the proposal unlikely to have a significant impact upon the environment or any threatened species, populations or communities. On balance, it considered the proposal justified and in the public interest.

In July 2021 Council staff carried out intercept surveys in the vicinity of Picnic Area 2 and 3 along the roadway. 118 responses were collected and all but one supported the idea of a sensitively constructed boardwalk through the bush to separate pedestrians from the road.

Prior to the broader community consultation on the link trail proposal, Council engaged with key stakeholder groups such as Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park Advisory Committee revisions to the design were made based on feedback received. This included reducing the width from 2.2m wide to 1.8m wide.

3 Engagement objectives

Community and stakeholder engagement aimed to:

- build community and stakeholder awareness of participation activities
- provide accessible information so community and stakeholders can participate in a meaningful way
- identify community and stakeholder concerns, local knowledge and values.

4 Engagement approach

Community and stakeholder engagement for the Manly Dam Link Trail was conducted between 11 February 2022 and 13 March 2022 and consisted of a series of activities that provided opportunities for community and stakeholders to contribute.

The engagement was planned, implemented and reported in accordance with Council's [Community Engagement Matrix](#) (2017).

A project page⁴ was established on our have your say platform with information provided in an accessible and easy to read format.

The project was primarily promoted through onsite signage, resident and stakeholder notifications, our regular email newsletter (EDM) channels and a news story on Council's website.

⁴ <https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/manly-dam-link-trail>

Feedback was captured through an online comment form embedded onto the have your say project page. The form included a question that directly asked respondents for their level of support on the proposal.

An open-field comments box provided community members a space to explain or elaborate on their support, not support or neutral sentiment as well as any other feedback they wished to contribute.

Email and written comments were also invited. Contact details for the project manager were provided to allow people to speak directly with them, ask questions and provide feedback over the phone.

We held an online information session via Microsoft Teams to give community members an opportunity to meet the project team and ask some questions.

4.2 Reaching diverse audiences

A thorough stakeholder mapping exercise was completed to identify and understand the needs of the whole community.

It was determined for this project that it was particularly important to hear from people in the disability sector. We promoted the consultation in Council's Disability Newsletters and liaised with disability services by phone.

We also sought feedback from environmental educators at our Coastal Environment Centre (CEC) who coordinate environmental education programs for students.

5 Findings

The consultation process attracted a diverse range of responses which supported the need for a balanced approach to the design development of the link trail.

Community feedback recognised the park as a war memorial and important piece of urban bushland. Respondents said they valued the area for its natural beauty and tranquillity, local fauna and flora, sporting facilities and various passive and active recreational opportunities.

Overall, there was general support for the proposed link trail with the majority of respondents supporting a safer pedestrian path separate from the road. Many felt that the proposed design will improve safety for them and their families and will improve access for wheelchair users, people with low mobility and people with prams. This will allow a wider range of people to enjoy the area. Some expressed that the design was aesthetically pleasing and showed sensitivity toward the natural landscape.

Around the theme of safety, we heard the following:

Excellent idea. It is very dangerous to walk along that section of the road. The road is narrow, and two cars can barely pass each other, let alone if there is a pedestrian there at the same time. There is a blind corner, which puts pedestrians in danger if a car is driving too fast.

The winding road is currently pretty dangerous at weekends and severely limits how much of the area I can access with my small children on foot.

Separating cars and kids is a really good idea for safety and enjoyment.

The following comments were made around the theme of accessibility:

There really are very few nature paths that are easy and gentle for those less mobile, like all of our grandparents!

If the section can be made accessible to wheelchair users that will be excellent to increase their ability to enjoy the beautiful nature paths too.

I'm particularly happy there is a strong focus on making it pram accessible as so few of the walking tracks currently are.

The safer linkage between the picnic areas and the proposed deck areas were also strongly supported by our environmental educators. We heard that Manly Dam is ideal as 'an outdoor classroom', providing numerous opportunities for environmental education linked to the school curriculum. This also supports children who are visual learners, encourages a respect for nature and environmental stewardship.

While overall supportive of the proposal, many people provided suggestions for how Council should move forward. These included suggestions about boardwalk dimensions and materials, offset of tree loss, dog and bike access.

We also received a lot of good suggestions pertaining to sections of the park outside the scope of this project. These suggestions have been captured for further consideration in future stages and design development of PoM actions, and include:

- providing accessibility via a mobility ramp to the dam wall
- providing access from Carpark 3 to a picnic area for people with mobility challenges
- upgrading the amenities block at Section 3
- upgrading the amenities block at Section 4
- providing safe shared access from King Street to the playground in Section 1
- providing much needed conservation projects, including water quality studies to maintain the safe swimming environment of the dam.

Some respondents felt that the park should be left alone and kept natural and did not support the proposal. Others worried about the new boardwalk and viewing platforms bringing more people to the area. Concerns and questions were raised about the impact of on local wildlife, loss of native vegetation, flood management and ongoing maintenance.

Issues and suggestions are further outlined in table 2 below along with Council's responses.

Table 1: Issues raised, suggestions and other considerations and Council responses

Theme	What we heard	Council's response
Preservation of the natural environment	<p>The urbanisation of this natural area via the proposed boardwalk is not welcomed.</p> <p>We need to preserve the unique natural bush setting of the area.</p> <p>The proposed boardwalk is out of keeping with all other tracks in the park. It is intrusive and an eyesore.</p>	<p>As per the 2014 Plan of Management for the park, Council is committed to developing a high standard pathway connecting Picnic Area 2 and Picnic Area 3 in order to make this section of the park more accessible.</p>

Theme	What we heard	Council's response
	<p>Manly Dam bush should be treasured and protected, and its health and integrity must remain the absolute priority in any planning decision.</p> <p>With this proposed boardwalk infrastructure, we are compromising the integrity of the park as a War Memorial.</p>	<p>The off-road boardwalk was found to be the safest option for pedestrians by the Traffic Safety Assessment.</p> <p>It has been designed to fit the terrain and be sensitive to the existing natural environment and landscape.</p> <p>This is an accessible boardwalk that will allow elderly and less mobile people to enjoy a less challenging bushwalk, and families to enjoy this portion of Manly Dam together.</p> <p>This project is about making the park more inclusive and has the potential of bringing more attention to the nature of the park as a War Memorial.</p>
Dimensions of the boardwalk	<p>The boardwalk needs to be wider to suitably accommodate prams and wheelchairs.</p> <p>The boardwalk needs to be narrower to lessen the impact on fauna and flora.</p>	<p>Following consultation with the Manly Warringah State Park Advisory Committee the width of the boardwalk was reduced from 2.2 metres (internal width) to 1.8m internal width.</p> <p>The proposed width is the minimum that will still ensure safe and accessible recreational use.</p>
	<p>The boardwalk is higher than necessary.</p>	<p>The boardwalk has variable height to be able to maintain as accessible a grade as possible, without disturbing the terrain too much.</p>

Theme	What we heard	Council's response
Boardwalk materials	<p>We need to ensure the boardwalk is environmentally friendly and that no microplastics or debris of any kind end up in the environment.</p> <p>The plastic construction material will burn and leave toxic residue in a bushfire.</p>	<p>Fibre-reinforced plastic (FRP) was the chosen material for the boardwalk as it offers longevity and is low maintenance.</p> <p>Although sometimes referred to as a plastic, FRP a composite material made up of resins and glass fibre for added strength. It includes UV stabilisers, chemical resistance and fire protection.</p> <p>It outperforms wood for bridges and pedestrian boardwalks, holding up to decades of wear and tear.</p> <p>It is unlike timber in that it doesn't add to the fuel in a bushfire rather at worst sections will warp in extreme heat and may require replacement.</p>
Impact on wildlife	<p>The new track will destroy bushland and wildlife habitat.</p> <p>The local wildlife (such as wallabies) needs access to water without human disturbance.</p>	<p>The boardwalk will not destroy bushland and wildlife habitat. This construction methodology has been chosen over a terrestrial path because of the low impact it will have on the bushland, the hydrology of the slope and allowing movement of flora and fauna under or over it.</p>
	<p>The construction and establishment of this new track will create noise disturbance for birds and animals.</p>	<p>The noise generated by users of the boardwalk will be significantly less noise than the cars on the nearby access road.</p>
	<p>Dogs are a risk to all wildlife and should be banned or kept on leash in the area.</p>	<p>Dogs are not permitted within the picnic areas at Manly Dam. As this boardwalk will connect two picnic areas, dogs will not be permitted on the boardwalk either.</p>

Theme	What we heard	Council's response
Loss of trees and other native vegetation	Any loss of trees should be offset by equivalent or greater plantings elsewhere in the reserve.	Additional offset planting will be incorporated into the tender documentation and maintenance will be ensured post construction.
	This project will involve the clearing of important native vegetation.	The alignment of the link trail has been designed to minimise the loss of vegetation and offset planting will be provided.
Maintenance	<p>Every new track creates a potential rubbish site as people seem unable to take their rubbish with them.</p> <p>The new track will encourage invasive weeds that will need to be controlled with poisonous herbicides.</p>	<p>Appropriate and ongoing management and maintenance of tracks is a provision that is catered for as part of Council's commitment to providing high quality recreational tracks and trails.</p> <p>The new trail link is unlikely to encourage any more invasive species into the Park more than what currently comes in with visits to other trails and park areas.</p>
Flood management	Many parts of the chosen pathway are susceptible to flooding on a regular basis.	With the openings in FRP mesh, water can rise and fall, and drain away easily without damaging the infrastructure or causing erosion on the pathway.
Accessibility needs	<p>The proposal does not suitably address accessibility needs for people with low mobility.</p> <p>A mobility ramp to the dam wall is required as well as access from Carpark 3 to a picnic area for people with mobility challenges.</p>	The proposal mostly complies with the Australian Standard for accessibility with most grades better than 1:14. Two small sections are 1:9 grade and these will be signposted alerting people with low mobility that they may need assistance for that section.
Signage	The area requires signs to direct people and to clearly advise on some of the rules relating to the boardwalk.	A newly proposed signage strategy for the park is part of the scope of this project.

Theme	What we heard	Council's response
		Signage will also provide environmental awareness and education messaging.
Limitations of traffic assessment	<p>The traffic assessment does not take into account that it is an internal road at Manly Dam, subject to different regulations.</p> <p>The existing speed limit is only 10 or 20 km/hr and there have been no accidents involving pedestrians on the road in the park.</p>	The traffic assessment takes into account the conditions of the road as they present themselves including the posted speed limit and its function. The conclusions of the traffic assessment have been made within this context.
Cost	Council should spend the money elsewhere. (A range of suggestions were provided including conversation projects at Manly Dam.)	The project is fully funded by Grants which have been awarded for the purpose of building the trail link and associated infrastructure including signage only.
Parking and traffic calming measures	<p>This proposal will attract more people to the area and create further parking issues.</p> <p>Walkers, joggers and bike riders (of all ages) will still use the nearby road and be at risk of incidents.</p> <p>Speed humps or other speed lowering measures will still need to be applied to the road.</p>	It is not anticipated that the trail link will generate significantly greater patronage of the Park in most demographics. Council is expecting a large uplift in patronage from school groups and disability groups to take advantage of this accessible and safe connection, however these groups are most likely to visit during mid week when there is always ample parking available. The purpose of the trail link is to provide a safe alternative to the road for pedestrians. If pedestrians use the road then they do so at their own risk as they would if they walked on the road and not the footpath on a suburban street. Bicycle riders are not a large user group in this

Theme	What we heard	Council's response
		part of the Park and do not frequently use the access road.

6. Conclusion

It is important to protect and sustainably manage our urban bushland assets whilst making provision for inclusion and sustainable and safe recreational access.

The proposals strike the balance between upgrading the park and respecting its heritage and what the local community love about it.

The improvements will enhance the safety and functionality of the picnic area connections in general whilst protecting the natural environment particularly when viewed against alternative options such as a terrestrial path or a roadside footpath.

These plans provide an opportunity to promote and encourage environmental education, respectful of the landscape character of the park.

Appendix 1 Intercept Survey Results

Summarised Intercept Survey Results

Question	Yes	No	Neutral
Do you ever walk from Picnic Area 2 to three or vice versa?	75%	25%	
	Favourable Response	Unfavourable response	
If so how do you find the road walking experience?	6%	89%	5%
	Yes	No	Neutral
Would you be supportive of a sensitively located boardwalk through the bush much like others you would see around Narrabeen Lagoon, National Parks and other areas in Manly Dam?	99%	1%	0%
If so would you be more inclined to walk through to Picnic Area 3 or vice versa as part of your visit?	99%	1%	0%

Appendix 2 Verbatim community and stakeholder responses*

A. Online comments

Number	Comment
1	The proposed manly dam link trail looks like an amazing idea. This much needed addition will improve pedestrian access, making it safe to explore the whole whole park. Hopefully it will only be for walking as there are already safety issues associated with the bike riders who frequent the area.
2	I can see some benefit of having the raised walkway in lue of large number of people tramping through the bush and creating it,s own set of problems being introducing weeds and rubbish to an area that is relatively untouched, but with all new improvements comes increased pressure on the local Flora and fauna , I.e , having to expand carparks to accommodate the increase in patronage. This War Memorial Park is a Noah's Ark of a park with yhe last study of the area discovering amphibians , reptiles , bats , pygmy possums that were not identified in the previous one undertaken. With the Northern Beaches now resembling a overpopulated rat house, this unique area should not be promoted, but left to those who want a bit of greenery and peace.
3	As a runner who regularly runs through the dam I'm usually left to run through on the road between the two picnic areas which is so unsafe given the limited shoulder. This trail would help make the transition much safer (and more enjoyable).
4	I'm fed up running the gauntlet with my young kids walking along the road to picnic area 3. The amount of cars now visiting the park, plus the twisty road surrounded by bush means limited visibility and an accident is waiting to happen. Despite living locally, the current situation where you have to walk down the road encourages us to drive to avoid this danger. I like the look of the plans, so please build this new path as it will be a wonderful asset for Manly Dam and no doubt just as popular as the much loved facility at Narrabeen Lagoon.
5	Please do not further damage any part of the manly dam area, with it's rare and beautiful native species and habitat for amazing animals! Keep manly dam wild!
6	I think It is an excellent plan. I applaud council for this link trail. I regularly walk this part of Manly Dam and agree it will be much safer away from the road.
7	Currently not safe (esp for children and old/disabled etc.) walking on the road as cars often do not follow the low speed limit There should be more speed humps on the road to slow traffic !
8	Any lost trees should be offset by equivalent or greater plantings elsewhere in reserve.
9	As Manly Dam gets more popular and traffic increases, a safe walking track to the largest picnic area in section three seems a no brainer. As a local resident I'd love to see this built as planned.

*Personal details and inappropriate language have been redacted where possible. Spelling and grammatical errors have been amended only where misinterpretation or offence may be caused.

Number	Comment
10	<p>I believe there's something very wrong with council's processes in local project delivery.</p> <p>Almost a year ago councillors and local state politicians made a very public announcement that was heavily reported and this quote was attributed to the Mayor, which in my opinion most people would assume heavily suggests that this project is a done deal and ready to be built.</p> <p>"The new raised boardwalk, funded dollar for dollar by Council and the NSW government will provide the missing link between Areas 2 and 3, taking visitors off the road and through the bushland along the waterline with a number of viewing platforms."</p> <p>Article 14/3/21 https://manlyobserver.com.au/dam-good-idea-new-manly-dam-boardwalk-to-complete-missing-link/</p> <p>A full 11 months later instead of construction, we discover that the project is only just going through public consultation, which if a valid process would suggest it's not approved, signed off for construction and may never happen.</p> <p>Consultation open 11/2/22 https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/manly-dam-link-trail?fbclid=IwAR3tTzwAiLOOKMLwLPdc81If4DlnPy6EVeNmduP8HRCgxhh-wGersBPykQ</p> <p>Locally we've seen this flawed council process before with the excellent plans for the Manly Dam regional play space - announced to great fanfare and widely reported so most ratepayers assumed its happening, but 'privately' (as the council website is as good as) and without fanfare consultation happens and allows minority groups to fatally compromise the plans and we end up with the a disappointing playspace while yet again the cash goes to the wealthy beachside suburbs (in this case the isolated, parking nightmare that is Clontarf).</p> <p>Surely the council photo ops should wait until projects have been signed off or at least help publicise the consultation to get a genuine take on ratepayer sentiment.</p> <p>Please build this wonderful boardwalk as planned and don't let Manly Dam get duded again by a flawed process tailored towards unrepresentative boomer NIMBYs.</p>
11	<p>The cleared area should be matched by a re-wilded area.</p> <p>Tree numbers should not reduce and lost should be matched with planted.</p> <p>Material choice should be clearer, FRP may be more durable but timber and stone are more natural and less polluting.</p> <p>The project must be carbon neutral.</p> <p>A council project in such a setting should have an ecologically and environmentally positive impact as well as improving access. It should be a leader in this regard.</p>

