



4.00 RESPONSE TO PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

The Environmental Assessment for the proposed Town Centre at Casuarina was publicly exhibited from 26 August 2008 to 30 September 2008.

A summary of public submissions and responses to the issues raised are presented below.

4.01 Listings of Public Submitters

The public submissions have been examined in detail and lists have been compiled, as follows:

- **Listing of Public Submitters
(by name – listed alphabetically and number)**

This listing, which is not for publication, comprises responses received from 196 addresses, which represented 250 respondents.

A number of these respondents each made more than one submission.

In total, these 250 respondents made 397 submissions.

- **Listing of Public Submitters
(anonymous)**

This listing comprises responses from 20 addresses, accounting for 23 submissions.

- **Listing of Public Submitters
(corporate entities, associations, etc)**

This listing comprises responses from 18 such entities, accounting for 53 submissions.

In total, responses were received from 234 addresses accounting for 473 submissions.

A significant number of submitters lodged multiple format submissions with each of the public agencies, the result being multiple copies of the same submission being received and registered by the Department of Planning. In some instances, submitters lodged several of the circulated pro-forma letters/submissions that were produced by others, sometimes lodging the same form to each agency.



4.02 Analysis of Public Submissions

The submissions may be broadly categorised into 10 categories or mentions, being items of concern or interest as addressed by the submitters. These categories (mentions) and the number of mentions received in each category are as follows:

Category (Mention)	Number of Mentions
(a) Retain the swale (as it is)	187
(b) Town Centre supported (unqualified support)	171
(c) Town Centre supported (however, retain other uses ¹)	4
(d) Town Centre supported (however with some issues)	58
(e) Town Centre supported (however, retain swale)	51
(f) Retain the swale and the beach facilities previously proposed	62
(g) Master Plan changed	15
(h) Nature conservation issues	1
(i) Proposal premature	1
(j) Opposed to proposal	<u>3</u>
TOTAL	553

Note 1: Cinema, service station, community hall, etc.

4.03 Public Submissions – a Summary

Having regard to the above analysis of public submissions received, the following summary is provided.



Table – Summary of Public Submissions
(by number of mentions)

Category mentioned	No. of Mentions	%
Town Centre		
Support for Town Centre (unqualified) (see item (b) in Table above)	171	31.0
Support for Town Centre (qualified) (see items (c), (d) and (e) in Table above)	<u>113</u>	<u>20.5</u>
	284	51.5
Opposed to Town Centre (see item (j) in Table above)	<u>3</u>	<u>0.5</u>
	287	52.0
Other (neither in support or opposed to Town Centre)		
Retain Swale (see items (a) and (f) in Table above)	249	45.0
Other mentions (see (g), (h) and (i) in Table above)	<u>17</u>	<u>3.0</u>
	266	48.0
TOTAL	553	100.0

The majority of overall categories mentioned (51.5%) is in support of the proposal. However, if those categories mentioned which are unrelated to support or otherwise for the proposal are excluded, reasonably in the circumstances, then of the 287 mentions directed at the Town Centre proposal itself, almost all mentions (99%) signify either qualified or unqualified support.

Of the submitted mentions expressly objecting to the proposed Casuarina Beach Town Centre development, these include:

- the proposed shopping centre is premature, particularly as it would have a reliance for custom from Pottsville, to the detriment of existing and future shopping facilities there;
- the supermarket should not be developed until there is sufficient population at Casuarina;
- there will be a loss of natural beauty and of biodiversity;



- there will be a need to relocate the wallaby population;
- there should be no three storey buildings.

The above-stated matters referable to the need for shopping facilities at Casuarina have been reviewed and are fully addressed in the Peer Review of Retail Sustainability and Economic Impact Assessment Report (MacroPlan Australia – see **Attachment 1**).

The matter of the swale has been comprehensively addressed in the response to the Department of Planning key issues, at 2.00 of this **Preferred Project Report**. The project has been amended to include a 15m width of the swale, being privately owned land to be dedicated for public open space purposes, for the entire length of the swale. The area to be so dedicated is 3180m². The integrity of the walkway/cycleway will be retained and enhanced in a landscaped setting, reinforced and supported by a requirement for a 5m landscaped setback to any buildings to be contained in proposed Lot 18.

In response to other matters raised in the Public Submissions, those matters which are reasonably held to be of substance have been addressed and are incorporated in the reviewed plans and documents.