

Community Consultation Report

Maintenance Dredging at Nelly Bay Harbour



Contents

1.	About the project	2
2.	Public consultation methodology	2
3.	Demographics and project page analytics	2
4.	Public consultation outcomes	3
4.1.	<i>Survey key findings</i>	3
4.1.1.	Q1 Which suburb do you live in?	3
4.1.2.	Q2 How often do you visit the Nelly Bay area?	4
4.1.3.	Q3 How often do you use the Marina?	4
4.1.4.	Q4 Do you have any feedback on a proposed option for sea placement of material dredged from Nelly Bay?	4
4.1.5.	Q5 Do you have any further feedback on the preferred option for storage and management of material at Council's Kelly Street site on Magnetic Island?	5
4.1.6.	Q6 Do you have any attachments to share?	5
5.	Next steps	5
6.	Acknowledgement	6
7.	Appendix	6
7.1.	<i>Appendix A - open text responses to question 4</i>	6
7.2.	<i>Appendix B - open text responses to question 5</i>	14
7.3.	<i>Appendix C - attachments supplied in responses</i>	23

1. About the project

Council is responsible for maintenance of canal sections in Nelly Bay Harbour. There is currently a significant build-up of material (sediment) in parts of the marina that needs to be removed by dredging. Earlier this year, Council postponed planned maintenance dredging to prioritise significant roads and bridge restoration work in the area. Since then, we've been reevaluating options for the treatment and management of dredged materials, including revisiting the feasibility of those initially assessed in 2020. Council will retender the dredging contract ahead of works starting in late 2026.

Following preliminary discussions with federal and state governments, Council is now exploring whether sea placement of dredged material may be a feasible option. We are at early stages of progressing this alternative - it would need to meet all the criteria of sustainability, including environmental and cost. As we continue investigations into the feasibility of sea placement, Council will need to submit an application for the appropriate permits, which we plan to do later this year. The use of Council's site at Kelly Street in Nelly Bay remains our current approved option and has the required permits and approvals in place. Our reassessment has confirmed that there are no changes affecting the viability of other previously considered alternatives - these remain unfeasible.

As part of ongoing investigations, Council invited community feedback on sea placement as a potential option via the Have Your Say platform.

2. Public consultation methodology

Council is committed to engaging with the community to gather input, feedback, and opinions on various Council initiatives and projects. This includes organising consultation events, surveys, and public forums to ensure community voices are heard and considered in decision-making.

Community consultation for this project took place from Sunday 16 November to Sunday 7 December 2025. This consultation was communicated via flyers, direct electronic mail (email), the Townsville City Council website, and through Council social media channels to the broader Townsville community.

Copilot AI was used to support the creation of this report. Responses have been rounded to the nearest 1% in calculating results for questions four and five (open text questions).

3. Demographics and project page analytics

Have Your Say analytics:

Through the Have Your Say platform, the following synopsis of engagement highlights the range of interactions made with the Maintenance Dredging at Nelly Bay project page:

Visitor Type	Metric	Count
Total visits through HYS		476
Completed feedback form		104
Informed Visitors	Is to visit to multiple project pages, download a document, view a photo or video, or contribute to a project tool.	150
Aware Visitors	Is a visit at least one project page, typically the project landing page	348
Engaged	Is a visit that actively participates in engagement tools including Surveys, Forums, Polls, and Places within Interactive Maps	104

4. Public consultation outcomes

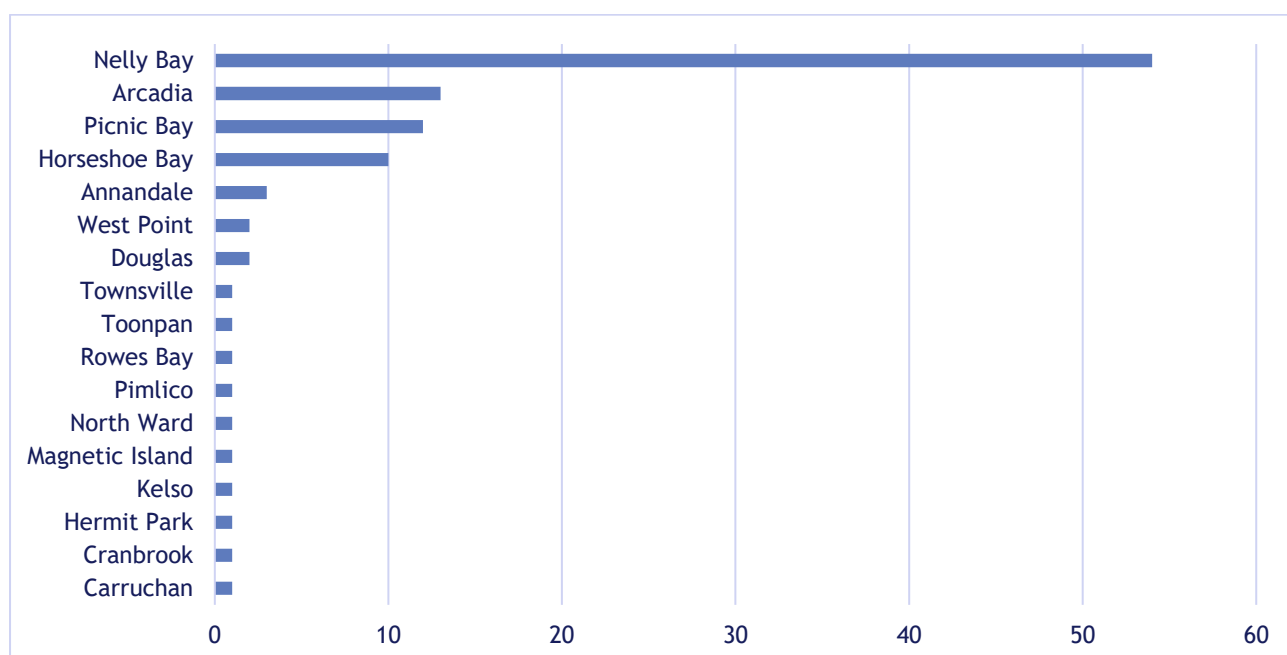
This consultation gathered data via the Have Your Say online platform, which allowed respondents to provide their selections, opinions, and additional comments regarding this project.