Number	Comment
12	<p>The area is currently a quiet sanctuary for wildlife and local residents. The more areas that are urbanised the less space wildlife have to thrive and currently, the dam area is a unique space. \</p> <p>The boardwalk will attract more pedestrians and pet dogs, which will affect biodiversity. Can we please let the wildlife have this one area to themselves? What would follow from higher pedestrian activity? The need for more carparks, more roads, and more picnic areas?</p>
13	Excellent proposal.
14	Great idea
15	Excellent idea.
16	The new path will be great for round the dam walkers.
17	What a cracking idea. More strength to your collective arms. Will use this frequently. Safety aspect is crucial.
18	Very happy with the proposal. it is the missing link.
19	I've walked the trail many times and this section is needed to keep pedestrians off the narrow road.
20	Looks great - well done
21	This is a wonderful idea. All the Manly Dam walkways the Council has installed/repared are brilliant and very environmentally responsible. This new proposal looks to be the same quality. Thank you!!
22	Fantastic!
23	great idea, walking on the road makes exploring the area much more difficult esp with small children
24	Provision should also be made for cyclists.
25	The plan opens up for green space to the warringah residents. The boardwalk would be sensitive to the area and I for one for love to utilise this area more
26	The proposal looks beautiful and will add to the amenity of the Manly Dam precinct.
27	Separation of walkers & motor vehicles is well done
28	A wonderful proposal- I will look forward to its completion. As a regular walker it will add to safety and enjoyment.
29	<p>Great idea. I use this path almost every day and this will make my morning walk/run to section 4 much more enjoyable and safer. A few questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is it possible to find a material (rather than FRP) that uses recycled materials and so would have less environmental impact? 2. Are there plans for the path from section 3 to section 4? 3. The viewing deck looks lovely but we wouldn't want any trees removed just to create a nice view. <p>Cheers</p>
30	I think it is an excellent idea. It is very dangerous to walk along that section of the road. The road is narrow, and two cars can barely pass each other, let alone if there is a pedestrian there at the same time. There is a blind corner, which puts pedestrians in danger if a car is driving too fast.
31	What about improving the Bike Trail and other walking sections with more signage and some walk trail improvements. My Wife and I are regular walkers around the Dam as it a beautiful natural amenity.
32	<p>I think it looks really good and I love the fact that I can take children for a safe walk away from the cars which we currently have to negotiate.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
33	About time walkers can get away from the road

Number	Comment
34	Sorry haven't seen how much\$ and how long this will impact the community. If anything peak traffic was in lock down, 2020 and 2022. Prior to covid gear walkways around the dam were empty during the week.
35	Seems higher off the ground than necessary. Children may fall off at moments of inattention.
36	Great idea! As long as there are NO bicycles allowed on the new boardwalk. Thank you
37	Long overdue extension. Keep the improvements coming.
38	Looks fantastic & very useful
39	I fully support this project. I am a local resident, our family use the dam and surrounds every day for running, mtb, swimming, kayaking. To me this is the missing link to complete the park trail network and desperately needed. Separating cars and kids it a really good idea for safety and enjoyment. There really are very few nature paths that are easy and gentle for those less mobile, like all of our grandparents! If the section can be made accessible to wheelchair users that will be excellent to increase their ability to enjoy the beautiful nature paths too. I understand people trying to keep nature wild, but by providing well managed sustainable access with minimally invasive trails every new visitor is an advocate for protecting the greater area. I very much look forward to seeing the completion of this project.
40	The proposed new path is supported. Careful management of construction impacts will be required to minimise disturbance of vegetation. Overall the proposal will have a beneficial impact due to improved public safety outcomes. Suggested works take place outside peak visitation periods to limit impacts during the construction period.
41	Great idea. At present, the cars speed faster than the signposted 20km/h which is hazardous for pedestrians. I hope they don't go even faster when the pedestrians move to the boardwalk. Speed humps or other speed impediments will still need to be applied to the road to slow the hooners.
42	I think this adds a great connection and I support the proposal. However I question the need for a 1.8m wide boardwalk. Perhaps a regular width with passing points would make walkers feel closer and more part of the bushland? I don't know what analysis has been done on people numbers, but it would be a shame to build a wide path for the one or two days per year of peak numbers.
43	It should be 2.4m wide minimum and allow for bikes
44	I like the design and aesthetics, thanks. I'm hoping that over time similar work can be done to improve the paths heading further north
45	My partner and I enjoy running and walking around Manly Dam. This change will make it much more comfortable and safe for us to do so. We are very supportive.
46	The environment in the dam should be protected and human infrastructure reduced

Number	Comment
47	Great Idea would like to see in the future an extension in length. also include a wharf with handicapped access to the water plus fishing. Get rid of the water skis they are not a good fit.
48	This boardwalk is an excellent idea. However, it needs a link path near the roundabout so bushwalkers from the Nature Trail and Wildflower Walk can use the boardwalk to avoid walking on the road when returning to the car parks near the park entrance.
49	Excellent much needed
50	An excellent concept for a well used area. Far safer and aesthetically more pleasing.
51	A fantastic plan, I have been wondering when a link would be install, can't wait. please get it under way.
52	It will be safe for all pedestrians and looks suitable for the environment.
53	Cars and roads is a legacy that still dominates almost all aspects of our environment and built form. I'm delighted to see new proposals that provide humans more places to walk in peace away from motor vehicles.
54	This would enhance that section of the Park.
55	Let's face it. Manly dam is a man made lake. If you design the walk way well it will be an awesome asset to the park. It will allow people with disabilities to go further around the lake as well. Big yes from me.
56	This will provide much better walking access around Manly Dam. Please build it soon - we can't wait!
57	Great idea to improve safety for walkers, runners, and other park users. The road is so narrow (even for two cars), a boardwalk will be a big improvement. Also the signage uplift is much needed - so many times people ask for directions on the park circuit track, and I've only learned through experience on how not to end up in the streets of Allambie
58	A vital improvement to the existing park amenity. The current shared road access , particularly in the hill section between zone 2 +3 the adjacent roundabout to Zone3 One Way system is hazardous for walkers, particularly as there is inadequate warning signage and ranger enforcement of the 20kmph vehicle speed limit. As a regular user I'm constantly trying to signal cars to slow down as they travel at up to 60km with children and families walking on cycling on the road ahead. There should be a prominent sign at the Manly Vale road entrance warning of an enforceable Speed Limit with heavy fine attached for breach, plus easily seen and properly maintained on-road speed limit markings at regular intervals.
59	Appropriate design and will add to the attraction of this local parkland. As regular visitors to the Dam over many years, the walkway is a welcome development to the current requirement to walking along the existing narrow roadway. Despite speed signs, many motorists ignore these restrictions, making life for walkers often hazardous. Council is to be congratulated for its initiative and general upkeep of this magical area within our community. Seating and picnic facilities in the various areas have been upgraded in recent years and we often take interstate and overseas visitors to experience the beauty and peace of this bushland setting and they are always very impressed that such a wonderful facility exists. My only complaint is that the peace can on occasions be disturbed by power boats on the lake but sharing the facility with everyone is a small price to pay.
60	I fully support this idea and I would also like to see access points along the walk to reach the beach areas along the walk.
61	A safer pathway through Manly Memorial Park is needed especially when older people wish to explore other areas in safety. They can enjoy the bushland setting.

Number	Comment
62	<p>This is a wonderful idea.</p> <p>Please include as many information plaques as possible including about the local bird life and the effect of feeding them bread.</p> <p>Also any information about how the aboriginal communities would have lived in the area and used the plants, caves and water in their daily lives.</p>
63	<p>Finally we can walk safely to the furthest picnic areas without having to watch out for vehicles. It's great that it will allow those with mobility issues to access more of this beautiful site. It is also positive that raised platforms are used to ensure the track is available in all weather conditions and reduce erosion. Dirt trails become a bog in low lying areas when there is heavy rain.</p>
64	<p>This is a very much-needed Link Trail - it has always appeared unsafe and unsettling to us when walking or pushing strollers on the road-edge, not just between Area 2 and 3, but for longer walks around the Dam. I am delighted that the Proposal is for a raised boardwalk and that it includes a Viewing Deck. Many thanks for your Letter mailed to me dated 09 Feb.22 re the Proposal Trail.</p>
65	<p>I am an avid trail runner and use Manly Dam a lot. I encourage any development that encourages visitors and their appreciation of our natural environment, but with the following caveats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Ensure the boardwalk is environmentally friendly - no microplastics or detritus to end up in the environment. * Make the boardwalk wide enough for families and safe passing by runners. * Please only install a boardwalk where it's deemed absolutely essential. The rough nature of the trails and rawness of the environment is what I love about it.
66	<p>Thank you this will be greatly appreciated by parents with young children and older people who struggle with the dangerous road access to section 3 at present.</p>
67	<p>The idea of a boardwalk is fine however I have concerns re the path and viewing platform near the bay to the immediate South of picnic area 3. When kayaking in the early mornings I regularly see rock wallabies at the waters edge here. Having a raised path with handrails and a viewing platform will likely deter the wallabies and prevent them accessing the dam water as they currently do.</p>
68	<p>Whilst the speed limit for vehicles on the adjacent road is low, some drivers choose to ignore this. The building of this trail will improve safety, especially for walkers completing circumnavigation of the dam.</p>
69	<p>Long overdue, will be very busy.</p>
70	<p>Yes, I absolutely support the plan to build a trail link! This is an essential piece of infrastructure that will provide a safe, flat way out of the park that is also enjoyable to use.</p>
71	<p>I walk in Manly Dam a lot. It would be great not to be walking with the cars. Cars are often driving way over the 10 or 20km speed limit.</p>
72	<p>An excellent idea, much more environmentally friendly than concrete or other 'inground' materials.</p> <p>I hope the product is to be purchased from one of our local suppliers of the non slip materials that are used extensively in (for example)Kosciusko N.P. Such materials are not subject to cracking, rainwater cannot pool, they are not a 'trip' hazard and they do not kill growth, impede water courses or the passage of little creatures.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
73	<p>I'd love it if my disabled friends could easily join us at Area 3 for a picnic - great to see council making the dam accessible for all.</p>

Number	Comment
74	<p>I think the proposed viewing deck area is too intrusive and not necessary. Just have the low boardwalk and the small resting points. There are plenty of places in the picnic areas for individuals and groups to stop and view the dam or have formal educational classes.</p> <p>This area of bushland is used by native fauna (including Swamp Wallabies) to move around safely and access the dam for water and I am concerned that it will be an obstruction for them. They will be able to go over it however, the big increase in pedestrian traffic will scare them off and be a deterrent for them. It should be kept as a low impact pathway only - to walk between existing picnic areas and not include more places to stop.</p>
75	Great addition to the walking trails - negating the necessity to walk on the road way as currently happens
76	I often walk in Manly Dam, and obviously use the road between Areas 2 and 3. The land in this area is quite steep, meaning the walk will be slightly elevated. In general I think it is a terrific proposal, and I will happily use it to avoid the road once it is finished.
77	<p>Long overdue and a wonderful addition to the reserve. The walkway around Narrabeen Lake has been a roaring success and this should garner terrific support also as it adds a safe connection/amenity to the park.</p> <p>We highly recommend that speed bumps are now installed on the roadway so that it further reduces traffic demand and traffic speeds.</p>
78	It will be an improvement for walkers!
79	Every year we are consulted on another development for manly dam. Every year we provide feedback, pointing out the unique natural beauty of the park and the benefits in letting it be. To little effect. This proposal will involve removing 15 trees and putting in viewing platforms. There is ample natural spots for looking out over the dam already. Please just stop constructing stuff around the dam. If you are really committed to improving the visitor experience, prohibit water skiing. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
80	No need for the cost... people can share the road with cars just fine
81	Looks fantastic and a great way to encourage more use of this community resource.
82	Will ensure a safer and more user-centric resource to support even further enjoyment of this amazing asset.
83	Absolutely support this project - option 1 makes the most sense. The park is a recreational asset first and foremost as indicated by its RE1 Public Recreation zone. The design of this proposed pathway appropriately balances the conservation goals of the park with its recreational function. This stretch of road is a real safety problem and undermines the appeal of the circuit track - I'm really pleased this is being addressed.
84	<p>An excellent idea , and good for us wheelchair users.</p> <p>Ensure good access to picnic areas and try to ensure that it is not too visually intrusive.</p>
85	Love it!!!
86	If it is for safety and traffic issues can this not be build next to and following the road rather than having to cut through the bush and change the aspect and feel of the place?
87	Didn't Rob Stokes already announce this? I thought this was approved and being built.
88	Please leave the area as virgin bushland for all to enjoy. It will drive wildlife away and humans will introduce cigarette butts and rubbish where ever the track goes. We have enough built up areas and leave at lease some of the Northern Beaches in it's original form. Why doesn't the council fix potholes and roads like it is supposed to do.

Number	Comment
89	Excellent idea that allows access to people who would otherwise not be able to access this area eg older frail people, people with disabilities, parents who have children in prams.
90	I grew up swimming daily in Manly Dam. The natural untouched beauty is part of its charm. There are already enough roads and BBQ facilities now. No more are needed.
91	This looks brilliant, please go ahead as planned. Much needed.
92	Much needed.
93	Excellent initiative
94	I walk here everyday and often have near misses with on coming traffic. The pathway like the one around Narrabeen lake is fantastic so all I can say that with forward environmental thinking and management it will become a valuable asset to our local community for years to come!
95	Very much support this. It has for more dangerous on the road over the years for pedestrians as traffic has increased. I like the integration with viewing platforms to showcase that areas of the dam more
96	Fantastic idea and concept!
97	It will be a positive
98	What is the point of beautiful bush land in the city if you can't enjoy it. All other walks are used by thousands daily and wildlife is respected by all. It still flourishes. There is harmony at other places.
99	Good idea
100	Great work. I support the project, but would prefer an additional northern connection to the car park. This would be to encourage pedestrians not to walk on the road looking for a short cut. I would also support one or two more viewing platforms (can be smaller than the main one), as I think they will be very popular. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
101	What does the FRP mean on your drawing for the Boardwalk?
102	Leave our bush alone. the last purely natural place on the beaches- and you want to destroy it.
103	Link with already existing trail & pathway. List aboriginal country on which Manly Dam is.
104	I like the idea it is down low and takes out the undulating hills of the road thus allowing people of differing abilities to walk the dam track. I walk there regularly and cars can't be trusted to keep to a low speed limit. And with the blind spots on numerous corners this plan take away the current dangerous route.
105	As a frequent visitor to the Dam I have noticed several rock wallabies use the access to the water edge via the small Bay Area which is now proposed to have a 'viewing platform'. I feel this would impact the access and overwhelm the the small bay. The proposal says it would allow flora and for a access but I cannot see how the wallabies can negotiate this structure. The Dam and the surrounding bush land are special places in such a busy built up area and I would have thought the wildlife and bush have priority over the people. The eco-pathway is good in many areas, but multiple level areas take away from the 'raw' nature of the area... I'm sure the pathway can be adjusted to connect to the existing paths where there are plenty of places to view the bush.
106	This is exactly what we need at Manly Dam. When you are driving along the road, even at 20km/hr, it's hard to miss all the relaxed pedestrians. And the walkers should be relaxed not worried about kids and cars. This will finish the link as a great family round trip. Great idea.

Number	Comment
107	This boardwalk is so needed. Cars do not stick to the 20km speed limit and the road from Area 2 to Area 4 is very narrow. Love the idea of some viewing platforms which will also give places for slower walkers or families to let faster walkers and runners past. Are you looking at putting any more viewing platforms further west along the trail from Area 4? There have been a lot of trees down and cleared giving access from the trail to the water edge near the reeds which would make a great viewing or contemplation area. We walk here regularly and it is a truly beautiful area. Also can this boardwalk be for walkers and joggers only and no bikes please. Unlike Narrabeen Lagoon where there are bikes continually almost running you down. Thank you
108	Boardwalk needs to be wider - I'm sure it will prove to be very popular like Narrabeen Lagoon trail and if like your artists impressions there's families, wheelchairs and runners going both directions it will need to be wider than the proposed plans to enable safe passing.
109	I grew up on the Northern Beaches and am a long term resident of Manly. My family and I have recently returned from living a few years abroad and am devastated to find a lot of our favourite walks turned into highways. These new tracks are extremely ugly and remove the very joy of a "Bush Walk", turning them into a "Highway city extension". I urge council to reconsider and stop this and similar plans. There are now loads of very accessible walks for our community members with less mobility - we don't need to turn every charming bush walk into a highway.
110	Good to be off the road.
111	Can't we just leave the bushland alone as a conservation reserve for the plants and animals? Why does everything have to be about people? The reserve has been fine in its current state for decades and does not need constant "improvement" to turn it into some sort of amusement park. There's already enough "improved" areas for public use. This boardwalk would just become a melted mess in the next bushfire too. Or have we forgotten about fires already?
112	Very sensible to have a more level walk, away from the narrow road, so that less mobile people, prams, wheelchairs etc can easily enjoy more of the dam. I can see that this option will require far fewer trees to be cut down compared to a boardwalk next to the road, and the fact that it is raised off the ground so animals can still easily move around is great. The resting and observation decks are great - but can they have some shade installed as well please? Please don't listen to the extremists who object to just about anything being done to benefit the community if it requires a blade of grass being disturbed. This project significantly improves the ability for people to experience the dam as well as greatly improve safety.
113	Great idea ♡
114	<p>After 23 years in the area, walking and running the bush tracks and picnicking, around the park, I have over the last 18 months or so, started regular walks on this road with my wife. Increased traffic and the occasional interaction with it, has prompted us to discuss a walking path, as we walk. Our analysis is based entirely on observation, without expert knowledge or Google.</p> <p>We arrived at the same options and the same conclusion as you.</p> <p>Thank you for identifying and responding to this unfortunate, but inevitable problem.</p>
115	I think that the boardwalk should be extended to carpark 4. Although it is possible to walk from car park 4 to the main entry, this requires a steep climb (up and down) that is not wheelchair friendly. By extending the boardwalk, more of the dam's beauty would be made available to less able people.
116	Looks great!!
117	Please leave natural areas alone! We don't need any more man made areas in natural habitats. Let the kids walk in mud. Let us explore uneven ground. Please save the money for more important things!

