

ADDITIONAL REPORT



Item No: 1.4
Title: Mayoral Minute - Request for Premier to urgently visit the Central Coast
Department: Councillor

10 February 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting

Reference: F2020/00039 - D13812374

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The recent extreme weather on the Central Coast has again highlighted the vulnerability of our area's community and infrastructure to these events. At the height of this event there were over eighty roads closed, just Council roads, not State roads. Homes and businesses have been flooded, trees and powerlines have come down leaving thousands without power. Services and accessibility have been severely impacted. Council staff have been working around the clock as have State Emergency Service (SES) volunteers and Ausgrid employees and they have the thanks of Council and our community.

The repair bill at this time is unknown but is likely to be significant. It will be some time before we know the extent of the full cost. What we do know is that we have already allocated our budget for this year and for next year and it didn't take into account a natural disaster of this scale. That is why we need the State Government to step in and use their vast funds to help our community recover and to rebuild once again.

That is why I am calling on the Premier of NSW, the Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP, to urgently visit the Central Coast and visit the areas affected by recent rain event and see for herself the devastation it has caused and work with Council and the community to rebuild.

The Entrance channel is another issue that needs the Premier's attention. As owner of the waterways and builder of the recent groyne at The Entrance, we need to understand what they are willing to do to help find a long term solution to water flow of the channel.

I formally move:

- 1 That Council note the devastation caused by the recent significant rain event on the Central Coast.**
- 2 That Council acknowledge and thank all the Council staff, State Emergency Service volunteers and Ausgrid staff who have been working tirelessly to restore services to the Central Coast.**

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(contd)**

- 3 *That Council invite the Premier of NSW to visit the Central Coast, to understand the devastation caused by the recent rain event, and provide assistance to Council and the community to rebuild as a matter of urgency.***
- 4 *That Council request the Premier and State Government to investigate what impact the recently build groyne has had on the Channel and recently flooding.***
- 5 *That Council request the Premier and State Government to commit to a long term solution for The Entrance Channel.***

Attachments

Nil.