Through this platform, Council received **104** submissions to the Maintenance Dredging at Nelly Bay Harbour survey. Strongest interest came from Magnetic Island residents and those who are regular users of the Nelly Bay Marina area.

Survey question	Type of question
1. Which suburb do you live in?	Drop down box
2. How often do you visit the Nelly Bay area?	Multiple choice
3. How often do you use the Marina?	Multiple choice
4. Do you have any feedback on a proposed option for sea placement of material dredged from Nelly Bay?	Free text
5. Do you have any further feedback on the preferred option for storage and management of material at Council's Kelly Street site on Magnetic Island?	Free text
6. Do you have any attachments to share?	File Attachment

4.1. Survey key findings

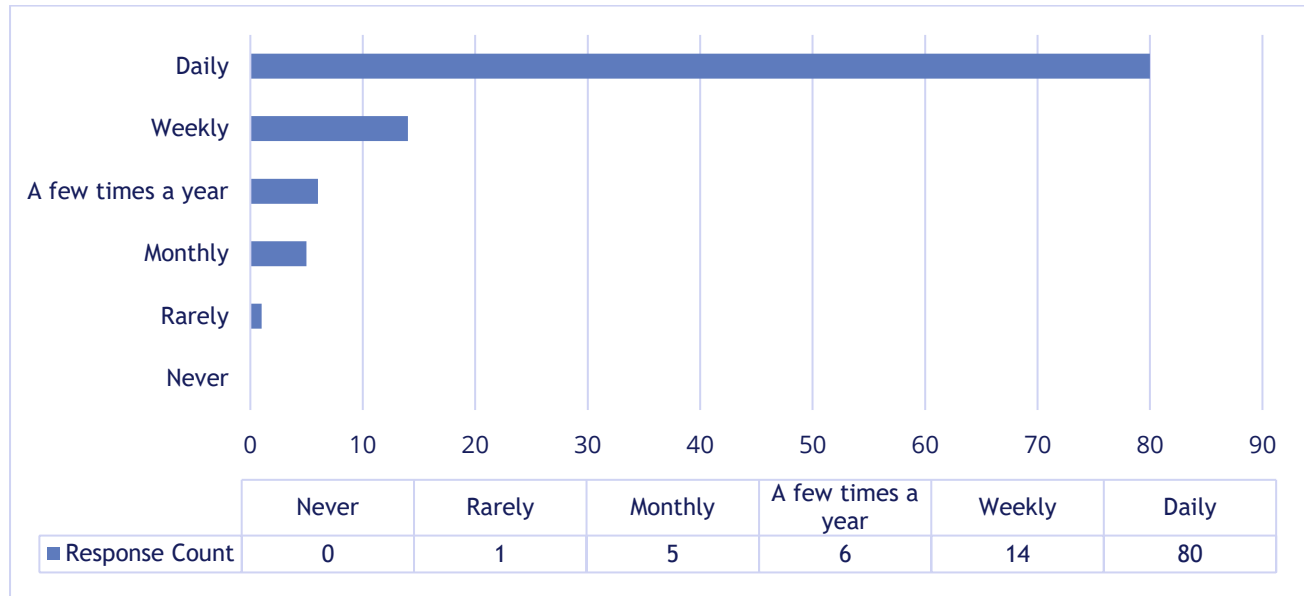
4.1.1. Q1 Which suburb do you live in?



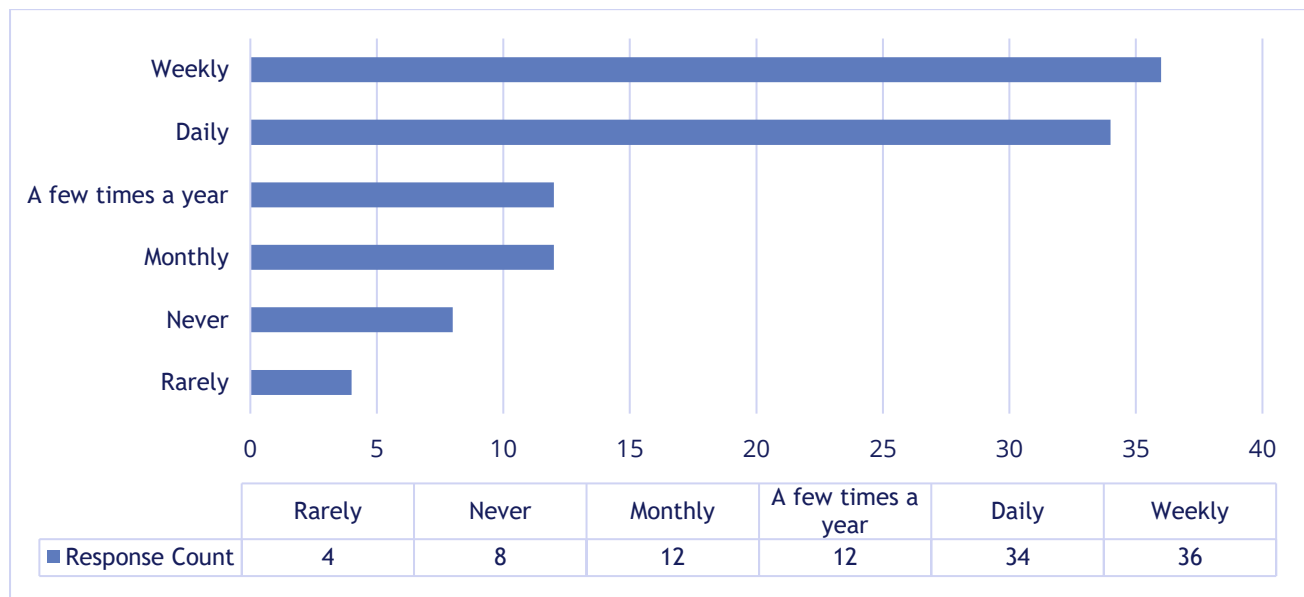
Carruchan	Cranbrook	Hermit Park	Kelso	Magnetic Island	North Ward	Pimlico	Rowes Bay	Toonpan	Townsville	Douglas	West Point	Annandale	Horseshoe Bay	Picnic Bay	Arcadia	Nelly Bay
-----------	-----------	-------------	-------	-----------------	------------	---------	-----------	---------	------------	---------	------------	-----------	---------------	------------	---------	-----------