Number	Comment
118	Excellent plan. I run at Manly Dam and often run up the road as there is no track at that point. This will be a very welcome addition and will make the park more usable and accessible for all. Thank you for making this investment.
119	Think it's a fabulous idea, and long overdue!
120	Brilliant idea to provide an inclusive pathway. Love it! Shame the raised walkway is in plastic tho- why not a steel pathway like in Thredbo and Mr Kosciusko? Would also be fire proof then.
121	A lot of people like to cycle around the dam. Please ensure it is cycle friendly (so don't have to cycle up/down steps).
122	Well done NBC, how lucky we are! We have not 'tried the walk out but we know the park very well with walking abike riding of old.
123	Looks fantastic - seems like a really great addition to the park, especially to encourage more walking and less vehicle traffic to the upper areas. The shared road/pedestrian situation at present is really unsafe, especially with children. Great for locals within walking distance. Seems like a sensitive design for the special environment of the dam. While I'm sure the construction particularly could have some impact on flora and fauna, it is a highly impacted area around a man-made dam and the design of the boardwalk seems very appropriate.
124	I support a separate path for pedestrians - but I question the choice of material, which has two key downsides: 1. Pollution: We are becoming increasingly aware of the impact of micro plastics in our environment- especially our waterways. The FRP panels will degrade over time creating micro plastics that will enter Manly Dam. 2. Low walking amenity: the FRP panels are not as pleasant to walk on as a natural surface, such as crushed sandstone. Solution: use a natural material: no pollution, and higher walking amenity - which will be much more sympathetic to the character of the beautiful natural environment than a manufactured strip of panels.
125	Hi, this would look absolutely disgusting and completely ruin what the dam has that every other place in the northern beaches hasn't got anymore. The feeling of being in an environment in its natural state. No boardwalks ruining the place. Leave it how it is and spend the money on something more useful like releasing more aussie bass into the dam to bring the numbers back up.
126	The board walk will make this area way more accessible and enjoyable, walking the road has always been difficult being narrow and not having any verge space to walk on or wait for traffic to pass.
127	This would be fantastic!
128	Leave it as a natural habitat. This is intrusive and ugly. I walk at Manly dam a lot, there's plenty of walking opportunities along the water and through bushland already. Not every little stretch needs to be accessible. Sometimes it is just nice to be able to step away from the path, and enjoy the peace and quiet. I don't mind walking a part on the road and it never occurred dangerous to me.
129	The reason we go to the dam is because it's a natural bush setting and the bush trails offer challenges. To put a steel pathway is a waste of \$. Spend it on removing pollution in waterways and creeks.
130	Yes, I suggest leaving "hiking" / dog walk trails but better access for disabled people would be amazing with the low boardwalk protecting the land. Lots of runners so lots of - stand to the side viewing points. Will dogs be allowed on leash? I hope so. Such a high population of doggos needing a good walk

Number	Comment
131	These improvements for walker access to Manly Dam look terrific. Thanks for making this great recreation and leisure area even better.
132	This is fantastic and long overdue. However, will this continue around the entire dam which is needed as there are areas that are perpetually flooded.
133	I love it. Only problem is I'm a dog owner so I don't get to enjoy these facilities. Why can't I take my dog into the park if I keep her on the leash?
134	Great idea, a wonderful area but needs protection from eroding the pathways through use. The road is also too narrow for cars and pedestrians and there are many near misses.
135	Please continue building an another link trail to connect section 3 and section 4.
136	Great idea, I really like where the design is heading.
137	Manly Dam should be preserved in as close to its natural form to give native species a respite from the encroaching human population. The decks are a scourge on the natural landscape and the low key boardwalk may as well be sidewalk. There are actual nature trails at the moment. These changes would be catastrophic to the area.
138	I have read the documents and can see merit in the track that does not about the road. I am trusting the council to not devastate the surrounding bushland as I grew up in the area always swimming in the dam as a child and I am very attached to the lovely natural surroundings of the dam. I am hoping that this walkway, which is apparently necessary, will not shrink the bushland as it is always being threatened or taken for something such as Manly Vale school.
139	I would like to see the dam stay as wild as possible. There are better ways to improve access by updating one of the pre-existing picnic areas for better wheelchair access and making the road a shared zone for pedestrians. There is no need to open up more bush. The plan puts the boardwalk through one of the very few areas of water frontage not disturbed by humans, making it an important place for animals to drink and birds to nest. It is very hard to find places that are genuinely still wild on the northern beaches and it is so important that they stay as wild as possible, both for the non-human community and for human wellbeing. It's all connected.
140	Needs to be as low-key as possible. Don't want the pathway to facilitate high-speed bicycle riding as has happened at Narrabeen Lake circuit trail: pedestrians must be the main objective/priority for the path. Also, the waterski club with their exclusive 'licence' needs to be removed from the park. Why should a very small elite group of people have sole access to run their boats and ski on this tiny public waterway? The 'club' is secretive and deceptive in their tactics to avoid public enquiry in joining or accessing the same facility they enjoy. The skiers behave rudely when they are at the dam: they talk like they own the place, and tell lies to intimate other users from parking anywhere near the boat ramp, even though it's public parking. They get very grumpy with young waders and swimmers who dare to wander into 'their' ski zone. It's an outdated and inequitable deal that was struck many decades ago and it's time the NB council put an end to the farce.
141	Whilst the stated benefits from the design, including the width and length of the link trail, appear to provide access for wheelchairs and prams the reality is that it does not achieve this aim. Access to and then onto and off this trail at both ends has not been thoroughly thought through, including how a wheelchair bound person and carer would get to the path from the carparks.
142	Wonderful idea and a long time coming.
143	I like how this sort of boardwalk has been implemented around Narrabeen lake, and think it will go well at the Dam.

Number	Comment
144	<p>Manly Dam is an absolute conservational gem in an urban settling already. There is no need to further develop it for more access.</p> <p>The proposed access walkway does more environmental damage and serves no further purpose for access that is already adequately there.</p> <p>Paint a walking track or bike track on the existing road and the same objective is achieved.</p>
145	Looks fantastic and allows more people, especially those with higher needs, to access a unique part of Sydney
146	A clear(er) path through the bush is desperately needed in this section of the Dam for easier recreational access to the bush and water, and to complete the Dam loop. I support as low touch and low cost development approach as possible to building this trail, and if elevated sections are needed for longevity and out of necessity, then so be it.
147	<p>The unwarranted and unwanted urbanisation of our area continues, apparently led by our very own NBC. Telling us that only 15 immature trees would be removed is an irony considering the wholesale destruction of natural habitat which has already taken place in the region in recent years, due to the construction of the Northern Beaches Hospital and accompanying road works. Let's not forget that we will then lose a far greater area of native habitat, when the Northern Beaches Tunnel cuts another swathe through vital bush resources.</p> <p>Compare the urban treescape in Frenchs Forest and Belrose, to the that under the watch of Kuringai Council, and the difference is stark - NBC is taking no action to protect mature native trees within these suburbs, whilst in Kuringai they are actively and retrospectively issuing significant fines for those who have removed native trees without the relevant permissions. This proposed path may not apparently be overly significant on its own, but the destruction of native habitat, and similar losses due to other projects, represents death of 'The Forest', by a thousand literal cuts.</p>
148	Excellent
149	Need to ensure a cycle way is provided.
150	Fabulous idea. Sooner the better
151	As a regular walker at the dam I think this will be a great improvement for safety and also tranquility, lovely area to sit and enjoy the water and surrounding bush land before continuing walk.
152	I don't believe this is a necessary change to existing facilities and this will damage flora
153	Great idea , but make sure no Bikes allowed otherwise it will be to dangerous. If it is open to bikes I will oppose the it
154	It is unspoilt bushland, why do you insist on intruding into the wildlife habitats that actually make the place so unique. There are wallabies and other animals on the southern shore of the lake and they have "people free" access to water, why would you remove this from them. Honestly, some of the ideas coming out of Council are just so badly thought out and totally ludicrous. We need to see some common sense in the future planning of the Northern Beaches, not more destructive, unneeded and unnecessary rubbish you keep trotting out. More pressing are the thousands of potholes that never seem to get fixed anymore on our roads and some attention paid to the conditions of roads, parks etc.
155	I have been using the picnic areas and trails around Manly War Memorial Park for 44 years, running, swimming, and now walking, and have always commented on the need for a pedestrian link between the end of the existing pedestrian pathway to Area 2 and Area 4, completely separate from the road. The road is dangerous for pedestrians. I wholeheartedly endorse your Option 1. In my opinion the only way to go.

Number	Comment
156	I think it is needed and it looks good. Can't wait for a similar boardwalk along the inside dune/lagoon walk Dee Why to Laongreef Beach.
157	Will be a great improvement and will increase pedestrian safety immeasurably.
158	Excellent plan. Please make sure the plan involves toilet facilities for the public to use at both ends of the walk.
159	These initiatives are so popular and really well done, giving many people beautiful places to exercise and enjoy nature. I imagine this is going to be quite a popular destination for pedestrians and cyclists- I think you should make the board walk doubly wide. Similarly, the narrabeen boardwalk is so popular it should have been wider too, to accomodate all the people and bike traffic it attracts. For fun and to attract more people to come walk and ride around the dam it should be x2 wide and extended to make a loop about the dam if possible (without upsetting the ducks and swans) 😊
160	Will be much safer for pedestrians given the narrow winding road.
161	It is a great idea and thank you for proposing and delivering it. It is always an issue walking between picnic spots and on the narrow road. I assume it is only for pedestrians not bikes as well as it will need to be wider if bikes are allowed on it.
162	It is a very necessary link as currently the need to walk on the road is dangerous. It would be a wonderful enhancement and provide safer walking particularly for children, in this beautiful environment and strongly support the boardwalk.
163	there needs to be a walkway all the way around the lake
164	Ensure the access is step free please!!!!
165	This is a fantastic idea. It is so dangerous with families kids people with prams having to walk along the narrow road to get from the area near The kids playground to the start of the bush tail. Great idea and desperately needed
166	Speed limit is only 20km. The people that walk on road do so mainly for fitness. Picnickers usually drive between areas. There already is the concrete track and other bush tracks. The untouched beauty would become an eyesore
167	Fully approve of any plan that makes walkers safer, however the need for parking at each Section is critical as there are users that require safe parking access and to take disabled, the elderly, kids & equipment to each area. People need to park vehicles & any changes should only increase parking, not reduce what is always a critical shortage, especially special days (Anzac day, Oz day, Xmas & weekends generally).
168	NB Council needs to take learnings from the track around Narrabeen Lake which is so busy that walkers and bike users are almost a loggerheads. I think the walkway needs to be wider to accomodate two people walking side by side and a bike can pass at the same time without walkers having to go single file.
169	Go for it!
170	Fully support this project. The separation of vehicles and pedestrians is a vital safety factor. The boardwalk also provides an enhanced experience to observe nature and wildlife as well as offering views of the waterway.

Number	Comment
171	<p>Manly Warringah War Memorial Park is such a precious, unspoilt place. It is virtually unique to have a naturally wild environment in suburbia where the community can experience birds and mammals that have rapidly disappeared from so many other parks. The community has especially enjoyed this wild experience during the Covid pandemic.</p> <p>When Council's Biodiversity Department looked after the area they appreciated its natural values. But since the "Parks" Section have taken control, they seems to want to tame the bushland and make it into a conventional "park". A good example of this is when they attempted to install a "Regional Play Space" and replace the present low key playground. It would have been 17 TIMES the current size- if not for protestations from war veterans and the wider community.</p> <p>Sadly this grossly oversized boardwalk plan with viewing areas and more incursions into natural bushland is but another example of this. Council has previously identified that the park is under threat from invasive weeds, diminishing water quality and intruding development. So why not redirect the \$1.8million (that's \$4,500 dollars a metre!) to the issues raised in Council's 2005 "Keeping Our Dam Alive" program? (They have not gone away).</p> <p>It is a scientific fact that more tracks into undeveloped areas means more disturbance and harm to wildlife:- https://theconversation.com/dont-hike-so-close-to-me-how-the-presence-of-humans-can-disturb-wildlife-up-to-half-a-mile-away-162223</p> <p>The plan mentions the fact that few trees will be removed but fails to point out that a significant area of bushland and understory vegetation will have to be cleared (and ancient rock forms drilled into). This is exactly what developers do- conveniently ignore the removal of native shrubs as if they don't have any importance. Every area of bushland -where people are given more access means less nesting habitat, more disturbance to animals and less access to water for cherished creatures such as wallabies.</p> <p>The unfortunate thing in this whole proposal is that there is already a wide, under-utilised road nearby (which has virtually NO traffic on it during the week). Why not have car free days, lower the speed limit, install traffic calming devices? Make this great space pedestrian and bike friendly. It seems a fabulous opportunity that has been over looked in the constant drive for more "Infrastructure".</p> <p>The road has the potential for everyone to use it and provide "accessibility for all".</p> <p>If "accessibility" is really the driving force why not use the funds to make Manly Dam's wall (and its great views) accessible?</p> <p>Manly Dam boasts 1,124 plant and 420 animal species. But more clearing, noise and disturbance will threaten this rich biodiversity. As a nation, our biodiversity is in deep crisis because we continually exploit it :- https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/may/15/australias-biodiversity-at-breaking-point-a-picture-essay</p> <p>Manly Dam boasts amazing wildlife such a the threatened Eastern Pygmy Possums (which will be impacted by this track) and the Gondwanan Climbing Galaxias fish -the ONLY place it can be found in Greater Sydney. But there are NO recovery plans in place for ANY of the several listed threatened species that live in the Park.</p> <p>Another moot point is the fact that the mountain bike trail is overused and subject to terrible erosion. Council could have have pursued grant funding to fix this problem.</p>

Number	Comment
	<p>For once, why doesn't Council put conservation first? Manly Dam already faces existential threats from the Beaches Link Tunnel and encroaching edge development. It seems bizarre that more vegetation clearing is on the cards from within.</p> <p>A huge boardwalk was NOT in the Park's Management Plan but various protection recommendations WERE (such as enhanced wildlife corridors). They seem to have been conveniently ignored).</p> <p>Manly Warringah War Memorial park was the first war memorial to be created by conserving natural bushland. It's wild beauty IS the memorial. There is already a plethora of walking tracks, bike tracks and a road.</p> <p>The Frenchs Forest precinct plan worryingly suggests even more tracks and more clearing.</p> <p>Please stop and recognise what you have. There are well over 150 other parks on the Northern Beaches to develop with more "infrastructure". Please focus on those and "Keep Manly Dam (uniquely) Wild" ?</p>
172	Great initiative by council to improve a road way walkway.
173	<p>1 Entry to the existing 1:7 ramp connection to the trail is too angled for wheelchairs and walkers. It is recommended that a new safe access ramp be installed between the car park to the existing concrete path.</p> <p>2. At the northern end of the new trail it is recommended that a concrete path from Picnic Area 3 to the car park be considered for wheelchairs and walkers. Presently access from the car park to Picnic Area 3 is difficult because of broken ground.</p>
174	Please Council, do not listen to the naysayers who apparently have no idea as to the environmental values of the proposed walkway enabling all of our community to enjoy one of Sydney's prime assets. This walkway has to be one of Council's best decisions on protecting our local fauna and flora within the Manly Dam area.
175	Love it. We often walk around Manly Dam with the family and that last stretch along the road has always been dangerous. Having a suggested environmental walkway along the waterfront would be perfect.
176	<p>One of the great things currently is that there are sections of bush walk paths, it is important to keep it natural and not have all of it decked and as easy to stroll paths. It is great to enable safe walking for people, and also to keep the experience of walking on the natural ground and bush available.</p> <p>Also, please consider allowing dogs on the paths as well, rather than dog owners being restricted to small park areas to stroll in.</p>

Number	Comment
177	support
178	<p>I have been involved with the Save Manly Dam group since the early 1990's and have fought to protect encroachment from housing development and, more recently, the revamped Manly Public School which still makes me very angry.</p> <p>However, during the covid period, I am aware of many more people becoming familiar with this beautiful natural bushland and feel that the proposed walkways will help protect the bush and allow people to enjoy the walk away from the road traffic. I hope materials chosen are from recycled sources.</p> <p>I also hope that the catchment area and the flora and fauna of in this memorial park is held as a "precious" resource in any future planning.</p>
179	<p>Please keep Manly dam wild!! This is such an inappropriate thing to do.</p> <p>This is Australia's only War Memorial created by conserving natural bushland. The proposed new Boardwalk would cut through untouched biodiversity and involve more clearing for viewing areas. Every new path or track through bushland damages wildlife habitat.</p>
180	<p>Manly-Warringah War Memorial Park (Manly Dam) is an exceptional living War Memorial Park, large enough and pristine enough to give a sense of what the entire Northern Beaches was once like in its natural state - prior to development. It is a place where nature should be preserved. Manly Dam does not need 'improvements' or for the surviving natural habitats to be opened up for human 'access' complete with more signs, clutter and litter. The natural, undisturbed biodiverse nature of the War Memorial Reserve is the attraction.</p> <p>There is already a roadway which runs between these areas. It could easily be closed to cars on 2-3 weekdays to allow for walkers and wheelchair access only.</p> <p>The proposed boardwalk passes through a pristine area of bushland, and a wallaby has been sighted here. Currently it is able to live in this secluded area with access to drinking water. It will be driven away, as were the wallabies which were driven away by the nearby Manly Vale Public School expansion in 2017 - (it was no coincidence that a traumatised wallaby was seen in the centre of Manly, another at Northbridge Golf Course and a one was rescued from the Sydney Harbour Bridge, all around the same time in 2017). Manly Dam bushland needs top priority protection! There are enough walking tracks and cycle tracks in Manly Dam already, all of them fragment habitat and provide weed conduits.</p> <p>The \$1.8 million for just 400m of pathway could be much better utilised on bushland restoration to protect the reserve from weed invasion. The range of flora at Manly Dam is astounding - due to lack of disturbance. Threatened species such as Pimelea curviflora still occur in this Reserve. It needs to be protected.</p> <p>The proposed boardwalk passes through a pristine area of bushland, and a wallaby has been sighted here. Currently it is able to live in this secluded area with access to drinking water. It will be driven away, as were the wallabies which were driven away by the nearby Manly Vale Public School expansion in 2017 - (it was no coincidence that a traumatised wallaby was seen in the centre of Manly, another at Northbridge Golf Course and a one was rescued from the Sydney Harbour Bridge, all around the same time in 2017). Manly Dam bushland needs top priority protection! There are enough walking tracks and cycle tracks in Manly Dam already, all of them fragment habitat and provide weed conduits.</p> <p>Weeds will be difficult to eradicate once they inevitably start to grow in the boardwalk itself. Contractors will probably try to control this by spraying Round-up - adding more</p>


