MEDIA RELEASE
The Hon Tony Kelly MLC
Minister for Primary Industries
Minister for Lands
Leader of the House in the Legislative Council
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Friday, 27 November, 2009

Workshop commence for design of Newcastle Revitalisation

Minister for Lands, Tony Kelly; and Local Member for Newcastle and Minister for the Hunter, Jodie McKay; together with Newcastle City Council Director, Future City, Judy Jaeger, today announced the commencement of the public participation process for the Newcastle Coastal Revitalisation Masterplan.

Consultants appointed to the project, Urbis, have commenced work on the masterplan for the Newcastle coastline’s public spaces. Progress to date includes site visits; review of existing data, reports and previous community consultation; and preliminary issues and opportunities analysis.

A series of design workshops from 30 November to 3 December have also been organised to facilitate the first stage of active community participation in the process. Participants for the workshops were invited from key stakeholder organisations and a survey of residents from Newcastle Council’s Newcastle Voice feedback forum.

“The project is setting the foundation for the future management and revitalisation of Newcastle’s iconic beaches, from Stockton in the north, to Merewether in the south. The project is a partnership between the Land and Property Management Authority, Newcastle Council and Hunter Surf Life Saving,” Mr Kelly said.

“The Newcastle Coastal Revitalisation project complements the overall planning framework for the city and will enable improvement and development of public infrastructure along the coastline,” Ms McKay said.

“Improvements could include anything from cycleways and promenades to upgrading of amenities and picnic areas, and will ensure the coastline is the crowning glory of the city.”

“The community consultation workshops will be an integral part of the masterplanning process and build on the involvement of various participants on the established project working groups,” Ms Jaeger said.

“The project will further provide for public input through the exhibition of a draft masterplan early in 2010, and will take into account the needs of all beach users, existing stakeholders and the broader community.”

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