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	10	12	13	54
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----	----

4.1.2. Q2 How often do you visit the Nelly Bay area?



4.1.3. Q3 How often do you use the Marina?



4.1.4. Q4 Do you have any feedback on a proposed option for sea placement of material dredged from Nelly Bay?

Respondent Summary

- This was an open text question and 103 of 104 surveys included a response.
- Responses were mixed but overall lean towards support for sea placement although qualified in some cases. Of 104 responses to this question:

- 60% expressed some support for sea placement
- 19% were opposed to sea placement
- 21% were neutral or expressed no view on sea placement.
- The most frequently cited alternative - whether comments were supportive or opposed to sea placement - was management of the material on land (18 references), with many specifically suggesting the site used by Port of Townsville on the mainland.
- A number of those who supported sea placement also suggested that this should be done at an alternative site (not the current DMPA site).
- Environmental concerns were prominent, centring on impacts on fringing reefs, water clarity and marine ecosystems.
- There were some concerns about the project's value, costs and emissions, with a minority of respondents suggesting leaving sediment in the Marina area.
- A number of responses to this question also reiterated opposition to the use of the Kelly St site on Magnetic Island.

All individual participant responses to this question are provided in Appendix A.

4.1.5. Q5 Do you have any further feedback on the preferred option for storage and management of material at Council's Kelly Street site on Magnetic Island?

Respondent Summary

- This was an open text question and 89 of 104 surveys included a specific response to this question
- Responses demonstrated strong, predominantly negative sentiment opposing use of the Kelly Street site.
 - 66% were opposed to the use of Kelly Street
 - 7% supported the use of Kelly Street
 - 10% were neutral
 - 17% provided no answer
- The most frequently cited concerns included environmental risks to Great Barrier Reef / World Heritage areas, including from acid sulphate soils, groundwater / creek contamination.
- Respondents also raised concerns about impacts from dust, noise, smell, heavy vehicle traffic in the Kelly Street area, and about the suitability of the site for various reasons, particularly related to its zoning.

All individual participant responses to this question are provided in Appendix B.

4.1.6. Q6 Do you have any attachments to share?

Two respondents included attachments - see Appendix C.

5. Next steps

Providing feedback to the identified stakeholders and closing the loop on the public consultation process has been identified as a vital aspect of Council's accountability and transparency. This report is available on the Have Your Say Townsville project page.

6. Acknowledgement

All information in this report is accurate and unbiased and does not make any recommendations for future project actions. For further information, please email haveyoursay@townsville.qld.gov.au

7. Appendix

7.1. Appendix A - open text responses to question 4

Do you have any feedback on a proposed option for sea placement of material dredged from Nelly Bay?

I believe all dredge activities should be brought back to the existing reclamation area.

1. Protect the Reef - No Sea Dumping

Sea dumping smothers seagrass, corals & fisheries. Turbidity kills spawning; 21,000+ ha of seagrass lost globally from dredging. Reclamation = zero offshore impact. Complies with Reef 2050 Plan & GBRMPA guidelines.

2. Cheaper & Smarter - Use What We've Built

- Existing site: rock-walled, approved, monitored (LTMDMP).
- New dump sites: \$10-20M+ in EIS, land prep & leachate risks.
- Sea ops: 20-30% higher fuel, vessel & compliance costs. Reclamation saves ratepayers & creates revenue land.

3. Jobs Stay Local - Reuse Keeps \$ in Townsville

- 1247 barge trips already to reclamation (Channel Upgrade).
- Local contractors, not offshore dump crews. Supports Townsville City Deal (mining, defence, trade).

4. No New Land Clearing - Circular Economy Win

- 85% of dredge is reusable (USACE).
- Turn silt into topsoil, wetlands, erosion buffers.
- No groundwater risk from new dumps.

5. Tourism & Public Health

Turbid water = \$1B tourism hit. Reclamation keeps beaches clear. Turtle/seagrass monitoring already in place - extend it.

Conclusion:

Reclamation is legal, proven, cheaper & greener.

Stop planning new dumps. Ban sea dumping for maintenance.

Make Townsville a national model for sustainable ports.

I do not agree with dredge dumping at sea. I would prefer land reclamation at an existing site such as the Port of Townsville.