Number	Comment
	<p>chemical residue into the Dam.</p> <p>With this proposed new boardwalk, which will be largely a new addition to Manly Dam, there is the potential for a repeat of Narrabeen Lagoon pathway which opened up several secluded fauna habitats previously inaccessible to humans, thereby driving sensitive wildlife away from these refuges. We do not want or need this in Manly-Warringah War Memorial Park.</p> <p>I note this statement: "Once the trail link between Picnic Areas 2 and 3 is completed, we will start investigating options for completing a safe connection from Picnic Area 3 to Picnic Area 4." Why has the public consultation period being done so late in the day? It should be done very early on, including consultation with community groups, well before over a year of planning has been funded. Is this proposal already a fait accompli and so are we wasting our time providing public feedback?</p> <p>I certainly hope not and I certainly urge Northern Beaches Council to have a serious re-think about spending \$1.8 million on this unnecessary infrastructure.</p> <p>Keep Manly Dam wild!</p>
181	<p>As a regular user of Manly Dam for over 40 years I welcome the concept of a raised boardwalk as designed. I have walked to the Dam with my children and now my seven grandchildren. Only last month did we find ourselves on the side of road trying to meet their dad's car. So dangerous. I have ventured around Australia for many years and admired the raised walkways that Tasmania have on their walks. Nothing disturbed underfoot and it allows you to connect with nature in a respectful way. I welcome with great excitement the raised boardwalk. Thank you Michelle Schultz</p>
182	<p>Grateful that the trail link was thought of considerably for the public's safety access and enjoyment.</p>
183	<p>I do not support this proposal as it will no doubt disturb the beautiful wildlife resulting in reduction in biodiversity in the area. This is inconsistent with the council's stated position on protecting our amazing local natural environment.</p>
184	<p>People like a loop. Refer Narrabeen lake. Will this path perhaps start a circumnavigation of the dam?</p>
185	<p>It's a great idea.</p> <p>The path will enable safe walking for families .</p> <p>Easy walking for wheel chairs and disable people.</p>
186	<p>I have always wished for a walking track here when I had little kids as the road is unsafe and the other tracks are too difficult for young children. this will be a great addition.</p>


Number	Comment
187	<p>I think the Mandy Dam Link Trail is probably a good idea to improve safety at Manly Dam and complete the loop. I like that the environmental impact has been considered and that minimal trees will be cut down. I'm not sure if this is already included in the plan, but I'd like to see double as many trees as cut down planted in the area to replace them.</p> <p>I'm also not sure if an assessment of the flora/fauna of the track areas has been done, but if not this would be good to identify any sensitive areas and take extra measures to make sure fauna have access and no vulnerable plant communities are affected.</p> <p>Basically, I am supportive of the track, as long as the environment is considered very carefully and that all negative impacts are "offset" by ecosystem rehabilitation elsewhere.</p>
188	<p>Road very narrow between sections 2 and 3 for cars and pedestrians. I run or walk at the Dam regularly and it would be great to have a separate path, away from the road.</p>
189	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I can't understand the councils continued attack to install infrastructure in such a critical nature zone Here are just a few reasons i say " NO".</p> <p>1/ The chosen site FLOODS (see below pic) 2/ It will mean more urbanisation of a precious wild space. 3/ Every new track destroys bushland and wildlife habitat and encourages invasive weeds (that would need to be controlled with poisonous herbicides). 4/ Every new track creates noise disturbance for birds and animals 5/ This project will require clearing of native vegetation and drilling into ancient sandstone rock forms. 6/ Council will say "very few trees will be lost" but neglect to mention the removal of low lying shrubs and flowering plants. 6/ Viewing platforms will require additional clearing and will be visible from afar. 7/ Runners and Joggers will STILL use the nearby road- so why not make sure that the road is safe for ALL with traffic calming measures? 8/ The plastic construction material will burn in a bushfire - leaving toxic residue 9/ The \$1.8 million could be used on, vitally needed, conservation programs. Or, the dam wall, with its spectacular views, could be made accessible for all by redirecting the funding to construct a mobility ramp. 10/ Wildlife (such as wallabys) needs access to water without human disturbance 11/ Council previously wanted to make the discreet children's playground 17 times its current size !! Only community disquiet stopped them. Who then came up with this proposal ?? 12/ This is the only war memorial in Australia to be created by protecting natural bushland. It can't be "improved" with yet more "infrastructure". 13/ Manly Dam is a rare, natural, wild place in an urban setting unlike virtually every other city park- let's keep it that way.</p>


Number	Comment
190	<p>Manly Dam is one of the very few places left where it's natural, please don't turn it into a massive feature park. It's supposed to be for the people. It's charm is that it's NOT developed, that it's bush and that we can see all the fauna and fauna. There are plenty of places for people to walk with boardwalks.</p> <p>1/ The chose site FLOODS (see below pic)</p> <p>2/ It will mean more urbanisation of a precious wild space.</p> <p>3/ Every new track destroys bushland and wildlife habitat and encourages invasive weeds (that would need to be controlled with poisonous herbicides).</p> <p>4/ Every new track creates noise disturbance for birds and animals</p> <p>5/ This project will require clearing of native vegetation and drilling into ancient sandstone rock forms.</p> <p>6/ Council will say "very few trees will be lost" but neglect to mention the removal of low lying shrubs and flowering plants.</p> <p>6/ Viewing platforms will require additional clearing and will be visible from afar.</p> <p>7/ Runners and Joggers will STILL use the nearby road- so why not make sure that the road is safe for ALL with traffic calming measures?</p> <p>8/ The plastic construction material will burn in a bushfire - leaving toxic residue</p> <p>9/ The \$1.8 million could be used on, vitally needed, conservation programs. Or, the dam wall, with its spectacular views, could be made accessible for all by redirecting the funding to construct a mobility ramp.</p> <p>10/ Wildlife (such as wallabys) needs access to water without human disturbance</p> <p>11/ Council previously wanted to make the discreet children's playground 17 times its current size !! Only community disquiet stopped them. Who then came up with this proposal ??</p> <p>12/ This is the only war memorial in Australia to be created by protecting natural bushland. It can't be "improved" with yet more "infrastructure".</p> <p>13/ Manly Dam is a rare, natural, wild place in an urban setting unlike virtually every other city park- let's keep it that way.</p>


Number	Comment
191	<p>I am totally opposed to this mega intrusive boardwalk. This site will be decimated by the beaches link tunnel and this board walk will add even more destruction. Please see my objections below:</p> <p>1/ The chosen site floods 2/ It will mean more urbanisation of a precious wild space. 3/ Every new track destroys bushland and wildlife habitat and encourages invasive weeds (that would need to be controlled with poisonous herbicides). 4/ Every new track creates noise disturbance for birds and animals 5/ This project will require clearing of native vegetation and drilling into ancient sandstone rock forms. 6/ Council say "very few trees will be lost" but neglect to mention the removal of low lying shrubs and flowering plants. 6/ Viewing platforms will require additional clearing and will be visible from afar. 7/ Runners and Joggers will STILL use the nearby road- so why not make sure that the road is safe for ALL with traffic calming measures? 8/ The plastic construction material will burn in a bushfire - leaving toxic residue 9/ The \$1.8 million could be used on, vitally needed, conservation programs. Or, the dam wall, with its spectacular views, could be made accessible for all by redirecting the funding to construct a mobility ramp. 10/ Wildlife (such as wallabies) needs access to water without human disturbance 11/ Council previously wanted to make the discreet children's playground 17 times its current size !! Only community disquiet stopped them. Who then came up with this proposal ?? 12/ This is the only war memorial in Australia to be created by protecting natural bushland. It can't be "improved" with yet more "infrastructure". 13/ Manly Dam is a rare, natural, wild place in an urban setting unlike virtually every other city park- let's keep it that way.</p> <p>Let's keep Manly Dam in its pristine natural state to be enjoyed as natural bushland. Half the fun of walking thru the bush is walking on a bush track not a plastic man-made path.</p>
192	<p>Let's keep these refuge the way it is. Semi wild with access for wildlife and endemic native flora not being impacted. We love this area as it is, as a respite from the city / suburban life we have. Thanks</p>
193	<p>The dam is a sanctuary for many fauna and flora. If it is opened up for easy access, then what we will see are people going 'bush' who wouldn't ever usually go bush = litter and access to areas of the dam that previously were untouched. People who go bush generally respect and care about the Bush. This isn't nimbism in the slightest, this is a fact that general public access will have a detrimental effect.</p> <p>Secondly, the roads and car parks can't cope with the numbers on a hot sunny weekend today, without an easy access all areas bald walk.</p> <p>The only logical and sceptical reason I can think of why this board walk is to be built is: developers, who know it will weaken the refuge status of the dam, then they will pounce and section off more bushland to build on. Why cant we leave what is such a positive reason why where we live is so fantastic? Nexy we will be building a marina at Shelly Beach!?</p>

Number	Comment
194	<p>Please stop!</p> <p>Manly Dam is a beautiful part of the Northern Beaches - please help to keep it this way rather than build over the top of it. The reason why Manly Dam is beautiful is not because it's boardwalks and pathways, but because of it's unspoilt natural elements. Another boardwalk will detract from this beauty, and would seem unnecessary since there is a "quiet" road that connects the picnic areas already.</p> <p>Maybe spend the money preserving what makes Manly Dam unique, rather than turn it into a over-developed play ground.</p>
195	This looks wonderful, can't wait to walk it and get off the dangerous road.
196	<p>Will improve access for a wider range of people. Retains most of water edge in it's natural state.</p> <p>Some of the arguments against are spurious. The roadways are busy on weekends, and as someone with a hearing impairment, I can't always hear approaching cars or push bikes when I walk on the road. Sadly, speed is also an issue. So a dedicated walkway is great.</p>
197	Please can we extend this all the way to picnic area 4?
198	<p>We don't need more urbanisation of our area; the area is prone to flooding; a new track would destroy bushland and wildlife habitat and encourages invasive weeds (that would need to be controlled with poisonous herbicides); it will require removal of low lying shrubs and flowering plants; Runners and Joggers will STILL use the nearby road- so why not make sure that the road is safe for ALL with traffic calming measures?</p> <p>Lastly and very importantly, The plastic construction material will burn in a bushfire - leaving toxic residue for animals and humans.</p> <p>Please invest the \$1.8 million for conservation programs and/or recycling programs to keep our environment clean of rubbish</p>
199	Whenever native bushland is cleared these areas open for weed infestation which have to be controlled by herbicide. It will disturb wildlife's natural corridors. The money could be better spent on more needed projects.
200	Please just leave it alone. There are SO MANY walking trails already around the dam, that are hardly ever used. They are never crowded. I walk on them almost daily, except when it's too muddy. Best thing you could do would be to spend the money on upgrading existing trails so that the mud is never an issue after rain.
201	A lot safer than walking on the road, and a boardwalk will be low maintenance and protects the ground against erosion. I fully support this proposal. Thank you.
202	<p>Manly dam is a unique place in Sydney where we are lucky to be able to be in nature whilst protecting the wildlife and the native vegetation. I strongly oppose this walking track because it is interfering with the natural bush, restricting the access to water by wallabies etc and creating an area where rubbish and invasive weeds can infiltrate the bush..</p> <p>I have walked with my elderly mother along the existing road many times and we have enjoyed the wildflowers along the way and never in fear of the cars that quietly drove past us..</p> <p>if you want to make the dam more accessible create a shared space on the road and increase access to the dam wall. Also you could take disabled people out on a slow motor boat once a week so they can experience the bush land and the views from the water. As a kayaker at manly dam I would be very disappointed to see even more precious land taken away from the nature we strive to protect. I hope you will spend this money in a more productive way.</p>
203	Providing walkways always sounds wonderful but at what cost? Leave well enough alone. We live in this beautiful part of NB because we love as is, the wildlife is the one of specials,, I understand this will be disrupted. Why not the occasional wheel chair friendly path and ramp for our lovelies, much better use of funding.
204	We should be conserving the bushland and protecting the area for wildlife.

Number	Comment																
205	<p>I question if there is sufficient demand for spending over \$1M on a walkway. Why do we need this link? Who is calling for it? Too often a vocal minority claims that something is needed when the silent majority are happy with the status quo. This is an enormous amount of money to be spending on a very questionable development. How many people actually walk between the two areas of the dam and where is the demand for this development?</p>																
206	<p>I strongly oppose the proposed boardwalk connecting Section 2 and 3 at Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park for several reasons:</p> <p>1. Habitat Loss and impact on native wildlife</p> <p>There are an array of species of animals including mammals, frogs, insects and reptiles at Manly Dam many of which rely on the dam as a vital water source. The Manly Dam Biodiversity Project has uncovered several species of frogs for example which were previously unknown to be found at Manly Dam. Manly Dam is also home to the classified vulnerable Rosenberg's Monitor (<i>Varanus Rosenbergi</i>).</p> <p>Verified observations of Rosenberg's Monitor can be seen around Section 3 Source: Manly Dam Biodiversity iNaturalist Project</p> <div></div> <p>www.inaturalist.org/projects/manly-dam-biodiversity-project</p> <p>There are several documented negative effects of human impact on amphibians and reptile species. See graphic below from Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (ARC https://www.arc-trust.org)</p> <table><tr><th>Type 1: Non-contact disturbance</th><th>Type 2: Habitat alteration</th><th>Type 3: Disturbance with contact</th><th>Type 4: Indirect effects</th></tr><tr><td>Explanation: Effects due simply to the presence of people (and companion animals), typically through altered behaviour</td><td>Explanation: Effects due to habitat being changed through public access</td><td>Explanation: Effects due to direct and potentially damaging contact with individual animals</td><td>Explanation: Effects brought about as an incidental result of public access</td></tr><tr><td>Examples of activities:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Species monitoring• Photography of animals• High footfall visits• Exploration by dogs</td><td>Examples of activities:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Species monitoring• Mountain biking• High footfall visits</td><td>Examples of activities:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ecological research• Collection for private study• Species monitoring</td><td>Examples of activities:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Species monitoring• Casual visits• Pond-dipping</td></tr><tr><td>Examples of effects:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased time spent under cover• Increased anti-predator behaviour• Movement away from favoured areas</td><td>Examples of effects:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduced amount and quality of habitat• Location of animals made more obvious</td><td>Examples of effects:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Injuring, killing• Removal from site</td><td>Examples of effects:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction of pathogens• Introduction of invasive plants or animals• Littering• Increased fire risk</td></tr></table> <p>Source: Amphibian and Reptile Conservation</p>	Type 1: Non-contact disturbance	Type 2: Habitat alteration	Type 3: Disturbance with contact	Type 4: Indirect effects	Explanation: Effects due simply to the presence of people (and companion animals), typically through altered behaviour	Explanation: Effects due to habitat being changed through public access	Explanation: Effects due to direct and potentially damaging contact with individual animals	Explanation: Effects brought about as an incidental result of public access	Examples of activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Species monitoring• Photography of animals• High footfall visits• Exploration by dogs	Examples of activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Species monitoring• Mountain biking• High footfall visits	Examples of activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ecological research• Collection for private study• Species monitoring	Examples of activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Species monitoring• Casual visits• Pond-dipping	Examples of effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased time spent under cover• Increased anti-predator behaviour• Movement away from favoured areas	Examples of effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduced amount and quality of habitat• Location of animals made more obvious	Examples of effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Injuring, killing• Removal from site	Examples of effects: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction of pathogens• Introduction of invasive plants or animals• Littering• Increased fire risk
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	<p>The proposed boardwalk would affect the many reptile and amphibious animals in all ways; Type 1, Type 2, Type 3 and Type 4 as above. This highlights the effects of high footfall visits, introduction of invasive plants, pathogens and littering.</p> <p>Manly Dam bushland is also the only home to a significant population of the classified vulnerable Eastern Pygmy Possum (<i>Cercartetus nanus</i>). Exerpt from Northern Beaches Council Website <i>"Although the Northern Beaches is known to have the largest population of pygmy possums in Sydney, outside of National Parks, these cryptic little animals were only discovered in the local area 8 years ago! Their population is considered vulnerable in NSW and is limited to the South East of Australia and Tasmania."</i></p> <p>This vulnerable species rely on very specific shrubs such as Banksia ericfolia which are prolific around the section 1, 2 and 3 areas. They are also important pollinator of these plants. Removal of bushland Banksia and Eucalypt species in particular in this area will undoubtedly affect this fragile species.</p>  <p>Verified observations of the Eastern Pygmy Possum around section 1 and 2 Source: Manly Dam Biodiversity iNaturalist Project www.inaturalist.org/projects/manly-dam-biodiversity-project</p> <p>There are many other species of animals such as Swamp wallaby, Brown Antechinus, Sugar Gliders, Common and Ring Tail Possums, Bush Rat, Short Beaked Echidna, Eastern Water Dragon, Yellow Tailed Cockatoo, Lace Monior, Grey Headed Flying Fox to list just a few. In fact the Manly Dam Biodiversity iNaturalist Project have so far found 681 species of plants and animals in the Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park. It is truly a unique area of urban biodiversity. Removing wildlife habitat and increasing the human footfall in the park will negatively impact these species and threaten the biodiversity of the bushland.</p> <p>2. Urbanisation of pristine bushland</p> <p>Manly Dam is a place of natural beauty and tranquility. As a local mum who visits Manly Dam frequently with my children and with friends we enjoy the peace and beauty of the natural environment. At Manly Dam we feel a million miles away from the stresses and rush of modern life and it is exactly the simplicity of the trails and the lack of infrastructure which enhance the area's natural appeal. Building more infrastructure will absolutely detrimentally affect the tranquility of the area. There is already an existing road which could easily be modified for shared</p>

