

Copy of content sent 17 October 2016 to John Harris re Novara Foreshore Master Plan

Thank you for meeting with Linden Hill, Vice President of the Mandurah Over 55s Canoe Club and me today and providing us with the opportunity to comment on the Novara Foreshore Master Plan.

While we are pleased to see any revamp of the Novara foreshore, the non-powered site north of the boat ramp is not favoured by the majority of paddlers

As discussed today we would welcome the area south of the Novara Boat Ramp to be revitalised. There is a beach there that paddlers access directly from the car park and/or via a set of wooden steps and slide.

The advantage with this location is, even at low tides, paddlers can access deep water by following the edges outside but adjacent to the boating channel.

As discussed suggested improvements include:

1. Providing a more direct and defined footpath to the existing toilets. It is assumed that in the case of any upgrade or replacement of the toilets that the location would remain about the same.
2. Upgrading the steps and slide while keeping the same design features.
3. Upgrading the foreshore by extending the grassed area, with additional tree plantings alongside the car park.
4. Provide picnic shelters near where the lone tree stands just north of the existing steps and slide.
5. Installing what is known as an All Abilities Canoe Launch Facility at the southern side of the existing boat ramp in line with the outside edge of the boating channel markers. Our recommendation is a floating dock which allows for paddlers who use wheelchairs to be able to launch and retrieve themselves. This style also lends itself to paddlers who may have other impairments and also to those with none.

As we all are aware, respite areas for our birdlife are becoming premium spaces. Where the weed harvesters dumped weed on the limestone track which extends into the water and shorebird area, why not install some seating such as a picnic shelter (not a bird hide) with bird i.d. and migratory bird information. Also consider taking the path around the outside edge of this area rather than an expensive boardwalk through the middle.

Once again we thank the City for providing us the chance to comment, and yourself for the interest shown.

All the best

Barry Small (signed off as President - Canoe Trail Friends of Mandurah and Pinjarra)