Sea placement is preferable, but giving to the Port authority even more advantageous.

Place dredge spoil where the port of Townsville places there's

The cost of this project far outweighs any benefit derived. There are very few berths impacted by sediment build up. According to your hydrographic survey there are currently 17 berths that

have 2.5M or less at LAT, the cost if expressed as a proportion of those 17 berth would be \$175,000/berth - far exceeding the value of those berths.

There are probably only 5 or 6 berths that are truly affected. There may be one commercial boat (Pilgrim) that is currently affected by depth and, that, only on the lowest tides, that boat could be moved to deeper parts of the marina. I own a boat and keep it in the marina, the draft of my boat is 2.0M which would be the 3rd or 4th deepest draft boat in the marina.

The best option would be to leave the sediment where it is and if necessary resume the leases on affected berths.

This proposal is welcomed news. Not only is this proposed option a more effective and sustainable alternative in the long term, it mitigates the potential hazards to the many ecosystems of Gustav creek.

The community as a whole will benefit from this proposal.

Disposal of dredge materials at the designated outer spoil ground northeast of Cape Vleveland is the preferable option over on shore disposal at the Kelly St, Nelly Bay TCC site. Disposal at the Kelly St site is a poor option and is not comparable with environmental best practice or community perception and support.

No

Material needs to be taken to the port reclaim area not dumped at sea which exacerbates the already silty quality of water around the east and south parts.

Best place for it

Is there an option for it to go to the Port

Just take it to town where the spoil for canal and harbour dredging is dumped

I prefer the dredging material to go to the dredging area in Cleveland Bay and not to Kelly street.

Sea placement needs to meet all environmental impact concerns.

Why has it taken so long to even CONSIDER commencing this application?

I think it's the best option.

given the material is not toxic when in water it should stay in water. keeps trucks off the road

Only to say that this makes so much more sense to only have the material out of the water temporarily for that day and then returned to the sea in the already allocated area for dredged materials and removing the need for further interruptions and road damage to Kelly St and surrounding roads as well as the expected horrendous smell of the wet silt drying on land with other rotting bio material picked up in the process.

The proposed sea placement of dredged material is my preferred option, as long as it is placed in deeper water and will not effect the water quality and clarity around Magnetic Island.

Based on the material analysis attached, sea placement is far more desirable than land placement. The bathymetric map shows some evidence of a build up of sediment in the main part of the harbour, especially opposite the boat ramp, which will need to be dredged at some future time so it is logical for the state to make available its disposal resources now rather than set up

permanent land infrastructure - because inevitably, future flood events will overwhelm Gustav Creek and more sediment will arrive in the harbour and marina, not just in the canals. Whilst I have some concerns about the sea dumping of maintenance dredge spoil, the quantities likely to come from Nelly Bay harbour are tiny compared to the annual volumes that the Port of Townsville is dumping at the same location.

I am not happy that the historically inadequate design of the 'sediment trap' on Gustav Creek upstream of the bridge means that sand that should be winding up on the Nelly Bay beach has to be removed elsewhere. But I don't know of any practical alternative although some have suggested 'hydro-cyclone' cleaning of spoil. I don't know if that is feasible in this case. I think the state should remove any obstacles put up by the Port of Townsville, the Harbour Master and any others and let the council get on with the most practical, cost effective and least impacting process possible to deal with the Nelly Bay harbour sedimentation problems - issues that were not created by ratepayers but by the state itself. In other words, get on with the sea dumping of Nelly Bay harbour maintenance dredge spoil.

While it's not a particularly good option given the potential impact on sea life, it's better than the alternative.

The Island Community is already actively pursuing and challenging the re-permitting of the current dumping site used by the Port using current Federal legislation. So any proposal by Council to do the same will certainly attract the community anger and active resistance as well as increase the current TCC's credibility and reputational damage. So absolutely no to sea placement in the current dumping site. By the way, the Port engaged GHD to investigate alternative dumping sites away from the island with one site being preferred. However the Port decided not to do anything new. I suggest at their long term detriment and higher costs in the future for some short term penny pinching now and someone else's problem later!!

The sea placement option needs to be considered in parallel to the concurrent discussions with the Port Authority to dump their spoil further offshore to stop impacting Magnetic Island's reefs. However, this is still preferable to dumping in Kelly Street.

It should be dumped at where they dredged the channel. So what about the 4 meters of rain we had December January February March that all the silt went around the reefs around magnetic island silence.

I would say this would be the better option as it would mean less truck movements on the island

With the pressures on our marine biodiversity and conservation assets, inshore and GBR, from land based activities and GHG emissions, I think in 2025 it's inappropriate to be placing any dredge spoil at sea. It should be all land based. Which isn't sustainable since that has environmental impacts. Governments need to rethink the sustainability of putting expensive luxury infrastructure (marinas) in coastal hazardous areas, using rate and taxpayers funds to do so.

What contribution to these costs are made by those who benefit the most...marina users and landholders with marina access?

That would depend on where in the sea the dredged material would be placed. As an Islander, I already have issues with the placement of the Port's dredge spoil dumping effects. User's of the marina & residents backing onto /facing the Marina should be paying the cost for this spoil to be dumped on the mainland.