Number	Comment
	<p>pedestrian use. There are also already alternative routes from Section 1,2 and 3 using the existing Nature and Wildflower trails. This area consists of pristine undisturbed bushland and iconic ancient Sydney sandstone. Building a wide boardwalk through the middle of it would be a crime.</p>  <p>View of the undisturbed bushland between Section 2 and 3 (which would be negatively impacted by the proposed boardwalk).</p> <p>3. Budget</p> <p>The \$1.8million to fund this boardwalk is a massive budget for something that will ultimately damage the very bushland and impact the wildlife of the park. These funds could be utilised in many other ways to benefit the War Memorial Park including conservation activities, improved bush regeneration and community nature events using the existing infrastructure such as car parks, toilet facilities playgrounds and trails.</p>
207	<p>Couldn't say it better than Vicki</p> <p>"Yes it would be lovely to have a path along the waterfront for all to enjoy..... however not at the cost of wildlife habitat and bushland. They no doubt won't find it lovely. We know animals tend to stay around 8m away from human traffic areas and this area is a vital access to their water source. I don't see that as being outlandishly greenie, more common sense protecting precious urban bushland that is gradually getting chipped away at."</p>
208	<p>Why disturb such a beautiful environment, it is already accessible enough. It is such a unique ecosystem that should not be cut into by an intuitive plastic path</p>
209	<p>The proposal looks fantastic. Please address 2 issues:</p> <p>1) Dogs in the park - either ban dogs in the park or strictly enforce on-leash only. Dogs are a risk to all wildlife, we appreciate they need somewhere to walk, but our wildlife have a small and increasingly shrinking home that must be protected.</p> <p>2) Please put up big, visible, clear signs re: DON'T FEED THE BIRDS. Every time we are there people are feeding them all kinds of food, which we know is associated with sickness, deformity etc.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>

Number	Comment
210	<p>Manly Warringah War Memorial Park is a unique place which boasts 1124 plant and 420 animal species. It has the threatened Eastern Pygmy Possum and the Climbing Galaxias fish - an ancient Gondwana relic. It was the first war memorial to be created by conserving natural bushland. Its wild beauty IS the memorial</p> <p>Northern Beaches Council constantly states its pride in its bushland and beaches. Well as Michael Regan says Manly Dam is its “jewel in the crown” for its bushland, and as such Council has an enormous duty of care to protect its wildness.</p> <p>The suggested oversized boardwalk plan with viewing areas and more incursions into natural bushland is a remarkable proposal. I’m at a loss to understand who came up with this suggestion and why. Manly Dam already has many walking tracks, mountain bike tracks and paved paths - when will it stop.</p> <p>Council has previously identified that the park is under threat from invasive weeds, diminishing water quality and intruding development. The erosion caused by the permitted mountain bike tracks, not to mention the other illegal ones constantly being carved through the bush, is an ongoing expense. So why not redirect the \$1.8million (that’s \$4,500 dollars a metre!) to the issues raised in Council’s 2005 “Keeping Our Dam Alive” program? (They have not gone away).</p> <p>The positioning of the oversized boardwalk is close to the dam edge and therefore will be unusable in times of heavy rain when the dam rises and covers this area as it often does. The recent heavy rains which raised the level of the dam are going to be more frequent with Climate Change. (See attached photo)</p> <p>The roadway from the entrance to Section 4 is already a wide, under-utilised road which has virtually NO traffic on it during the week. With a speed limit of 20kph (or even 15kph) and traffic calming devices, there is no reason why it can’t continue to be used by both cars and pedestrians as it is now. You can be sure the road will still be used by runners and joggers as they won’t be able to use the boardwalk at the same time as pedestrians.</p> <p>The proposed boardwalk will interfere with wallabies’ access to the dam for drinking water.</p> <p>Northern Beaches has countless “parks” with picnic areas, walking paths, and playgrounds, but there is only one Manly Dam. Don’t be responsible for overdeveloping it, as once it’s gone it can never be rewilded.</p> 

Number	Comment
211	As a local resident and frequent user of Manly Dam for more than 20 years I think the biodiversity of the Dam is going to change forever with the proposed development. The native wildlife and fauna will be impacted not only during construction of the walk way but also after. As an individual who spends many hours every month collecting plastic pollution and logging data in our waterways. I can see the potential impact of development in this beautiful bush land area.
212	There is already an adequate way to walk the entire circuit of Manly Dam, for those able bodied they can the track that goes over the top of the road and for those who have walking limitations surely there is a way to better manage that small piece of the road that requires pedestrians and cars to share the same space. Leave the bushland as it is
213	Please keep the trails and tracks as they are. At the moment they are perfect for bushwalkers and recreational users. Any further construction impacts and potentially destroys the fragile flora and fauna. There are already too many trails in the Northern Beaches area that have been 'upgraded' but which in my opinions has be detrimental by making the trails too 'urban'. As a runner and keen bushwalker there is joy in using uneven paths and varied terrain which connects one to nature. We don't need designated viewing platforms as the natural glimpses seen through the bush which are framed by vegetation and trees are wonderful. We don't need a designated point to view the beauty of the dam behind railings, whilst standing on plastic material (which is also potentially toxic in a bushfire). Construction will disturb wildlife and may prevent access to the water for some wildlife, such as wallabies. As local residents that regularly use the dam my family loves the environment exactly as it is, a slice of nature on our back yard. There are already enough paved areas which have easy access.
214	Why destroy a pristine environment with an ugly man made structure. If it has to be built move as far away as possible from the water. Run it close and parallel to the road.

Number	Comment
215	<p>Here are just a few reasons we say "PLEASE NO".</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1/ The chose site FLOODS 2/ It will mean more urbanisation of a precious wild space. 3/ Every new track destroys bushland and wildlife habitat and encourages invasive weeds (that would need to be controlled with poisonous herbicides). 4/ Every new track creates noise disturbance for birds and animals 5/ This project will require clearing of native vegetation and drilling into ancient sandstone rock forms. 6/ Council will say "very few trees will be lost" but neglect to mention the removal of low lying shrubs and flowering plants. 6/ Viewing platforms will require additional clearing and will be visible from afar. 7/ Runners and Joggers will STILL use the nearby road- so why not make sure that the road is safe for ALL with traffic calming measures? 8/ The plastic construction material will burn in a bushfire - leaving toxic residue 9/ The \$1.8 million could be used on, vitally needed, conservation programs. Or, the dam wall, with its spectacular views, could be made accessible for all by redirecting the funding to construct a mobility ramp. 10/ Wildlife (such as wallabys) needs access to water without human disturbance 11/ Council previously wanted to make the discreet children's playground 17 times its current size !! Only community disquiet stopped them. Who then came up with this proposal ?? 12/ This is the only war memorial in Australia to be created by protecting natural bushland. It can't be "improved" with yet more "infrastructure". 13/ Manly Dam is a rare, natural, wild place in an urban setting unlike virtually every other city park- let's keep it that way. <p>The article on page 41 of March's Tawny Frogmouth magazine gives an overview of what's at stake (although the chosen image fails to portray the brutal size of the thing). https://thetawnyfrogmouth.com.au</p> <p>And/or watch this short video clip https://animoto.com/play/Yg6gj84T0kUiPWHKuBktRA</p> <p>#SaveManlyDam #keepmanlydamwild The Tawny Frogmouth</p>
216	<p>Dear Barbara and Council,</p> <p>Thank you for the consultation, the proposed boardwalk must not be constructed at Manly Dam. The boardwalk does not improve access to the bush, except for those who are already accessing the bush (walkers) and provides disproportionate environmental harm, which has not been adequately considered. I urge you to increase the scope of consideration of environmental harm and reconsider the proposal. Manly Dam bush should be treasured and protected, and its health and integrity must remain the absolute priority in any planning decision. Please find my further comments attached.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>The Manly Dam War Memorial State Park is an absolute treasure as a wild space in the middle of an urban environment. The proposed boardwalk must not go ahead as its construction and existence will do environmental harm, encourage further harms over its lifespan, and it will undermine the essence of what makes Manly Dam such a wonderful space, while not achieving its stated objective of improving access to the bush.</p> <p>Firstly, it is not clear why the boardwalk is seen as desirable, because the park is already riven with walking and biking routes and in the Community Consultation</p>

Number	Comment
	<p>Report on Values 2010, emphasis was placed on the maintaining the natural features, the “<i>peace and quiet</i>” and vitally, “<i>the general consensus from the initial community consultation was that most visitors, and others with an interest in or association with the Park, were happy with the Park’s current character and management and were comfortable with the ‘status quo’.</i>”</p> <p>Contrary to the peace and quiet, the provision of the boardwalk will mean more urbanization of the wild space, fragmenting the bush, decreasing connectivity for wildlife habitats and inviting more disruption to the wilderness. The goal of helping people easily access the bush is noble, but the provision of the board undermines the very bush that is being accessed, to the detriment of all, and the assessment indicate that it does not materially improve the access at all.</p> <p>The Traffic Safety Assessment notes regarding Option 1 (the boardwalk) in Section 4.2 of its November 2021 report the following as highly probable and high risk: “<i>The paths’ [i.e. boardwalk’s] grades might be too steep at certain sections for wheelchair/pram access.</i>”</p> <p>“<i>DDA [Disability Discrimination Act] compliance will not be feasible with the Option 1 boardwalk design without significant cost and environmental impacts.</i>”</p> <p>“<i>There are cyclists (family recreational) currently identified within the study area. The cyclists’ wellbeing/safety are not considered in the boardwalk option.</i>”</p> <p>Walkers can and do already access and enjoy the Manly Dam bush, without this proposed boardwalk. The boardwalk does not increase safety or utility for wheelchair or pram users or cyclists, who will all still use the roadway. Challenges associated with the roadway noted in the Traffic Assessment must not be addressed by encroaching into the bush as roadway users are also bush users, since accessing the bush is the sole purpose of the looped Sir Roden Cutler Memorial roadway. Therefore, the stated objective to improve access (“<i>especially important for more vulnerable groups</i>” according to the Your Say webpage) is not even achieved by the boardwalk, despite sacrificing the health of the bush in order to develop the boardwalk.</p> <p>The boardwalk’s construction will necessitate the destruction of some of the bush outright because the construction requires the removal of small trees and shrubs, drilling into ancient sandstone. The boardwalk will required continual pruning and removal of trees and shrubs over its lifespan, since the design includes viewing platforms and picnic areas, and the boardwalk itself will need maintenance. There will be continual impact on flora and fauna from the use of the boardwalk, associated with noise of users (particularly disruptive to birdlife) inadvertent damage to the bush from users who drop rubbish, inadvertently bring in weeds, and walk off the track doing more harm to the bush, and disturbance to animals who will find their ability to safely access the dam and habitats disturbed.</p> <p>The material for the boardwalk is fibre-reinforced plastic, the mere manufacture of which is the instant creation of damaging waste. As soon as the boardwalk is installed (omitting even to discuss the damage associated with its installation) we already know that it will begin to decay, shedding plastic into the surrounds. The boardwalk will burn and char during bushfires and form toxic debris and what’s left will need to be trashed. The area also floods (as noted in the Review of Environmental Factors, REF) which is liable to damage the walk as it becomes a trap for debris necessitating repair and/or its disposal as well as increasing the damage to the bush. There is no effective means of recycling any of what’s left of the</p>

Number	Comment
	<p>boardwalk at the end of its life and this situation is unlikely to improve over its lifespan.</p> <p>The (draft) REF does its best to provide mitigation but its scope naturally omits key considerations, for example page 22 regarding waste: <i>"All general waste is to be taken offsite and disposed of appropriately"</i> ignores the discussion of the lifecycle of the boardwalk which will clearly end up as plastic waste which <i>someone somewhere</i> will have to cope with. On Page 23 the statement <i>"No pollution of the environment is proposed or likely."</i> completely disregards the degradation of the surface from UV, human tread and bushfire. Most fundamentally, while mitigation is a mollifying concept, this is clearly a paltry and ineffective remedy when compared to the option of avoiding the harm in the first place by opting not to construct the boardwalk.</p> <p>The proposal for the boardwalk is disappointing: it is environmentally ludicrous and doesn't achieve its aims. The project is also wastefully expensive, at \$1.8 million, this sum would be better spent on creating a more sensible shared space on the roadway, with 10 kph limits and traffic calming and control measures which do not require more damage to the bush but also provide the possibility to enable walker, cyclist and wheelchair use (the objectives that the boardwalk does not achieve).</p> <p>In summary, the proposed boardwalk must not be constructed at Manly Dam. The boardwalk does not improve access to the bush, except for those who are already accessing the bush (walkers) and provides disproportionate environmental harm, which has not been adequately considered. I urge you to increase the scope of consideration of environmental harm and reconsider the proposal. Manly Dam bush should be treasured and protected, and its health and integrity must remain the absolute priority in any planning decision.</p>
217	Help protect and preserve Manly dam's bush land, not destroy it. The road is fine. Use the money to protect the area.
218	Leave the natural environment as it is.
219	I love the dam. It's continually being nibbled away at and is danger of losing the natural beauty it has. Over many years both concreted duck boards, stone steps and paths have been effected by storm events. If you install this it will one day be destroyed and simply pollute the environment. Please leave the dam as it is. Bush land left largely untouched by us. Please simply increase accessibility by building tactical paths to existing foreshore areas.
220	<p>Who actually wants this platform?</p> <p>People who visit Manly Dam do so, I believe, to get back to what little nature we have left.</p> <p>Each man made access is an intrusion in all that it represents.</p> <p>Have the recent bushfires and flood taught us nothing about interfering with nature?</p>
221	<p>No to more infrastructure In pristine areas,</p> <p>We are not fragile we can sit on a blanket if need be.</p> <p>No to plastic recycled or not.</p> <p>Yes I have visited.it great as it is.</p> <p>I live in NZ</p>
222	<p>I am opposed to the construction of this footpath as I feel the bush land at manly dam should be left as pure and pristine without more and more infiltration by humans.</p> <p>Manly dam is a very special place because it is so wild and we need to keep it that way to preserve the native plants and animals.</p>

Number	Comment
223	<p>This plan is excessive development. The broad walk is far too wide and will seriously limit native animals' access to the water. There will be excessive clearing of native shrubs and ground cover essential for a healthy natural habitat. There are already plenty of places for sitting and viewing; this concept will wreck the foreshore and be totally counter-productive to maintaining the natural integrity of Manly Dam. Frankly it appalls me. I have lived in close proximity to this Memorial State Park (in Manly Vale and Allambie Heights) for the past 46 years, and treasure the natural landscape. Visitors also appreciate this almost rural retreat so close to a city.</p> <p>Rather than destroying natural bush and disturbing the native fauna, make accessing the views from the dam wall more safely accessible. There are far more environmentally sensitive and cost effective measures for maintaining the attractiveness of this unique space. The concept is close to vandalism: putting such foreign structures in a natural setting.</p>
224	<p>Removal of valuable native bush land where so much has already disappeared and will continue around suburbs on the northern beaches. Impact to native wildlife. Focus on improving access to the dam wall instead.</p>
225	<p>Unessesary waste of money and plastic in bushland.</p>
226	<p>Much of the attraction of Manly dam is thaw natural terrain and its unspoilt read undamaged bush land the boardwalk will cause an inordinate amount of damage to existing native flora and fauna</p> <p>It is inappropriate and urbanising</p> <p>There is already a road that could be utilised without any damage close to the dam</p> <p>Animals and nature first</p> <p>That 1.8 million dollars could be used far more judiciously</p>
227	<p>The more you mix urbanisation with nature the more you spoil the natural environment. Leave some parts of the northern beaches untouched.</p> <p>The more accessible you think you're making it the more pressure you put on the ecosystem, think of the recent attacks on native wildlife surrounding narrabeen lake. I'm sure there are plenty of other areas that money could be used!</p>
228	<p>I would think if we'll managed it will result in less damage. Bad paths cause erosion and are difficult to maintain.</p> <p>Enure rubbish bins are well positioned. As many are concerned with "leaving the areas natural" Need to ensure that putting a path in is better for the environment.</p> <p>Need to manage rubish and other human damage if more people are in the area.</p>
229	<p>The proposed boardwalk damages the natural ecosystem for questionable value. The dam environment is better off as is, untouched as much as possible to give flora and fauna the best surrounds possible.</p>
230	<p>Construction of this walkway means destruction of vegetation, shrubs and trees..the picture of the envisaged walkway is an-out of place eyesore in a natural area that needs to be kept that way. We do not need a McDonald's park</p>
231	<p>Pls leave nature alone. We don't need a plastic boardwalk.</p> <p>This is too disruptive for flora and fauna.</p>
232	<p>I believe a raised footpath between the picnic areas is intrusive & unnecessary. It will desturb bushland with removal of plants & disturbance of ground dwelling wildlife eg snakes ,lizards & change access to food for small birds.</p> <p>I agree that pedestrians need to be protected when walking between picnic areas but such an ugly walkway is not the way. Provide a designated path on current roadway, so pedestrians are protected. Leave Manly Dam park as is, a quiet haven of bushland, for both humans & wildlife, so important in todays hectic life.</p>

