

Our Resilient Coast.  
Our Future.

Developing a Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy  
for the Sunshine Coast

Working together to proactively plan for the future management of our coastline, to increase the resilience of our region.



## DID YOU KNOW...

We have **60km** of open shoreline including **7km** of headlands or rocky shores

**63%** of our coastline is in a natural or near natural state

There is **70km** of lower estuary foreshores

There is **67km** of coastal pathways

We have more than **8km** of constructed protection works

**75%** of foreshores support moderate to high recreational use

Between 2013-2017 approx **300,000m<sup>3</sup>** of sand renourishment occurred at Maroochydore

Sunshine Coast Council has **248** beach accesses and **21** patrolled beaches

## What is Our Resilient Coast. Our Future?

'Our Resilient Coast. Our Future' is a project to develop a long-term strategy that proactively plans for the future management of our coastal areas, increases our resilience and builds on council's existing knowledge.

We're working to understand how climate change and coastal hazards—such as beach erosion and saltwater inundation due to sea level rise—may affect our coastal communities, our local economy and our natural environment. We'll also explore vulnerabilities and risks to community, cultural and natural assets.

## Why are we developing this strategy now?

Funding from the State Government and Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) enables us to deliver detailed assessments to help with our long-term planning. This will help us to be better prepared for the future, and to reduce the impact of coastal hazards on our communities, environment, cultural values and built assets.

Throughout this process, it's important that we listen to the community, understand key issues, gain knowledge on key values and the history of the coastline, and consider innovative approaches for its management.





## What's the focus of the strategy?

Our coastline is dynamic, it's always changing over time. In completing our strategic plan, we'll better understand:

- Coastal values: What you value most about living on the Sunshine Coast. How you use, value and connect to our coastlines.
- Coastal hazard risk: Current and future risk of erosion and storm tide or permanent inundation, and how this may impact on the coastal values.
- Adaptation options: The range of options to avoid, mitigate and manage coastal hazard risk that are appropriate and relevant for different locations along the coastline.

## What does it mean for me?

Our coast is integral to our region's identity. It's important that our strategy, as well as adaptation responses, are aligned with community expectations and coastal values. The process to develop the strategy may take up to 24 months. This allows sufficient time to undertake complex technical studies. Importantly, it also gives us time to hold a range of conversations with you, our community.

We appreciate the local community has extensive knowledge on key values and history of the coastline. This will be an important input for the strategy process.

We'll also engage with key agencies and organisations, each with a role to play in the future management of the coast and/or assets in close proximity to the coast.

## What will the strategy provide?

The development of the strategy leads to the creation of a long-term plan (up to 2100) that we can use (and other agencies and asset owners too) to manage the coast over time. Once approved, the strategy will:

- Ensure there is a shared understanding of coastal hazards, risks, and the preferred approaches to adaptation along our coast.
- Enable proactive planning for both the short-term (e.g. next 5-10 years) and long-term (e.g. 50 years) protection of coastal values, including natural and built assets.
- Help reduce risk exposure and avoid financial (and other) costs to council and the community.



## Updated project timeline – indicative timeframe

- 1**  **Complete**  
Pre-planning work – Plan for the life-of-project stakeholder communication and engagement
- 2**  **Complete**  
Pre-planning technical scoping study – scope coastal hazard issues for the area of interest
- 3**  **Complete**  
Identify areas exposed to current and future coastal hazards  
*Establishing Community Advisory Group, undertaking values mapping and building the coastal story so far*
- 4**  **Complete**  
Identify key assets potentially impacted  
*Online survey No. 1 – sharing stories, mapping values, historical changes and collecting local knowledge*  
*Community events – round 1*
- 5**  **Complete**  
Undertake risk assessment of key assets in coastal hazard areas  
*Informed by stakeholder perspectives*
- 6**  **In progress**  
Identify potential adaptation options  
*Online survey No. 2 – perspectives on risk and adaptation options*
- 7**  **Early to mid 2020**  
Socio-economic appraisal of adaptation options  
*Draft strategy refinement – Round 2 consultation period*
- 8**  **From mid 2020**  
Strategy development, implementation and review  
*Public feedback period*

## How will the strategy be used?

The strategy will provide a range of short and long-term actions to avoid, mitigate and manage the impacts of coastal hazards. The strategy outputs will inform:

- Statutory planning (future land use zoning)
- Development controls in areas that may be impacted by coastal hazards in the future
- Infrastructure and asset planning and management, including public and community facilities
- Emergency and disaster response
- Environmental and cultural management and protection
- Financial forecasting and budgets.

## How can I get involved?

If you're interested in our coast and its future, please be part of our community consultation. Your ideas and input will be a valuable part of our strategy development

Visit our website to:

- Complete our current survey
- Share your coastal experiences, photos and stories
- Sign-up to follow the project for latest news and online activities
- Find out where you can connect with us.




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