.
Only if well away from island so it does not affect the visibility and reefs.
Kelly St is a much better option in my opinion as it is less likely to cause environmental harm and can be done more effectively.
Sea placement is my preferred option.
the spoil should be dumped at the existing spoil ground as for Townsville harbor and it needs to be done as soon as possible no more delays
The dredging is urgently needed to to make the marina a safe spot for all boats using the marina. We have a boat permanently berthed in A arm (A28) and it is unsafe and unfair to have any boats sitting on the bottom in mud at the marina. The damage that could be inflicted if one of these boats was to catch on fire would be catastrophic
I know the residents will want it dumped on land and not at sea.
Dumping at sea in the past has led to detrimental effects on inshore reefs. The reef at Geoffrey Bay is still covered in silt from dredging from last century.
The dredging spoil should be sea bound but placed well outside of Cleveland Bay. The current Ports dredge spoil site should be relocated to the site selected by the community when Ports Townsville's carried out its communityconsultation as per its report delivered in August 2024. Although the Ports declined to abide by community wishes and to lessen the massive negative impact that the dredging spoil in its current location has on the islands reefs, there's no doubt that for environmental, social and tourism reasons, the current dredge spoil location is a disaster. Adding the marina spoil to that location will have a huge detrimental effect on the islands reefs. Ports Townsville's dredging permit is up for renewal in March 2026 & the permit should include the marina spoil, but located outside the current location. The objections to relocation by the ports are spurious but require GRMPA to approve same as it is outside of the excise zone. It just takes money which the Ports with their billion \$ plus revenue can easily afford. Magentic Islands unique GBR marine ecosystems are the basis of its tourism economy and the Ports and now Council are failing to protect it with this proposal as it stands. If the dredge spoil for both the marina and the Ports channel dredging were relocated out of the current location to a new spot outside of Cleveland Bay, this would resolve the dreadful impact of silt and dredge debris smothering the islands reefs and destroying a vital tourism attraction.
Needs to be far away from the island and fringing reef. Currently the channel spoil from maintenance dredging ends up in Magnetic Island Bays, smothering corals and beaches.
Not supported. Due to expense, likely emissions and poor marine water quality outcomes
How will the PASS material affect the ocean and sea life? I see that there are certain materials found in the dredge material that can cause harm
I'm against it. There are better options on land and council can reuse the material if they treat it properly.
I believe sea placement best balances the requirement to keep the marina open, cost and sustainability. Well done to Council for coming up with an altnernate!

No option

It should be dumped in the spoil area out to sea

Everything that is dumped on land requires treatment and is left on land and is never used again the suggested dumping ground is council land and will cause issue with leaching onto surrounding properties which will be a forever task

Plan to do regular cleaning in conjunction with the EPA and create a presidency and stop dumping on land and making it unusable

Sea placement is my preferred option. Naturally outside GBRMP area, but also where the silt and suspended particles will not be transported by currents back to Magnetic Island.

The island is looking less pristine daily ... cars and trucks are an eyesore, coming off the ferry into a parking lot is also unattractive to visitors. Sadly, Townsville's jewel is increasingly less shiny. The dredging in the harbor, is also less than ideal. Sea dumping would be preferred to the current proposal of it being treated and used to fill unspecified locations around the island.

Dumping on the island is not an acceptable answer. Could it not be dumped in Townsville where there is more land?? That would seem ideal. The streets on the island are not presently handling heavy trucks well through residential areas. Please consider that Townsville has more capacity for dumping earthworks which may be welcome in some areas where building is planned.

Sea dumping this dredge spoil is an outrageous action by TCC. It will add further silt pollution to an already damaged Cleveland Bay. How can you justify this to the island's tourism operators or any beach users on what is supposed to be the 'jewel in the crown' of Townsville's Tourism offering?

Sea option for placement of material is the safest way to dispose rather than have waste placed around the island

Yes. Sea placement is the better option.

yes place dredged material out to. sea

Disposal of dredged material is always a matter of concern, whether this occurs on land or sea. In this instance I am advised that there is less risk of environmental harm resulting from disposal in the designated Cleveland Bay DMPA than if it were dispersed for us on the Island itself, where there would be a high risk of erosion and uncontrolled, or at the least hard-to-control run-off into the Island's waters and fringing reefs.

As indicated above I am an irregular visitor to the Island these days (probably at least every other month) but have known the Island for over 50 years and protection of its environmental values from mountains to lowlands, coast and waters is very important to me. I have been around long enough to have seen the result of poor decisions and high-risk actions and in this instance I urge the more cautious, lower-risk path should be followed.

Yes is going to negatively impact on the quality of the water and that have a significant impact on sea life, both in the short and long term impacts will be forever lasting. No matter what the engineers and companies involved say because thruare driven by the profits , history has proven that they are all wrong, look at the state of our world, it's getting worse and one day it will be unliveable

Sea placement would be better than dumping it on the island, if it can be done without damaging the islands fringing reefs

The Nelly bay harbour dredged material should be disposed in the sea with the ports current sea placement area.

PLEASE DUMP AT SEA

Yes... do all the dredging after the bridge is completed and dump it all at once at distant sea site or on land .

Sea placement is the best option.

Happy with the approved and existing Cleveland Bay Dredge Material Placement Area (DMPA).

Happy for it to go out to sea but a lot further out than port dredge spoil so it doesn't blow back on the island.
It should go out to sea because that is where it would have gone if the harbour wasn't there.

Less damaging than the proposed Kelly Street option. However, it does seem to be counter productive given the on-going beach erosion problems in Nelly Bay. Most of the sediment in the Marina comes from Gustav Creek and other Nelly Bay drainages which played a significant sand replenishment role in Nelly Bay prior the disruption from the marina infrastructure - see <http://www.soe-townsville.org/magneticisland/gustavcreek.html>

I live in The Cove, Nelly Bay. I understand the need for dredging and would prefer to see the spoil relocated to a suitable site in the ocean.

Please don't! We already have dredge spoil washing up on Geoffrey Bay.