Number	Comment
233	<p>I believe the proposed track is not consistent with the wild and beautiful nature of this park. It is not Narrabeen lagoon. The wildlife and flora is unique in places, and although trees may not be removed in this proposal, low shrubs and grasses, which are also valued, will be.</p> <p>I agree better access is needed for wheelchairs etc. I think the money would be better spent in developing accessible specific areas. For example the dam wall, Section 1, is an attraction and I would support better accessible options to this area. Similarly Section 3 and possibly 4 could have specific accessible paths to some of the bbq areas. In Section 3 I would have the path to the area with the shelter shed near the carpark.</p> <p>Both Section 3 and 4 need an upgrade of the amenities blocks for both accessibility and hygiene!</p> <p>I think Manly dam should NOT be over developed. It will already be put under huge detrimental pressure should the Tunnel link proceed and chipping away at its wild nature through proposals like this are inappropriate.</p> <p>In summary I recommend this proposal NOT proceed but that accessibility is increased in specific areas in Section 1,3 and 4 with an accompanying upgrade to the amenity blocks in Section 3 and 4.</p>
234	<p>As a local resident and regular visitor to Manly Dam I oppose this proposal in its current form. It seems like an unnecessary, intrusive development at this special area. It will unavoidably destroy precious wildlife habitat and bushland vegetation and provide ongoing disturbances to resident wildlife in terms of noise, water access and potentially more rubbish. The proposed design also seems flawed, both in terms of path chosen (flood prone), construction material (fire resistance) and width.</p>
235	<p>I am opposed to the construction of this footpath as I feel the bush land at Manly Dam should be left as pure and pristine without more and more infiltration by humans. Manly Dam is a very special place because it is so wild and we need to keep it that way to preserve the native plants and animals.</p>
236	<p>I support a pedestrian footpath that provides access to the upper reaches of the dam without having to use the road. I believe this can be achieved with minimal environmental impact as long as it is monitored frequently for rubbish and environmental degradation. My main concern is that the elevated pathway will be made of "Fibre-reinforced plastic (FRP)". This type of material is being used more and more in National Parks and other environmentally sensitive areas. It is TOTALLY INAPPROPRIATE and should never be considered for us in this context. Over time the material will degrade, polluting the environment with large and small fragments through wear and tear. Over time the material will further degrade into what we now know as micro plastics. These micro plastics will drain into the almost pristine waters of the dam where they will be impossible to remove and become part of the food chain for the wildlife that depends on this resource. Plastic footpaths have also proven to be vulnerable to bush fires. They melt catastrophically at relatively low temperatures resulting in major pollution to the soil. Being so close to the water will also mean that 'rivers' of melting plastic running will inevitably run into the waters of the dam.</p>
237	<p>This is over development. The whole point is that Manly Dam is natural wild space. It's unique. It does not need more development. There are more needy projects to complete in the area like upgrading toilet blocks or improving the road. Let's protect what's left please. Think of how wildlife has already suffered these past few years. No thanks.</p>
238	<p>The track is not needed and very expensive.</p> <p>There have been no accidents involving pedestrians on the road in the Park.</p> <p>Bushland and wildlife habitat will be destroyed to install this unnecessary pathway.</p> <p>The money for the project could instead be used to conserve the flora and fauna in the area. Or improve the mountain biking tracks to reduce erosion and widening.</p>

Number	Comment
239	<p>'paving paradise' - it will create more people, rubbish (yes I already pick up lots and lots of SUP, tissues and bottles)- all which will either stay to be ingested by wildlife or float out into the dam</p> <p>People in general do not read or care about signage - so there will be additional erosion emanating from the boardwalk. The 'dogs not allowed' and 'dogs only on leash' are my frames of reference - try walking around on a weekend and you will see what I mean.</p> <p>I say no - have respect for what is already there before it gets enlarged into the wild area</p>
240	<p>Manly dam is a rare natural bush enclave within a major international city and should be left in its natural state.</p>
241	<p>We are sick of wild environments or what's left of them to be touched by man. It allows more visitation that inevitably puts more pressure on the flora and fauna. Introduces weeds ect...</p> <p>Please stop interfering with nature 😊</p>
242	<p>I am concerned of the impact that this will have on birds and wildlife.</p> <p>As I recall there's no path now, and animals could access the water directly themselves without needing to cross over or under a path.</p> <p>I fear if you have an urban looking walkway it will also just be a matter of time before you have everyone bribing their dogs in, and this would have a devastating impact on wildlife and e area.</p> <p>Looking at the images, this seems like it will be a change from the other natural looking pathways that already exist.</p> <p>I can't imagine that there is much need to transverse between picnic area 2and 3, and I don't imagine this will add much value, for what I assume will be a dear cost, and there could be other improvements made instead to the existing insfrastucture instead.</p> <p>The bathrooms, a shared pathway,</p> <p>Perhaps taking the funds to support conservation and allowing some free parking days!</p> <p>I think some conservation and bushcare initiatives and education around dogs and their impact or on the endangered species in the park and some key information about their characteristics that people visiting can feel more connected</p> <p>I love that you're spending money to improve access to and care of wild spaces, but it is essential that the infrastructure and continued us of it isn't going to disrupt that.</p>

Number	Comment
243	<p>A. I am opposed to the installation of the Link Trail in accordance with the current design concept and I set out my reasons below at C.</p> <p>B. Before I address my reasons for being opposed to the current design, I must express my shock when during the Information Session Barbara Stack said: “this is a fine tuning of the concept”. I understood the purpose of the information session was to provide information so that the public could make informed submissions about the proposal. I was further alarmed when Barbara Stack, in light of her already stated position about fine tuning, advised the matter would not be taken to Council for consideration. It appeared Option 1 going ahead was a fait accompli with no review from a higher body. Thus I have copied this email to my ward councillor, Ruth Robbins.</p> <p>C. Reasons for being opposed.</p> <p>a. Not in character with the uniqueness and essence of the park as one of protected bushland and one that provides opportunity for a variety of recreational activities in a low-key natural setting [The vision for Manly Warringah War Memorial Park (Plan of Management 2014) (“Vision ”)].</p> <p>The overall impression of the Link Trail was that it is a repetition of the Narrabeen Lagoon Trail, which I admire, but do not believe is in accordance with the stated Vision.</p> <p>It was stated during the session that the Link Trail was about “the journey”, but the journey is experiencing walking through protected bushland with water glimpses and not “walking a pedestrian highway”.</p> <p>b. The link path is too wide. The Link Trail could better meet its objectives, and be consistent with the Vision, were the Link Trail to be reduced to 1.5 m, which is the situation in many other NB Council pathways/trails. Such an example is the boardwalk at the southern end of the Long Reef Headland Trail which is 1.5 metres, or less, in significant parts at that end which is through the bush to the of rear LRSLSC.</p> <p>c. Viewing platforms are unnecessary. The platforms are unnecessary and not consistent with maintaining a low-key natural setting referred to in the Vision. Open views of the water can be obtained at picnic places that already exist. Such platforms would detract rather than enhance the pedestrian experience of walking through bushland that was in close proximity to a wide creek or waterway.</p> <p>NBC is the manager of a park that is considered a bushland refuge and should be making every effort to maintain that when it looks at any improvement. In this regard it is of note that viewing platforms have only been considered to provide wide views of the nearby waterway as opposed to views of the bush.</p>

Number	Comment
	<p>I do not agree with the proposed link track.</p> <p>I previously made comment and now wish to add further comments.</p> <p>The very concept is not thought out.</p> <p>This is rare natural bush and to introduce a very wide path through it is a form of sanctioned 'vandalism'.</p> <p>The preciousness of Manly Dam is that it is unique. the proposed path removes its uniqueness and makes it a poorer version of Narrabeen Lagoon.</p> <p>The planned path has proposed viewing platforms where people will go off the track – as per the diagrams. Viewing platforms will require additional clearing and will be visible from afar.</p> <p>While part of the rationale for the link path is pedestrian safety the creation of the trail will not prevent walkers, runners and bike riders from using the existing road and thus this project does not mitigate the risks to pedestrian traffic upon it is premised.</p> <p>Fauna will be prevented natural access to the water: animals will either have to creep under the trail or jump or walk across the plastic trail path. There are signs in the park which tell everyone that there are wallabies in the park and bush and I cannot see how they will access the water with this trail separating them from it.</p> <p>I have viewed the traffic management report and was unable to see any supporting evidence that the regulations for "internal roads" as opposed to standard public roads have been breached. The regulations for "public roads" are surely not identical to internal roads within the park. There are many traffic management options that should be considered to improve the safety of ALL pedestrians, runners and those riding bicycles rather than money being spent on a small number of users.</p> <p>I would prefer the grant money from the NSW Government be spent on improving the safety of the road and :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. providing access from carpark 3 to a picnic area for people with mobility issues; 2. upgrading the amenities blocks at Sections 3 & 4 and in particular to provide appropriate facilities for parents and users with mobility issues.
244	<p>I've lived in north Balgowlah since 1981 & one of the most beautiful attractions has been the wildness of Manly Dam, its water, wildlife & flora. I have watched with dismay the evolving irony of others promoting these qualities at the same time as wanting to impinge on the very wildness they espouse. There is enough man-made infrastructure in the reserve already which has already caused a thinning out of the bushland and habitat as is obvious for someone like me.</p> <p>The proposed board walk is an eyesore when compared to the natural beauty it will supplant. There are plenty of vantage points from which to appreciate the views already; there is already a safe walking track beside the infrequently used, heavily speed-limited road; there are already board walks that have made inroads to the natural areas. More importantly, for the sake of a little more amenity for humans - whose access is already demonstrable - the habitat of a countless number of creatures will be directly destroyed & countless others will be compromised as yet another opportunity offers humans the chance to make noise, make litter, & carry weeds further into the bush. We should learn to acknowledge our limits.</p> <p>Meanwhile, the existing toilet blocks are in dire need of upgrades, especially for wheelchair accessibility and hygiene. Moreover, weed control is paramount in safeguarding the integrity of the area. Spend our money where it is needed please.</p>

Number	Comment
245	<p>I am against this trail as it is an overdevelopment of a fragile native environment. There are a number of reasons this is not a suitable proposal, as listed below.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This is not Narrabeen Lagoon. Manly Dam is different and should be treasured for this difference. This development will mean more urbanisation of a precious wild space. 2. This track is out of keeping with all other tracks in the Park. It is at least 50cm wider than all other tracks and is planned to be built in an area that has NO path there currently. 3. Every new track destroys bushland and wildlife habitat and encourages invasive weeds (that would need to be controlled with poisonous herbicides). 4. Every new track creates noise disturbance for birds and animals. 5. Every new track creates a potential rubbish site as people seem unable to take their rubbish with them. 6. This project also involves clearing of native vegetation and drilling into ancient sandstone rock forms. 7. The report suggests "very few trees will be lost" but neglect to mention the removal of low lying shrubs and flowering plants (see video) – consistent with the Australian bush. 8. The planned path has proposed viewing platforms where people will go off the track – as per the diagrams. Viewing platforms will require additional clearing and will be visible from afar. 9. Walkers, Joggers and bike riders (of all ages) will STILL use the nearby road - so this project does not mitigate the risks. Council is still responsible. 10. Many parts of the chosen pathway are susceptible to flooding on a regular basis. 11. The plastic construction material will burn in a bushfire - leaving toxic residue. 12. Wildlife (such as wallabies) needs access to water without human disturbance. 13. The Traffic report is flawed. It neglects to mention that this is an internal road which is subject to different regulations. It is a 20 and 10 km/h zone. There is space for a shared zone and speed humps are NOT trip hazards! 14. There have been NO ACCIDENTS involving pedestrians on the road in the Park. <p>Instead of using NSW Government grant funds on the unnecessary link trail, here are some alternative suggestions that would benefit users of Manly Dam:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Providing accessibility via a mobility ramp to the dam wall for the extensive views; b) Providing access from Carpark 3 to a picnic area for mobility challenged; c) Upgrading the amenities block at Section 3; d) Upgrading the amenities block at Section 4; e) Providing proper shared usage (car/pedestrian/bikes/) signage and safety measures on the internal roads; f) Providing safe shared access from King street to the playground in Section 1. g) Providing for vitally needed conservation projects – including water quality studies to maintain the safe swimming environment of the dam.

Number	Comment
246	<p>The natural ambiance will be destroyed and replace with a toxic plastic boardwalk that will attract fast cyclists and lose it's natural and peaceful atmosphere and wildlife habitat.</p> <p>Any lose of important and vital trees will be unacceptable plus removal of low lying shrubs and flowering plants cannot be replaced.</p> <p>Many Dam is a special and sadly rare, natural, bushland so missing in our fast expanding City. Essential for our well being and as a habitat for our shrinking wildlife to find sanctuary.</p> <p>As a resident of Randwick City I and many others tried to stop the construction of a smaller version of this boardwalk in our precious Randwick Environment Park Wetland. Sadly we were defeated by Councillors who have never entered this special place, let alone understand it's value. Now we have a toxic plastic boardwalk thru one of the last remaining bushland tracks in the Eastern Suburbs of Sydney. It has become a fast track for cyclists and a busy dog walking path therefore making some people (I am one of those) who feel unsafe and stressed while passing thru. This will be the ultimate conclusion for this boardwalk if it too gets approved.</p>
247	<p>Please keep the dam area as untouched as possible. Our wild spaces are vanishing rapidly. Boardwalks and formed tracks have recently replaced some of the previously natural tracks on the spit to Manly wall. If these tracks at the dam are replaced with boardwalks too, we'll have very few true bushwalking tracks in the area. Thank you!</p>
248	<p>Extend it to car park 4 area - the road from 3 to 4 is equally dangerous for walkers.</p>
249	<p>This is Australia's only War Memorial created by conserving natural bushland. The proposed new Boardwalk would cut through untouched biodiversity and involve more clearing for viewing areas. Every new path or track through bushland damages wildlife habitat.</p> <p>Please preserve the wonderful bushland at the park thank you</p> <p>I do not support the proposal on the following grounds:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This is not Narrabeen Lagoon. Manly Dam is different and should be treasured for this difference. This development will mean more urbanisation of a precious wild space. 2. This track is out of keeping with all other tracks in the Park. It is at least 50cm wider than all other tracks and is planned to be built in an area that has NO path there currently. 3. Every new track destroys bushland and wildlife habitat and encourages invasive weeds (that would need to be controlled with poisonous herbicides). 4. Every new track creates noise disturbance for birds and animals. 5. Every new track creates a potential rubbish site as people seem unable to take their rubbish with them. 6. This project also involves clearing of native vegetation and drilling into ancient sandstone rock forms. 7. The report suggests "very few trees will be lost" but neglect to mention the removal of low lying shrubs and flowering plants (see video) – consistent with the Australian bush. 8. The planned path has proposed viewing platforms where people will go off the

Number	Comment
	<p>track – as per the diagrams. Viewing platforms will require additional clearing and will be visible from afar.</p> <p>9. Walkers, Joggers and bike riders (of all ages) will STILL use the nearby road - so this project does not mitigate the risks. Council is still responsible.</p> <p>10. Many parts of the chosen pathway are susceptible to flooding on a regular basis.</p> <p>11. The plastic construction material will burn in a bushfire - leaving toxic residue.</p> <p>12. Wildlife (such as wallabies) needs access to water without human disturbance.</p> <p>13. The Traffic report is flawed. It neglects to mention that this is an internal road which is subject to different regulations. It is a 20 and 10 km/h zone. There is space for a shared zone and speed humps are NOT trip hazards!</p> <p>14. There have been NO ACCIDENTS involving pedestrians on the road in the Park.</p> <p>I do however support the following suggestions for Manly Dam:</p> <p>a) Providing accessibility via a mobility ramp to the dam wall for the extensive views;</p> <p>b) Providing access from Carpark 3 to a picnic area for mobility challenged;</p> <p>c) Upgrading the amenities block at Section 3;</p> <p>d) Upgrading the amenities block at Section 4;</p> <p>e) Providing proper shared usage (car/pedestrian/bikes/) signage and safety measures on the internal roads;</p> <p>f) Providing safe shared access from King street to the playground in Section 1.</p> <p>g) Providing for vitally needed conservation projects – including water quality studies to maintain the safe swimming environment of the dam.</p>
250	<p>As a local resident and nearly daily visitor to the dam I fully support the plans. The winding road is currently pretty dangerous at weekends and severely limits how much of the area I can access with my small children on foot. I'm particularly happy there is a strong focus on making it pram accessible as so few of the walking tracks currently are.</p>
251	<p>I have emailed my concerns to Council and hope they will be taken into consideration.</p>
252	<p>I'm supportive of this solution but in light of recent flooding believe the height and length of the boardwalk should be designed to be above the flood level.</p>
253	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My comments are in the attached document. <p>The walk around Manly Dam and the surrounds is one of the popular walks in our group – and we would walk around the dam at least once a month. In addition, several members of the group walk in the Manly Warringah War Memorial Park every week. We are passionate about preserving the uniqueness of the environment in the Park.</p> <p>We are very familiar with the area where the council propose to build the Link Trail – and we have discussed among ourselves whether what is proposed is appropriate</p>

Number	Comment
	<p>or whether the money allocated for the Trail can be better spent on other projects we have identified from our familiarity with the walks in the Manly Warringah War Memorial Park and the walking track that most people take (and share with bike riders) when we walk around the dam.</p> <p>I am opposed to the Link Trail (as proposed) – and have the support of the walkers in my walking group. The main reasons for opposing the Link Trail are: ○ The motivation for the building the Trail Link would appear to be the desire to “expand and enhance the outdoor experience of visitors to the Manly Warringah War Memorial Park – particularly for people in wheelchairs”. The focus of the motivation for the Link Trail is on the visitors – and certainly not on the environment. I believe that the long term needs of the established bushland (including plants and animals) should take priority in planning decisions that are in (or have an impact on) bushland as fragile as that in the Manly Warringah War Memorial Park. The reason for the fragility arises from:</p> <p>the incursions into the Park that have taken place over the past 20 years – the most recent one being the construction activities in the expanded Manly Vale Primary School,</p> <p>the increase bike riding activity along the established paths and along the increasing number of illegal paths in the Park,</p> <p>the run-off of fertiliser and occasionally of sewage from the areas surrounding the Park – including from the Wakehurst Golf Club and Allambie Heights,</p> <p>weeds and invasive species that are introduced to the Park from building activities on the fringes of the Park and from illegal dumping of vegetation by residents close to the Park,</p> <p>The hard surface infrastructure proposed for the Link Trail will have a long term negative impact on the environment – despite the comments to the contrary in the consultation document.</p> <p>The money allocated for the Link Trail would be better spent on addressing some of the degraded areas in the Park – some of which are not necessarily close to the Walking Paths, but which host valuable and rare plants and animal species. The very recent damage done by the recent rains should take priority over a Link Trail that is not intended to protect the environment or improve the safety of visitors, but rather to enhance the experience of visitors.</p> <p>If the council has access to state government funds to “enhance the experience of visitors to the Park – particularly for people with disabilities” I propose that consideration should be given to: ✦ Building and providing wheelchair access to the dam wall</p>

