

From: "Tom Morris" [REDACTED]
Sent: 11/10/2021 10:49 AM
To: "Council Northernbeaches Mailbox"
 <Council.Northernbeaches@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Collaroy Sea Wall - stop construction. Stop funding. Return the area to natural dunes.

Dear NB council representative,

This photo is from 1920.



- Anyone who built here should have known the inevitable outcome. It's not up to other council rate payers to cover their mistake. We are not their insurance policy.

We are now about to lose the beach because of this wall that will exacerbate erosion and move sand offshore.

It's highly likely the next big storm will undercut the wall and destroy it.

From the attached article.

“ The problem of erosion along the beachfront began with the earliest urban development on the thin coastal strip between Pittwater Rd and the ocean.

The first buildings along the beachfront were built early in the 20th century”

Any rate payer or public money sunk into this project should be reclaimed immediately. The houses themselves should be dozed and the area zoned as a protected natural dune area to save the beach.

<https://dailytelegraph.com.au/newslocal/northern-beaches/collaroy-beachfront-has-been-an-erosion-hotspot-for-a-hundred-years/news-story/0c597201bbc6d712ad401f82608ee4cb>

Housing and other residential Structures were built on sand dunes. Dunes are mobile coastal features that supply and receive sand to and from the beach.

The structures (houses and concrete) have been preventing the natural movement and supply of sand along the beach. Protective structures like the sea wall will only enhance erosive forces.

There will be no beach as we know it.

No beach, no visitors, no tourism or retail income

- seawalls significantly interfere with natural beach processes by separating the active beach from sand reserves stored in beach ridges and dunes. In other words, seawalls can protect property behind the wall, but they do not prevent in

any way the erosion processes continuing on the beach in front of them. In fact they may exacerbate and accelerate erosion.

<http://www.coastengsol.com.au/seawalls-blight-or-remedy/>

With no beach there will be no visitors. Local business will lose customers. Locals will not have a beach to go to. 99.9% of rate payers should not have to provide for those who made the error of building/buying on sand dunes. If one applied for Development Application today to build there one would be rejected by engineers and council everytime. The houses themselves contribute to the exacerbation of erosion processes as they sit on the sand dunes preventing natural seasonal sand movement and supply.

By comparison - Those who built/buy in flood prone areas of lagoon environments are made to build high foundations, pay high insurance premiums and receive no provisions from councils.

These beach front residents bought into this issue. And now want a sea wall to protect their asset and in turn it will destroy our beach.

It's not personal it is purely coastal processes.

As per NSW coastal management act 2016. The area must be restored to its natural state. The dunes would be a natural barrier.

NSW GOVERNMENT | **NSW legislation**

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27 Granting of development consent relating to coastal protection works

(1) Development consent must not be granted under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* to development for the purpose of coastal protection works, unless the consent authority is satisfied that—

(a) the works will not, over the life of the works—

(i) unreasonably limit or be likely to unreasonably limit public access to or the use of a beach or headland, or

(ii) pose or be likely to pose a threat to public safety, and

(b) satisfactory arrangements have been made (by conditions imposed on the consent) for the following for the life of the works—

(i) the restoration of a beach, or land adjacent to the beach, if any increased erosion of the beach or adjacent land is caused by the presence of the works,

(ii) the maintenance of the works.

(2) The arrangements referred to in subsection (1) (b) are to secure adequate funding for the carrying out of any such restoration and maintenance, including by either or both of the following—

(a) by legally binding obligations (including by way of financial assurance or bond) of all or any of the following—

(i) the owner or owners from time to time of the land protected by the works,

(ii) if the coastal protection works are constructed by or on behalf of landowners or by landowners jointly with a council or public authority—the council or public authority,

Note—

Section 80A (3) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* requires that a development consent must

Yours sincerely,
Thomas Morris

NB resident and rate payer.
Sent from my iPhone