Sea dumping is the ONLY option - and not close to Magnetic Island. You can't dump this in a residential area - are you crazy?

Far out to sea is preferable. The current dumping grounds are too close to the island and effecting visibility.

While not ideal, sea placement of the dredge material is a preferred and probably less damaging option than dispersal on land on Magnetic island.

Sea placement is not ideal but it is much better than Kelly Street.

If this can be achieved without risk of sediment washing back onto the MI fringing reefs then this would be my preferred option.

This sea placement of dredging material is the preferable option

It should be dumped much further out to sea than it currently is

I much prefer the sea placement of the dredged material from Nelly Bay

Preferred option

I prefer sea placement

Yes, this would be much better than disposal on land on Magnetic Island. The best option would be land disposal on the mainland.

We should protect the natural beauty of the island.
I would prefer the dredged material to be treated & dumped on the safely on the mainland. If that is not an option then safely at sea rather than at the site in Kelly St or at unspecified locations on Magnetic Island.
Definitely dump dredge as far away from the island as possibl
No. The island is suffering enough. The reef is suffering from dredging enormously. No more dumping in the ocean or on the small island. Take it out west on the mainland.
I would prefer sea placement as I think this would be better for the environment
I do not want dredged placement of sea waste materrial being dumped anywhere on our world heritage island. This our home and we are custodians of this precious place!
Sea placement is a much better option As long as it in a designated spoils area
This seems to be the preferred solution.
Out of sea dumping away from Magnetic Island shores, and away from prevailing currents that can bring the dumping to the bays of Magnetic island, would be preferred to the current proposal of it being treated and used to fill unspecified locations around the island.
Sea placement is definately preferred well away from the Usland
This is the least damaging option. Further out at sea would be preferable.
I don't like sea dumping but it's better than dumping on the island
Dump at sea
The spoil should be taken to the mainland "reclaim" area of the Port. Sea placement on the Port's current dumping area in the bay a poor option, but slightly more palatable than on the island.
Sea placement has less impact on the island than ad hock distribution of earth soil
If sea disposal is adopted, the disposal site must not be somewhere currents, particularly when easterlies are blowing, feeds sediment between Maggie and Townsville, nor anywhere else it will damage the reef
Preferred option. But creating a new spoil zone even further away like up next to Cape Cleveland is even better. This would reduce the turbidity at island beaches.
Sea placement is a better option for material dredged from Nelly Bay. There would be less impact on people living on the Island, and the amount of material would not make any real difference at the sea placement site, given the amount of material that is already being placed there from the port dredging.
While not ideal, I would support this option ahead of the alternative option of storage and subsequent use on Magnetic Island.

You are asking us to choose between two terrible options.

Our preference is establishment of dredge spoils treatment facility on the mainland that has the capacity to store and treat all dredge spoils generated close to Townsville. The treated material will be of a standard suitable for many construction projects and the plant may even be utilised to treat spoils from outside the Townsville region. In the short term it seems that transport to the port of Townsville limited (POTL) dredge spoils reclaim area adjacent to the port is the best option.

Not ideal (could be in deeper waters) but preferred over the Kelly St option.

On land at present Tvlle Harbour reclamation

Surely you can't be serious about sea placement of dredge spoils. The surrounding marine parks are a significant asset to the region and its tourism.

This is a better option than the current "preferred" one. It is a relatively small amount of spoil compared to what is usually dumped in the bay by PoTL and of suitable "quality" for sea dumping. It would be even better if PoTL accepted their responsibilities under the Sustainable Ports Act as the responsible authority for all port works in thei defined Port Limits and arranged for it to be used as a dressing to one of their existing reclaim areas.

Dredged material ought not be used to fill low lying /drainage areas on the islsnd but taken a sufficient distance out to sea to not swamp corral is is presently the case with channell dredging operations.alternativel,, dumped on the mainland

The maintenance dredge spoil should be dumped outside the 20 metre bathymetric line. At this and deeper areas the spoil is less likely to be re-suspended by wind and currents and deposited on the reefs and shores of Magnetic Island, Cleveland Bay and, data shows, the Palm Islands.

Land disposal is better than increasing the sediment problem on our reefs. Find a better place than Kelly St

If possible the sand should be cleaned and used to replenish the beaches, the spoil used for land fill or dumped at sea away from the island

Sea placement is preferable to placement on land, on a world heritage island such as Magnetic Island. The sediment study undertaken shows that the contamination in the sediments is within thresholds for disposal at sea. It should be placed at sea in a location from which it will not simply be re-suspended to be transported to Magnetic Island's fringing reefs where it will smother and impact our reefs (as the maintenance dredge spoil currently does). Sea placement is the preferred SHORT TERM option but it is not a suitable long term solution. Prior to the harbour development, the sand heading down Gustav Creek would have entered Nelly Bay and become part of the bay's sand budget. The continual removal of this sand from the bay's sand budget since the harbour's existence, is a major contributor to the beach erosion that plagues Nelly Bay. A long term solution should ensure that the sand is captured prior to being contaminated by the harbour, and used for beach replenishment in the bay.

To me sea placement is the best option: ecologically, as it is being taken from the water and placed back in the water (away from the Island where it will disperse naturally. Also the sea dispersal is probably more viable both economically and socially as a constant flow of trucks transporting the spoil up Kelly St for treatment will evoke the ire of residents and the treatment

process is expensive, also some water run off from the treatment process is likely should we get rain and this could result in contaminated soil leaching into nearby Gustav Creek.

Should be collected before it gets to the marina.. But failing that dumping at sea is acceptable as it is heavier than dredge spoil and should not be re suspended. Preference for all dredge dumping to be further out to sea ie 30m plus depth (assuming that does not cause more problems elsewhere - more work needed).