Number	Comment
	<p>Improving safety measures for visitors who use the road to walk to the picnic areas, even though the majority of visitors who access the picnic areas will actually drive to the parking areas that serve the picnic areas – including people with disabilities.</p> <p>I am happy to accompany council staff on walks through the Park to point out issues of environmental concern and places where work (sometimes urgent work) is required in my view to restore damage, remove invasive plants and mitigate against future damage from heavy rains and irresponsible behaviour by cyclists.</p> <p>I am concerned that the initiative to propose the Manly Dam Link Trail came not from northern beaches' residents who seriously want an enhanced experience, but from council staff who are familiar with, and have the skills to access, the full range of stage government grant funds.</p> <p>This is not a criticism of the council staff who have taken the proposal to this stage but rather a plea for council staff to see themselves as protectors of our environment because the environment in the Manly Warringah War Memorial Park cannot make an application for funds to improve the environment or to mitigate against further deterioration of the environment. For residents concerned about the environment, it is challenging for them to know the range of grant funds available from the state or the federal government for the protection of the environment or for investment in mitigation measures to help reduce further damage to the environment.</p> <p>I would like to see my council take more of an initiative to represent the environment because a healthy and pristine bushland in the Manly Warringah War Memorial Park will enhance the future long term experience of residents who walk and wander through its paths.</p>
254	<p>I oppose this project because I have looked closely at the route it will take. It is in bush that is currently dense and overgrown. In this bush live wallabies and other animals that are too afraid to move into the areas of the bush that have been cleared by repeated burning. If we lose these areas of dense bushland, there wont be places for these animals to live.</p> <p>Manly Dam is different from Narrabeen Lakes. Manly Dam is an important animal refuge in an urban environment. It needs to be preserved as such. There are many other parks and playing fields that could be updated with running tracks. There is no need to put a walking track right through animal habitats. It will destroy them and we will lose those animals.</p> <p>I am a jogger and bushwalker but do not feel it is necessary to have this track around Manly Dam. I would prefer that we could have a better animal sanctuary near my home. Even if I never see the animals, I like the idea of having somewhere nearby where I know they are living safely.</p> <p>Instead of putting in a track, Manly Dam should take a look at other places in Sydney, such as the Coal Loader, which has a very narrow road with lots of speed control infrastructure so that people and cars can safely share the same road. The road at Manly Dam is wider so could easily accommodate a pedestrian path. This is what should be developed instead of the walking path.</p> <p>With future droughts in the future, the level of water in Manly Dam is not guaranteed</p>

Number	Comment
	<p>and the walkway is meaningless if water levels fall since it will not be on the water's edge. It seems pointless building a pathway at the top of a dam of variable height.</p>
255	<p>There is no need to disturb the bush further. It is healthy bush and supports a great deal of wildlife. Walking along the existing road, I have observed wallabies in the proposed location of the path. Why is it necessary to disturb such habitat that is clearly used by native animals. They will not use it if the boardwalk is constructed further reducing the limited habitat the dam reserve provides.</p> <p>Option 2 from the Traffic Safety Report should have been the preferred option. Minimising disturbance to bush should always be the preferred option. It is entirely possible to construct a fully separated pedestrian path adjacent to the road with reduced disturbance to the areas natural environment.</p> <p>Further as a user of the dam reserve for over 20 years including living adjacent to it and sometimes using the reserve on a daily basis I have never observed any issues between pedestrians using the road and cars. The volume of traffic is minimal and it is an easily shared between cars, cyclists and pedestrians. Walkers, Joggers and bike riders (of all ages) will still use the road - so this project does not mitigate the risks. Council is still responsible. There has never been an incident ever between pedestrians and motor vehicles.</p>
256	<p>This project is too expensive and the money could be better used to protect the bushland and wildlife at Manly Dam Reserve.</p> <p>The path is too wide and too intrusive, blocking animals' access to water. I would prefer if the existing road was improved for pedestrian access. It should be improved to make it safer and disabled accessible.</p> <p>The areas between the existing road and the lake are too narrow to have such a big path. Once the bush is thinned in that area, animals will lose their passage to the water, such as swamp wallabies that cannot hide there anymore.</p> <p>Manly Dam will lose its originality and what makes it special in the area. The path can be seen from the other side of the water and this will make it ugly. It will destroy its natural feeling.</p>

Number	Comment
257	<p>This proposed pathway is significantly flawed in its design, is inconsistent with other paths and tracks in the park and is an overdevelopment in the Park. At approximately \$4500 per metre – we believe our taxpayer money should be used more responsibly.</p> <p>This is the only War Memorial in Australia to be created by protecting natural bushland. It can't be "improved" with yet more "infrastructure".</p> <p>We would prefer the grant money from the NSW Government be spent on improving the safety of the road and :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Providing accessibility via a mobility ramp to the dam wall for the extensive views; b) Providing access from Carpark 3 to a picnic area for mobility challenged; c) Upgrading the amenities block at Section 3; d) Upgrading the amenities block at Section 4; e) Providing proper shared usage (car/pedestrian/bikes/) signage and safety measures on the internal roads; f) Providing safe shared access from King street to the playground in Section 1. g) Providing for vitally needed conservation projects – including water quality studies to maintain the safe swimming environment of the dam. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This is not Narrabeen Lagoon. Manly Dam is different and should be treasured for this difference. This development will mean more urbanisation of a precious wild space. 2. This track is out of keeping with all other tracks in the Park. It is at least 50cm wider than all other tracks and is planned to be built in an area that has NO path there currently. 3. Every new track destroys bushland and wildlife habitat and encourages invasive weeds (that would need to be controlled with poisonous herbicides). 4. Every new track creates noise disturbance for birds and animals. 5. Every new track creates a potential rubbish site as people seem unable to take their rubbish with them. 6. This project also involves clearing of native vegetation and drilling into ancient sandstone rock forms. 7. The report suggests "very few trees will be lost" but neglect to mention the removal of low lying shrubs and flowering plants (see video) – consistent with the Australian bush. 8. The planned path has proposed viewing platforms where people will go off the track – as per the diagrams. Viewing platforms will require additional clearing and will be visible from afar.

Number	Comment
	<p>9. Walkers, Joggers and bike riders (of all ages) will STILL use the nearby road - so this project does not mitigate the risks. Council is still responsible.</p> <p>10. Many parts of the chosen pathway are susceptible to flooding on a regular basis.</p> <p>11. The plastic construction material will burn in a bushfire - leaving toxic residue.</p> <p>12. Wildlife (such as wallabies) needs access to water without human disturbance.</p> <p>13. The Traffic report is flawed. It neglects to mention that this is an internal road which is subject to different regulations. It is a 20 and 10 km/h zone. There is space for a shared zone and speed humps are NOT trip hazards!</p> <p>14. There have been NO ACCIDENTS involving pedestrians on the road in the Park.</p>
258	We don't need more walking tracks- this proposal will only increase noise and disruption to the surrounding bush land. The construction will mean clearing shrubs and trees and the walkway is ugly and does not blend with surrounds.
259	My written submission exceeded the 1.00 MB limit, so I have just emailed it to council. Thank you.
260	<p>MANLY DAM LINK TRAIL</p> <p>COMMENTS</p> <p>PREFERENCE</p> <p>I would prefer the bushland corridor and foreshore areas to remain relatively undisturbed.</p> <p>Reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To preserve intact habitat adjacent to the reservoir for native fauna. • To protect the narrow corridor of native vegetation. • To retain a low impact recreational use of the foreshore area. <p>Currently there are few weeds within the study area, as the bush habitat is relatively undisturbed.</p>

Number	Comment
	<p>OPTION 1 – LINK TRAIL</p> <p>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT</p> <p>1.4 “The link trail will have a total length of approximately 433m long and width of 1.8 m. A construction buffer of 2m either side of the trail has been included in the consideration of construction impacts...”</p> <p>Concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The link trail would be about 2m wide and bush removal would affect 2m either side. • The trail will fragment a long (over 400m) corridor of bushland adjoining Manly Reservoir. • The trail will have direct and indirect impacts on good quality habitat and foreshore area. <p>The trail involves drilling for fixtures and will become a permanent structure within the reserve.</p> <p>3.6.1.2 “The trail will effectively enhance the natural environment making it accessible for visitors...”</p> <p>I do not agree that the trail will enhance the natural environment. The likely indirect impacts associated with the use of the trail have not been adequately considered.</p> <p>1.4.4 “Native vegetation clearance for the entry trail will be undertaken by a small excavator.”</p> <p>Note: An entry trail to Manly Dam Reserve is not included in the concept plan and there is no information about the extent of native vegetation clearance required for a proposed entry trail.</p> <p>PICNIC AREA 2</p> <p>I do not support the temporary car space and paved path connection to the boardwalk trail.</p> <p>Reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional traffic movement along the narrow road. • Potential safety risk to other road users including cyclists. • Competition for the temporary car space and potential queuing. • Further incursion of hard surfaces into natural area. • Likely increase in litter due to easy access by vehicles <p>Pedestrians can access Picnic Area 2 from Section 1 via the existing paved path, so vehicular access is not necessary.</p> <p>VIEWING PLATFORM</p> <p>I have concerns about the proposed viewing platform.</p> <p>Reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further clearing of bushland and loss of habitat. • Large deck area overlaps natural areas of the foreshore. • Potential for litter to accumulate under the deck. <p>Additional disturbance of vegetation is likely in the area surrounding the viewing platform.</p> <p>HIGH WATER LEVELS</p> <p>The off road pathway would provide access “except during times of high water levels” It is uncertain how often the trail is likely to be inundated. If sections of the trails are temporarily flooded, walkers are likely to make tracks through the bush to avoid those</p>


Number	Comment
	<p>sections. The trampling of vegetation up-slope would further impact on the narrow bush corridor.</p> <p>A concrete path is proposed for the northern section of the trail. However, a board walk may be more appropriate if this section is prone to flooding or muddy terrain.</p> <p>Question: How often are sections of the trail likely to be inundated?</p> <p>MITIGATION MEASURES “Remove accumulated sediment or waste material from the sediment controls regularly and dispose of at a licensed waste facility.” The sediment to be disposed of as waste is likely to contain topsoil and seeds endemic to the area. This could be re-used elsewhere, such as the native plant nursery.</p> <p>USE of TRAIL The wide trail could be heavily used, similar to the Narrabeen Lagoon Circuit, and establish a precedent for constructed trails that will intrude upon the natural foreshore of Manly Reservoir.</p> <p>OPTION 2 I do not support Option 2 for the reasons stated in the report. However, it is a useful exercise and indicator of the environmental impact of widening the road. I agree with measures to improve the safety of the road for cyclists (and pedestrians) without widening the road.</p> <p>OPTION 3 – SHARED ROAD The road is unsuitable for widening, as it would result in a significant loss of trees, similar to that in Option 2.</p> <p>I support measures to improve safety for shared use of the internal road. This includes reducing vehicle speed from 20 km/h to 10 km/h with traffic calming measures to restrict speed between Sections 1 and 3. A mirror may improve safety at blind corners.</p> <p>FUTURE TRANSPORT We are moving towards an era of electric vehicles with safety features that are more appropriate for a shared road. Small electric vehicles would be compatible with safety and shared use for pedestrians and cyclists. It is also conceivable that electric buggies could be available use or hire within the Park.</p> <p>This alternative transport could be supplemented by a public or shuttle bus service that provides access to the Park and reduces dependence on private cars.</p> <p>SHARED ZONE “Shared Zones are intended to prioritise dominant pedestrian activity on otherwise typically vehicle-centred roadways.”</p> <p>I support the recommendation to consider ways to improve the safety of the internal road for cyclists and other users.</p> <p>Reasons: “A mix of vehicles, pedestrians, bicycles and skateboarding activities were observed onsite during the inspections.” The internal road will continue to be used for bicycle and skateboarding activities, jogging and most likely walking, even if Option 1 is adopted.</p>

Number	Comment
	<p>For Option 1: "It is recommended that Council considers further provision/upgrade on the roadway to accommodate cyclists."</p> <p>For Option 1: Pedestrian traffic could increase along the road link if the boardwalk trail becomes part of a pedestrian circuit, particularly for people parked at Sections 1 and 3.</p> <p>"Option 3 is not yet developed in detail at the time of this assessment." However, it is timely to consider ways to improve the safety of cyclists and other users within a 'shared zone'.</p> <p>FUTURE FOCUS If priority is given to vehicular access this could result in subsequent road widening together with a significant loss of trees and habitat within the corridor. A future focus on a shared road would avoid this scenario.</p> <p>Question: What measures can be taken to make the link road safer for shared use without widening the road?</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>
261	<p>As a resident of Allambie Heights. I access these parklands several times each week. I am NOT in favour of any elements of this proposal. What currently exists respects the natural environment.</p> <p>This pathway is unnecessary, threatens the peace of natural fauna, flora and trees and creates intrusion into an area that is currently undisturbed.</p> <p>Please don't ruin this natural treasure by urbanising it! . There are ample areas of Manly Dam that ALREADY offers easy access to those requiring pathways.</p> <p>Increasing the number of people in the bush lands will have a lasting negative impact upon the environment.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p>
262	<p>Manly dam is a one of a kind war memorial, we are so lucky to have it in our area to enjoy. It's perfect as it is, it's beautiful as it is, it's home to the last populations of many species in Sydney, it's home to many endangered species. And the council wants to cover it in that plastic monstrosity, the ugliest boardwalk since man started walking...? Are you joking? The whole of the park is dedicated to our fallen diggers, so that their sacrifice is never forgotten, so that generations to come can see what that sacrifice means and how we honour them. The council has destroyed enough already, sold off enough already. The council states "minimal tree loss", the community states, "not one more tree should be lost!", it should be as it was the day it was dedicated as a war memorial. And something so rich in natural beauty, does not need an ugly eyesore inflicted on it! I can not believe that something so horrendous is even being entertained as a possibility! Shame on all of our councillors. Allambie residents say NO! With the "F" word in front of the NO!!!</p>



Number	Comment
	We don't vote you in to ruin our one of a kind, no other like it in the country, war memorial!
263	I have lived in the Manly Dam area for 78 years and having walked the entire bushland thousands of times I know every track. There is no fun for children to walk along a constructed pathway, unable to jump from rock to rock getting their feet wet, negotiating a bushy track. The Manly War Memorial Park is a beautiful, unique piece of bushland only 7 miles from the heart of Sydney, we have to cling onto its natural beauty. I implore you, please DO NOT construct this walkway and viewing deck.


B. Emailed comments



Number	Comment
1	<p>Dear Council,</p> <p>I am against the Manly Dam trail link proposal. This is the only War Memorial in Australia to be created by protecting natural bushland. It can't be "improved" with yet more "infrastructure".</p> <p>I would prefer the grant money from the NSW Government be spent on improving the safety of the road and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Providing accessibility via a mobility ramp to the dam wall for the extensive views; b) Providing access from Carpark 3 to a picnic area for mobility challenged; c) Upgrading the amenities block at Section 3; d) Upgrading the amenities block at Section 4; e) Providing proper shared usage (car/pedestrian/bikes/) signage and safety measures on the internal roads; f) Providing safe shared access from King street to the playground in Section 1. g) Providing for vitally needed conservation projects – including water quality studies to maintain the safe swimming environment of the dam. <p>I am against the proposal for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This is not Narrabeen Lagoon. Manly Dam is different and should be treasured for this difference. This development will mean more urbanisation of a precious wild space. 2. This track is out of keeping with all other tracks in the Park. It is at least 50cm wider than all other tracks and is planned to be built in an area that has NO path there currently. 3. Every new track destroys bushland and wildlife habitat and encourages invasive weeds (that would need to be controlled with poisonous herbicides). 4. Every new track creates noise disturbance for birds and animals.

