STOCKTON

COMMUNITY GROUP INC.

#LessTalkMoreSand

#SaveStockton2295

#StandWithUs2295

#TellUsTheTimeline

April 2025

StocktonComGroup@gmail.com · stocktoncommunitygroup.com.au · Find us on 📵 🚹



PRESIDENTS UPDATE

Alison Rigby & Lindy Nisbett, Co-Presidents

Our February meeting was a Q &A Forum with Ward 1 Councillors (Declan Clausen & Peter Gittens). 45 community members attended. Councillors were provided with 3 questions related to:

- Increased anti-social behaviour and thefts, reckless use of ebikes and scooters, traffic management and demand on infrastructure over the summer period.
- Planned work to upgrade the public toilet amenities at the ferry/skatepark & use of Rawson Reserve Trust funds for upgrading amenities.
- Increased pressure on local infrastructure from housing developments in the Fern Bay and Fullerton Cove area, and the shift to higher density housing in Stockton.

Community members raised additional questions about:

- Car parking on Stockton
- Queens Wharf building redevelopment
- **Beach Restoration**
- Safe beach Access
- Homelessness & free camping
- Night time economy
- Education on use of ebikes

(Details of the responses can be found in the February 2025 meeting minutes available on the SCG Inc website)

As a result of the forum SCG Inc will be focussing on the following issues over the next 3 months:

- Upgrade of ferry/activity hub toilets - this is a community lead initiative with ongoing community consultation needed and expected to ensure the new facility is functional and aesthetic.
- Implementation of the CN Walking & Mobility Plan and traffic management strategies to ensure pedestrian safety on Stockton.
- Working with CN to increase Ranger visibility on Stockton to address vandalism, anti-social behaviour and improve dog control.

Sand on Stockton Beach is still an issue for the community. SCG INc has submitted feedback to the City of Newcastle on the **Draft Extended Coastal Management** Plan(DECMP) Highlighting the key issues of:

- Sand Nourishment & Timelines for delivery of Sand & Sand Sources
- Accountablity of NSW State Government & PON.
- Reconnecting community access to the heach
- Stockton Beach Masterplan, including masterplan for Stockton Beach Caravan Park.

MEETING DATES 2025 Meetings held at Stockton Surf Club

7:30pm

Wednesday April 9th

Topic: Recycling & Waste management, Guest speaker is Alicia Sheen | Waste **Education & Behaviour Change** Coordinator, City of Newcastle

Wednesday September 10th

Wednesday November 12th

Suburb Improvement & Crown Land: Carolyn Bailey Air & Water Quality: Keith Craig Beach Group: Alison Rigby

> SCG Inc Executive: Alison Rigby, Lindy Nis, Carolyn Bailey, Jo Bastian, Keith Craig, Gary Cullinane, Mike Hocking-Gill, Ian Taggart

Please see SCG Inc. website for membership details:

www.stocktoncommunitygroup.com.au

Stockton Community Group Inc. (SCG Inc.) are a not-for-profit organisation run by volunteers that seek to act and promote Stockton Community Interests

SCG Inc. Co-Presidents: Alison Rigby & Lindy Nisbett

SCG Inc. Secretariat: Vacant SCG Inc. Treasurer: Lindy Nisbett

STOCKTON MOBILITY CAMPAIGN

Increased visitor and commuter traffic on Stockton is causing significant risk to pedestrians safety. SCG Inc is undertaking a campaign to help inform the implementation of the CN Walking & Mobility Plan and we need your help! We are compiling a list of street corners and other areas

which need upgrading to provide safer access for pedestrians, wheelchairs users and prams.

To help, you can submit photos and details of locations of concern to Stocktoncomgroup@gmail.com or scan the QR Code & use the form.





STOCKTON BEACH UPDATE

from Ron Boyd and Keith Craig



There have been a number of new developments regarding Stockton Beach over the last few months.

The first of these concerns the establishment of the new Stockton Advisory Panel, chaired by Tim Crakenthorp, with local members Barbara Whitcher, Willow Forsyth and Ron Boyd. This Panel is tasked with delivering the NSW Government sand nourishment program and beach repair for Stockton. On another front, City of Newcastle is in the process of finalizing its Draft Extended Coastal Management Program for the area north to the Port Stephens boundary. Details of this DECMP are available on the CN website, and local representatives have made detailed submissions supporting the sand renourishment project and other management items.

CN and NSW DCCEW have established 5 blue monitoring cameras along the beach. The data collected by these beach monitoring cameras will help understand how the coastline changes over time, as well as beach visitation. A data collection buoy has also been installed offshore to collect ocean data, and shark nets will be removed at the end of March.

https://www.environment. nsw.gov.au/topics/water/ coasts/stockton-beach-repairproject/stockton-beach-repairmonitoring-programs

Through early 2025, the beach had been steadily increasing sand volumes due to successive beach scraping programs and lack of storms adding to the upper beach and foredune. This proved fortuitous when Cyclone Alfred arrived in early March as most of the beach reduced volume, but no significant erosion occurred other than at the new pile wall location. We will all wait now to see if the NSW Government election promise of \$21M is included in the June 2025 NSW Budget. If so we should see the main program of beach renourishment sourced from offshore dredging begin in 2026.

HOW TO CONTACT CITY OF NEWCASTLE

If you have a concern, request for service or ideas for improving Stockton these can be lodged with City of Newcastle by completing a Customer Request Form online at:

https://newcastle.nsw.gov.au/about-us/forms-and-publications/forms-and-permits/customer-request-form

Or you can call them on: 02 4974 2000

When you lodge a Customer Request you should receive a Reference Number (CRN). This number is important for any ongoing correspondence or if you want to raise your issue with elected councillors.

OUR WARD 1 COUNCILLORS ARE:

Declan Clausen

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Make sure you are following Stockton Community Group Inc.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We need volunteers to help distribute the Newsletter, if you have some time to help please email SCG Inc.

StocktonComGroup@gmail.com