Most of the sediment buildup in Nelly Bay is probably the result of dredging in the shipping channel. I believe the dredging products from the shipping channel and Nelly Bay should be dumped in one of the deeper water sites considered possible by Townsville Port.

I have serious concerns about any proposal to dump any material dredged from Nelly Bay at sea. Magnetic Island is already being adversely impacted by the dumping of dredge spoil from the dredging of the main shipping channel. Any sea placement of material dredged from Nelly Bay will only add to the damage being caused to the fringing reefs and water quality.

If it cannot be returned permanently to the land where it came from, then only dump into much, much deeper waters.

7.2. Appendix B - open text responses to question 5

Do you have any further feedback on the preferred option for storage and management of material at Council's Kelly Street site on Magnetic Island?

I think there is a great opportunity to combine maintenance dredging of the marina and the port channels to showcase Townsville as a sustainable city. Dredge is recyclable and the existing reclamation area could be fit for purpose. Treated dredge can be turned into useful materials rather than letting untreated dredge go to waste and carpet bomb a world heritage terrestrial or marine ecosystem.

I am a Kelly Street land owner and resident. I am firmly against the dumping of acid iron sulphate laden dredge material on high ground on Kelly Street, as I am not satisfied that TCC is competent enough to ensure 100% containment of the toxic material on the site and I fear the water table, that is close to the surface, won't be contaminated. I also know what the spoil smells like. It's disgusting that TCC isn't simply placing the material on existing an reclamation site.

Noise, dust, smell and increased traffic on a very stressed road system is I feel high risk to a very populated and well used bay.

Last place the spoil should be located.

(blank)

Kelly street is zoned community facilities, a rare commodity on the Island. This is an area that an upgraded health facility, cyclone shelter or government service of the like, would make sense to be.

Disposal at Townsville Port reclaim is the best option. Disposal at sea is the second best option. Disposal at Kelly St site should not be considered a viable option.

If the site has been assessed as adequate I believe it should be used as dredging projects have been postponed for long enough.

Strongly opposed to dumping acid sulphate waste on land that should revert to its original community facilities use. It must not occur. Island residents are strongly opposed.

1 its not zone heavy impact

2 i bought my land with the knowledge that it was zone community facility.

3 It will impact my development

4 it devalues all residential housing in the area.

5 council has admitted that they can not guarantee in a down pour of rain there won't be any run of into the creeks.

6 it is acid soils which is a contaminant and your not allowed to contaminate a contaminant sight more. Thats the law.

7 it smells

8 it is full of salt I have three fresh water bores on my land not counting the others in the area.

8 the environmental impact study and monitoring study's of port dredging dumping at sea. Is proven it does not impact the island .

9 bringing the 13 hundred body trucks up Kelly Street with dredge material is a joke as this is our main road now as the Sooning Street Bridge is still out of action a year down the track.

10 Magnetic island residents deserve better from Townsville Council.

A lot of negative feedback from island residents for this site

(blank)

I don't agree in this being a dumping site for dredged material

Kelly street should not be used for this activity.

If shore based treatment is preferred it should be taken to the mainland for treatment.

Disposal at sea as has been done with previous dredging of Platypus Channel - for many, many decades!

It wouldn't impact me as a visitor but I have a feeling it could be on the nose (literally) for residents.

this is surrounded by residential and close to the ferries and services and should be kept for community use such as clubs, recreation, wellbeing, health. anything that improves the outlook and progresses MI

I remain strongly opposed to the use of Councils Kelly Street site for the placement of the dredged materials because of the interruptions, damage to roads after they have only just been repaired as well as the expected smell as the material dries. While I respect the processes undertaken I do find it hard to believe that sediment would not have toxins and remain concerned that if the Kelly St site was used it would be found to be toxic and the process would have to be stopped and end up using what I believe to be the far more logical solution of using the spoilground site in the end anyway. I am also concerned for the potential cost blowouts on an already stretched council budget for compensation to contractors selected and engaged for the Kelly St site that would then need to be terminated if the alternative plan is then required. I say this without saying any costs in the information provided for a cost comparison btw using Kelly St and the Spoil Grounds

55 Kelly St is not the right place for storage and management of materail, it is totally an inappropriate use of community land in a residential in Nelly Bay.

55 Kelly St should be utilised for community based projeccts, ie site for new Qld Govt Health clinic, aged care centre, community centre.

It's a really bad idea to set up a semi-permanent or possibly permanent sediment treatment and remediation facility on land in Nelly Bay - or anywhere else on Magnetic Island. The acres of land required will be unusable for anything else (except maybe an off leash dog area - which no one would use anyway). Where would the treated 'soil' be disposed of? How would runoff in extreme rainfall events be controlled? Anyway, why should ratepayers hand over priceless community land in Nelly Bay to be squandered in service of a dodgy elitist real estate development? The harbour and ferry terminal should never have included the mouth of Gustav Creek but since the state insisted on approving AND BUILDING the thing, it should take responsibility for the inevitable consequences.

Council should do everything in its power to obtain the necessary consents and funding to allow the sea dumping of dredge spoil from the harbour and save the community land in Nelly Bay for its intended community purposes.

The idea that you would have hundreds of trucks droning up and down Kelly street - where people live, AND, is currently the main thoroughfare - would have to be one of the stupidest ideas I have ever seen from any government entity. It is akin to buying submarines from America. Submarines that will never be delivered.