Number	Comment
	<p>5. Every new track creates a potential rubbish site as people seem unable to take their rubbish with them.</p> <p>6. This project also involves clearing of native vegetation and drilling into ancient sandstone rock forms.</p> <p>7. The report suggests "very few trees will be lost" but neglect to mention the removal of low lying shrubs and flowering plants (see video) – consistent with the Australian bush.</p> <p>8. The planned path has proposed viewing platforms where people will go off the track – as per the diagrams. Viewing platforms will require additional clearing and will be visible from afar.</p> <p>9. Walkers, Joggers and bike riders (of all ages) will STILL use the nearby road - so this project does not mitigate the risks. Council is still responsible.</p> <p>10. Many parts of the chosen pathway are susceptible to flooding on a regular basis.</p> <p>11. The plastic construction material will burn in a bushfire - leaving toxic residue.</p> <p>12. Wildlife (such as wallabies) needs access to water without human disturbance.</p> <p>13. The Traffic report is flawed. It neglects to mention that this is an internal road which is subject to different regulations. It is a 20 and 10 km/h zone. There is space for a shared zone and speed humps are NOT trip hazards!</p> <p>14. There have been NO ACCIDENTS involving pedestrians on the road in the Park.</p>
2	 <p>Submission re: Manly Dam Trail Link: Section 2 to Section 3</p> <p>Save Manly Dam Catchment Committee E: savemanlydamcc@gmail.com</p> <p>Save Manly Dam Catchment Committee is opposed to this proposal to construct a 400m \$1.8 million Fibre-reinforced plastic (FRP) boardwalk through currently undisturbed bushland in Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park.</p> <p>We believe this proposed pathway is significantly flawed in its design, is inconsistent with other paths and tracks in the Park and is an overdevelopment in the Park. At approximately \$4500 per metre – we believe our taxpayer money should be used more responsibly.</p> <p>Save Manly Dam Catchment Committee is against this proposal for many reasons as outlined below. Manly Dam is a rare, natural, wild place in an urban setting unlike virtually every other city park – please help us to keep it that way.</p> <p>This is the only War Memorial in Australia to be created by protecting natural bushland. It can't be "improved" with yet more "infrastructure".</p>

Number	Comment
	<p>We are constantly fighting against external development impacts on all sides – e.g. Manly Vale Public School, 181 Allambie Road, the Beaches Link tunnel and NOW we also have to fight against our own Council wanting to develop internally.</p> <p>We would prefer the grant money from the NSW Government be spent on improving the safety of the road for all users, and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Providing accessibility via a mobility ramp to the dam wall for the extensive views; b) Providing proper shared usage (car/pedestrian/bikes/etc) signage and safety measures on the internal roads; c) Providing access from Carpark 3 to a picnic area for mobility challenged; d) Providing for vitally needed conservation projects – including water quality studies to maintain the safe swimming environment of the dam. e) Upgrading the amenities block at Section 3; f) Upgrading the amenities block at Section 4; g) Providing safe shared access from King street to the playground in Section 1. <p>Here are just a few reasons why we say "PLEASE NO" to this development:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This is not Narrabeen Lagoon. Manly Dam is different and should be treasured for this difference. This development will mean more urbanisation of a precious wild space. 2. This track is out of keeping with all other tracks in the Park. It is at least 30cm wider than all other tracks and is planned to be built in an area that has NO path there currently. Making the pathway 1.8m (internal width) – so really 2m wide is TOO WIDE! The occasional passing bay could be developed instead of a highway through the bush. If you have to build the path – please make it 1.5m at the widest. 3. The road is not as “UNSAFE” as presented by the Traffic Safety Assessment report. There have been NO ACCIDENTS involving pedestrians on the road in the Park according to the Park Ranger. We agree and recommend that safety measures be applied to the road – for pedestrians, cyclists and cars. 4. The Traffic Safety Assessment report is flawed. It neglects to mention that this is an internal road which is subject to different regulations. It is a 20 and 10 km/h zone. There is space for a shared zone and speed humps are NOT trip hazards! The report did not properly consider Option 3. Please provide us with proper research. 5. Walkers, Joggers and bike riders (of all ages) will STILL have to use the nearby road - so this project does not mitigate all the risks. Council is still responsible for safety on the road and particularly now that it has been formally advised in a Traffic Safety Report. “Substandard driver sightlines” will need to be addressed by Council with proper signage and traffic calming measures. 6. Every new track destroys bushland and wildlife habitat and encourages invasive weeds (that would potentially need to be controlled with poisonous herbicides). Here is a short video clip filmed in the area proposed for the boardwalk showing what will be impacted : <u>Boardwalk Empire Animoto video - Animoto</u> <p>The Review of Environmental factors (REF) says - <i>no threatened flora species have been previously recorded within the study area or development footprint (ELA 2017, DPIE 2021).</i></p>

Number	Comment
	<p>However, from the study it looks like <i>Pimelea Curviflora</i> var. <i>Curviflora</i> has been found in the area. Please advise what steps will be taken.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="flex: 1;"> <p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study Area 5 km Buffer Threatened Flora Records (DPIE 2021) ● <i>Acacia bynoeana</i> ● <i>Acacia terminalis</i> subsp. <i>Eastern Sydney</i> ● <i>Chamaesyce psammodictyon</i> ● <i>Epacris purpurascens</i> var. <i>purpurascens</i> ● <i>Eucalyptus camfieldii</i> ● <i>Eucalyptus nicholii</i> ● <i>Hibbertia puberula</i> ○ <i>Hibbertia superans</i> ◆ <i>Lasiopetalum joyceae</i> ◆ <i>Macadamia integrifolia</i> ◆ <i>Melaleuca biconvexa</i> ◆ <i>Pimelea curviflora</i> var. <i>curviflora</i> ◆ <i>Rhodamnia rubescens</i> ◆ <i>Senecio spathulatus</i> ◆ <i>Syzygium paniculatum</i> ◇ <i>Tetratheca glandulosa</i> </div> <div style="flex: 1;">  </div> </div> <p>7. Every new track creates noise disturbance for birds and animals. Wildlife (such as wallabies) needs access to water without human disturbance. This is a wildlife corridor which will be completely disturbed by humans.</p> <p>8. Every new track creates a potential rubbish site as people seem unable to take their rubbish with them. It will be difficult for the Rangers to clean up as access will be more difficult for them. Unsavoury types will also be likely to use the path/viewing areas in the evenings – often leaving rubbish and destruction.</p> <p>9. This project also involves clearing of native vegetation and drilling into ancient sandstone rock forms. The project requires a construction buffer of 2m either side of the trail meaning a pathway of up to 6m could be created.</p> <p>10. The report suggests "very few trees will be lost" but neglect to mention the removal of low-lying shrubs and flowering plants – consistent with the Australian bush.</p> <p>11. The planned path has proposed viewing platforms where people will go off the track – as per the diagrams. People going off the track at the same point will degrade the area.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Proposed upper informal resting point</p> </div>

Number	Comment
	<p>Viewing platforms will require additional vegetation clearing and will reduce the visible amenity from the other side of the dam. Additionally, this UGLY viewing deck (below) would have been underwater during the last few weeks and increasingly as weather patterns are changing. This type of clearing and development is unnecessary.</p>  <p>Proposed viewing deck</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Many parts of the chosen pathway are susceptible to flooding on a regular basis – especially near to Section 2, at the culvert near the roundabout and at the potential end point for the path in Section 3. How will this be dealt with? 13. The Deck height above ground-level varies between 300 mm to 2 m. Please provide a full diagram so we can properly understand where this is and what it looks like. 14. A concrete path at the Section 3 end will be detrimental to the grass area in that picnic space. Many people regularly use that flat space for games like Boule or Finska. We object to the construction of 1.8 m wide coloured concrete path on grade trail as the method of connecting the boardwalk to Picnic Area 3. A more environmentally sensitive approach should be used and the playing area should be preserved for all, rather than hijacked for a path. 15. The Fibre-reinforced plastic (FRP) construction material will burn in a bushfire - leaving toxic residue. This area of bush will need to undergo hazard reduction burning at some stage, or even for bush regeneration. What is the plan here? 16. The trail is designed as an “out and back” as there is no connection for Section 3 and the carpark. This will be an issue for many who choose to use the path and

Number	Comment
	<p>find the return trip too far. (Alternatively, some may even choose to do a loop back along the road!) How has this been considered?</p> <p>17. The proposed pathway will be easily visible and accessible through the bush from the road. How will you discourage people, especially children, from ging off the pathway?</p> <p>18. We object to the new car drop-off space planned for Section 2. If the path is to be built, it should be able to be accessed from the Section 1 extended car park as per the plans. Additional accessible car spaces can be added. Once again, this is unnecessary development and creates a ridiculous scenario of drop-off, park, walk and then unravel that process.</p> <p>19. The proposed signage is not related to the boardwalk and has been outstanding for many years – please implement. - <i>A wayfinding signage plan will be developed. It will include signs at key intersections and entries with maps and totem style signs at trail forks. Signage will also include informative cultural and natural heritage information, encouraging those passing by to learn more about the area's history.</i></p> <p>20. We object to Saturday 8.00am to 1.00pm work hours. Saturday is a busy day for the Park and people need to be able to enjoy it without having construction nearby.</p> <p>Council previously wanted to make the discreet children's playground 17 times its current size and the community disquiet helped design something more in keeping with the Park.</p> <p>We would like to work with Council to come up with a better plan that focuses more on the environmental values of the Park, rather than the Recreational values of the Park. Our preference is to make the road safe and enable the spectacular views already available along the road.</p> <p>This is a very special place and we all need to think very carefully about each step taken to “improve” it. Sometimes it doesn't need improving.</p> <p>The lockdown period of Covid has taught us many things. We believe one of these was the appreciation of our local area; the bush and the beach in particular.</p> <p>We look forward to being able to discuss our suggestions / submission with you.</p> <p>Regards, </p> <p>Per Save Manly Dam Catchment Committee</p>
3	<p>Thank you for this opportunity to provide feedback.</p> <p>I do not support the proposal.</p> <p>Please find attached my full submission regarding the proposed boardwalk between sections 2 & 3 in Manly Warringah War Memorial Park. I trust that Council will give it full consideration.</p> <p>Regards,  Manly Vale</p>

Number	Comment
4	<p>I am writing to register my opposition to the above proposal. On so many grounds I would run out of time writing them all and you would run out of time reading them. So to be brief, please consider the following:-</p> <p>The proposal for a PLASTIC pathway from a Local Government Council espousing the use of LESS plastic by residents and the wider community generally is hypocritical, bizarre and preposterous.</p> <p>Given the acceleration of climatic changes there is sadly, a better than even chance of bushfire in that area in the future. Once the toxic fumes from that plastic walkway dissipate the toxic residue will have to be removed to - where? Ingleside? Another plastic recycle/disposal centre?</p> <p>The Manly Dam Catchment area is Australia's ONLY War Memorial created by protecting its natural bushland and endangered, unique animal and plant species. This is an eyesore of a proposal of intrusive, unsightly infrastructure where no such infrastructure should be and must be returned to the drawing board.</p> <p>To that end I understand you have received a number of constructive suggestions for useful and worthwhile expenditure of grant monies from the NSW Government to improve access and amenities via the existing road which appears to have been seriously misrepresented in the proposal's Traffic Report. Perhaps Council staff could visit the site and see a) this is a 20 and 10km/h zone, b) it is an internal road, c) it has space for a shared zone d) it has speed humps which I believe are not traditionally designated trip hazards.</p> <p>BIG is not always best. Remember Council's original proposal for a massive 'discreet' children's playground? Community consultations resulted in reducing that proposal by 17 times to what it is now - genuinely discreet.</p> <p>Please listen to the community now. Return to the drawing board, concentrate on the internal road access suggestions, amenities upgrades and mobility access and this unique War Memorial will be enhanced not degraded.</p> <p>Thank you in advance for what I hope will be a new sympathetic approach to this project.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p>
5	<p>I object to the proposed new plastic boardwalk to be erected in Manly Dam. This is a bushfire zone and we do not need to introduce toxic materials.</p> <p>This walk is unnecessary. There is currently no path at this site. No accidents involving pedestrians using the current road access have been recorded.</p> <p>The people who go to Manly Dam appreciate the natural environment. There are no residents living in sight of this area and it is a little piece of suburbia where nature is preserved. Once bushland disturbed or cleared, weeds will invade.</p> <p>Little by little, Manly Dam and environs are being destroyed by encroachment and development.</p>
6	<p>I am totally against this and here are my reasons.</p> <p>1/ The chosen site FLOODS.</p> <p>2/ It will mean more urbanisation of a precious wild space.</p> <p>3/ Every new track destroys bushland and wildlife habitat and encourages invasive weeds (that would need to be controlled with poisonous herbicides).</p>

Number	Comment
	<p>4/ Every new track creates noise disturbance for birds and animals</p> <p>5/ This project will require clearing of native vegetation and drilling into ancient sandstone rock forms.</p> <p>6/ Council will say "very few trees will be lost" but neglect to mention the removal of low lying shrubs and flowering plants.</p> <p>6/ Viewing platforms will require additional clearing and will be visible from afar.</p> <p>7/ Runners and Joggers will STILL use the nearby road- so why not make sure that the road is safe for ALL with traffic calming measures?</p> <p>8/ The plastic construction material will burn in a bushfire - leaving toxic residue</p> <p>9/ The \$1.8 million could be used on, vitally needed, conservation programs. Or, the dam wall, with its spectacular views, could be made accessible for all by redirecting the funding to construct a mobility ramp.</p> <p>10/ Wildlife (such as wallabies) needs access to water without human disturbance</p> <p>11/ Council previously wanted to make the discreet children's playground 17 times its current size !! Only community disquiet stopped them. Who then came up with this proposal ??</p> <p>12/ This is the only war memorial in Australia to be created by protecting natural bushland. It can't be "improved" with yet more "infrastructure".</p> <p>13/ Manly Dam is a rare, natural, wild place in an urban setting unlike virtually every other city park- let's keep it that way.</p> <p>The article on page 41 of March's Tawny Frogmouth magazine gives an overview of what's at stake (although the chosen image fails to portray the brutal size of the thing). https://thetawnyfrogmouth.com.au</p>
7	<p>Having lived in Allambie Heights for over 30 years I have only seen more and more inappropriate additions to Manly dam.</p> <p>It's beauty is in it's natural nature and should be left as such.</p> <p>Cut down all thee tree stick them in a tree museum then concrete over it all that's the way it's going.</p> <p>Do-gooders and burecrates go concrete your own backyards!</p>
8	<p>As a regular user of Manly Dam and the trails I have always found having to share the road to reach the end of the dam a little dangerous particularly when it is busy. The installation of the proposed walkway would not only be safer for pedestrians but complete the trail loop around the dam which is currently being repaired. The finished result will result in a first rate trail for walking, running or just enjoying the view of over the dam.</p>
9	<p>Re. The Manly Dam walkway could you please ensure there is signage stating the aboriginal country on which people are walking at Manly Dam.</p> <p>Some consultation with local elders to ensure local knowledge on aboriginal history and culture is stated.</p> <p>It would be great if the walkway linked up to an actual footpath at the beginning and also at the end at the beginning of the trail near the toilet block. Otherwise it will still mean people have to walk and run on the busy roadway and up through the car park.</p> <p>Best wishes</p>
10	<p>Hi there,</p> <p>I believe that if the intent is to keep walkers away and safe from the road, you can build the pathway next to the road, following the road. No need to cut through the bush to do it and change the natural aspect and feel of the place. Please don't destroy the best part of the dam. Thanking you.</p>
11	<p>I believe there's something very wrong with council's processes in local project delivery.</p> <p>Almost a year ago Michael stood with other local politicians (see below) to make a very public announcement that was heavily reported and this quote was attributed to the Mayor,</p>

Number	Comment
	<p>which in my opinion most people would assume heavily suggests that this project is a done deal and ready to be built.</p> <p>“The new raised boardwalk, funded dollar for dollar by Council and the NSW government will provide the missing link between Areas 2 and 3, taking visitors off the road and through the bushland along the waterline with a number of viewing platforms.”</p> <p>Article 14/3/21 https://manlyobserver.com.au/dam-good-idea-new-manly-dam-boardwalk-to-complete-missing-link/</p> <p>Imagine my surprise when a full 11 months later instead of construction, we discover that the project is only just going through public consultation, which if a valid process would suggest it's not approved, signed off for construction and may never happen.</p> <p>Consultation open 11/2/22 https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/manly-dam-link-trail?fbclid=IwAR3tTzwAiLOOKMLwLPdc81Ilf4DlnPy6EVeNmduP8HRCgxhh-wGersBPykQ</p> <p>Locally we've seen this flawed council process before with the excellent plans for the Manly Dam regional play space - announced to great fanfare and widely reported so most ratepayers assumed its happening, but 'privately' (as the council website is as good as) and without fanfare consultation happens and allows minority groups to fatally compromise the plans.</p> <p>Surely the photo ops should wait or at least help publicise the consultation to get a genuine take on ratepayer sentiment.</p> <p>If this amazing boardwalk gets 'fatally compromised' like the very disappointing play space I believe council and its processes will have some questions to answer.</p> <p>Manly Vale can't get duded again.</p> <p>Cheers,</p>
12	<p>A. I am opposed to the installation of the Link Trail in accordance with the current design concept and I set out my reasons below at C.</p> <p>B. Before I address my reasons for being opposed to the current design, I must express my shock when during the <i>Information Session</i> Barbara Stack said: “<i>this is a fine tuning of the concept</i>”. I understood the purpose of the information session was to provide information so that the public could make informed submissions about the proposal. I was further alarmed when Barbara Stack, in light of her already stated position about <i>fine tuning</i>, advised the matter would not be taken to Council for consideration. It appeared <i>Option 1</i> going ahead was a <i>fait accompli</i> with no review from a higher body. Thus I have copied this email to my ward councillor, Ruth Robbins.</p> <p>C. <u>Reasons for being opposed.</u></p> <p>a. Not in character with the uniqueness and essence of the park as one of <i>protected bushland</i> and one that <i>provides opportunity for a variety of recreational activities in a low-key natural setting</i> [The vision for Manly Warringah War Memorial Park (Plan of Management 2014) (“Vision ”)].</p> <p>The overall impression of the Link Trail was that it is a repetition of the Narrabeen Lagoon Trail, which I admire, but do not believe is in accordance with the stated <i>Vision</i>.</p> <p>It was stated during the session that the Link Trail was about “the journey”, <u>but the journey is experiencing walking through protected bushland with water glimpses</u> and not “walking a pedestrian highway”.</p>

Number	Comment
	<p>b. The link path is too wide. The Link Trail could better meet its objectives, and be consistent with the Vision, were the Link Trail to be reduced to 1.5 m, which is the situation in many other NB Council pathways/trails. Such an example is the boardwalk at the southern end of the Long Reef Headland Trail which is 1.5 metres, or less, in significant parts at that end which is through the bush to the of rear LRSLSC.</p> <p>c. Viewing platforms are unnecessary. The platforms are unnecessary and not consistent with maintaining a low-key natural setting referred to in the Vision. Open views of the water can be obtained at picnic places that already exist. Such platforms would detract rather than enhance the pedestrian experience of walking through bushland that was in close proximity to a wide creek or waterway.</p> <p>NBC is the manager of a park that is considered a <i>bushland refuge</i> and should be making every effort to maintain that when it looks at any improvement. In this regard it is of note that viewing platforms have only been considered to provide wide views of the nearby waterway as opposed to views of the bush.</p> <p><i>Additional comment to online submission</i></p>
13	<p>Yes it would be lovely to have a path along the waterfront for all to enjoy..... however not at the cost of wildlife habitat and bushland. They no doubt won't find it lovely. We know animals tend to stay around 8m away from human traffic areas and this area is a vital access to their water source. I don't see that as being outlandishly greenie, more common sense protecting precious urban bushland that is gradually getting chipped away at.</p> <p><i>Duplicate of online submission</i></p>
14	<p>I'd like to register my concerns regarding the proposed construction of a new plastic walking track in Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park.</p> <p>These are my reasons-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every new track disturbs the natural environment of the birds and animals •This is an important people free area and further encroachment means that the current access that wildlife have to this area will be severely impeded. •Access could be improved on the current situation by adjusting the speed limit on the adjoining road and adding some traffic calming measures. <p>I strongly urge Council to listen to the voices of concern over this unnecessary track in the Manly Warringah War Memorial Park and to take very seriously the effect it will have on the pristine bush land in this area of the park.</p> <p>Thanking you ,</p> <p><i>Additional comment to online submission</i></p>

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