Yes. barge the material to Townsville, drop it on the Port reclaim or a sealed car park away from housing and the natural environment. Then treat for pollutants and use for roadwork fill or other suitable projects in Townsville. You can't do that on the Island because there does not appear to be any suitable sites to isolate the material from affecting our natural environment or urban sites. Yes it might be less or more complicated with approvals, etc. A balanced scorecard needs to be considered and not just \$\$. I hope the Council have learnt that community consultation at the front end of any suggested projects would go a long way to eliminating barriers and help the development of a more acceptable project plan with majority support.

This is absolutely unacceptable. It would have a strong adverse impacts on residents living adjacent to the site, and there would be a significant risk of contamination next to a creek that drains into the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park World Heritage Area. The Townsville City Council needs to step up to actually take stewardship of the natural values of the island, which are being eroded as the Council continues to allow overdevelopment, overtourism and the indiscriminate clearing of native vegetation on private land. Council has an opportunity to ensure that people living and visiting the island do so sustainable and in keeping with the island's natural values, let alone the international obligations that come with looking after a World Heritage Area. Considering a suburban block (no matter the zoning, that's essentially what this is) suitable for dredge spoil dumping is yet another expression of the Council's lack of care for this unique and remarkable place.

No. shouldn't go there.

(blank)

Kelly Street was the option chosen, but extreme weather events will make that option less viable given the predicted impact from climate change on our economic stability, social cohesion, and environmental assets. As I said, governments will need to seriously reconsider doing the same

thing over and over and over again while expecting the different result of economic, social, and environmental sustainability.

It is NOT ok to dump & treat this spoil on World Heritage Magnetic Island at the proposed site in Nelly Bay. This site is in the run-off area of a creek that run's into Gustav Ck which runs into the Marina. This would put spoil run-off straight back into the Marina in periods of heavy rain. User's of the marina & residents backing onto /facing the Marina should be paying the cost for this spoil to be dumped on the mainland.

Michael Harris (Maggie marina) This is the preffered option I belive as the spill we be able to be used further down the track at some stage and will cost the rate payer a lot less in the end. The Marina is paying for a seabed lease which is not being maintained. The next steps of the marina will be to seek compensation for berths that are unrentable and heavily discounted due to low depths. We need this to happen ASAP

Many thanks.

I have emailed plenty of photos in the past of the problems about depths/ security / damage to dock and where it has bent the brackets.

I'm really hoping the wet season isnt too bad or we will have very large amounts of sediment coming of the land.

I also took councilers Naree and Matt around and we noticed the catchment areas around the marina had not been maintained.

Kind regards,
Mike Harris

No seems like a good idea to me.

We currently pay for a marina berth that we can't access as it is too shallow. We urgently need this to be rectified!

No, storage of this material should not be managed at Kelly Street.

it is an option as it then cannot come back into Nelly Bay and it will fill a contaminated site

(blank)

No

No objection at all. The material in the harbour came from the land and returning it back to the land is a good choice.

As above.

Ideally it would be dumped on the mainland as usable land on Magnetic Island is limited as opposed to the mainland.

Seems like a sensible option. Alternatively can fill be used in the void on the other side of the harbour?

I believe that the dredged material should not be stored and reused on the Island. It will affect the residents too much, and it seems like the material in and around the Kelly Street site and nearby Gustav Creek have enough dangerous material in them that surely needs attention before any further use of this land.

No

Kelly St is suitable and would keep the material on the island for re-use, such as return to Nelly Bay beach.

(blank)

This is stupid is educated people making poor decisions dumping they know better
This survey is a waste of time because the outcome is already been predetermined. As I work for council

I think this is a terrible idea. I certainly do NOT support it. I would consider civil disobedience action to prevent this option.

Sea dumping of dredging would be preferred to the current proposal of it being treated and used to fill unspecified locations around the island. Dumping in Townsville would seem the best alternative as there is more land mass.

Dump the dredge spoil on land. Obviously dumping it in Kelly Street is ridiculous, but this is just disrespectful to all of Townsville now. How can TCC be so tone deaf to all logic and sense?

Waste might end up anywhere and spoil natural landscape

This is not my preferred option. Potentially disastrous.

no

(blank)

Don't do it

Bad idea for so many reasons!

It absolutely should not be placed anywhere on Magnetic Island.

DON'T STORE AT KELLY STREET

If they do the dredging after the bridge is completed I'm happy for it to be dumped on the Kelly Street site as it's come from the land anyway

this is not an acceptable proposal

(blank)

please don't put contaminated material on an already contaminated site in Kelly St next to a creek.

An unsatisfactory option due to the risk of fill being used to fill low lying areas on the Island's lowlands, further modifying the hydrology of these areas . The Federal Government has

identified these areas as one of the Island's key contributions to the World Heritage values of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area - see attached Kenchington and Hegerl report.

I am opposed to dumping the dredge spoil on Magnetic Island

No

I don't know who thought this was a good idea, but I think they should be fired! If you're going to do land storage and management of material it should NOT BE at Council's Kelly Street site on Magnetic Island. Take it to an industrial area on the mainland and treat it there, if sea dumping is not a sane option - because Kelly St isn't!

There is a shortage of council-owned community sites and this use would make it unusable for anything else. We need a dog park!

(blank)

It should not be placed on Kelly St.

Land storage seems like a poor option. The proposal to use the dredged sediment as fill around the island just risks adding to the already harmful alterations to water flows from poorly thought through infrastructure work. Having a large stockpile of sediment in the middle of the Nelly Bay residential area would risk dust pollution and uncontrolled runoff if we have extreme weather events.

This precious island environment should not have dredged deposits dumped on its land

This poses environmental concerns to a community and world heritage area.

I'm very much against storage of material on any site on Magnetic Island

Don't agree

I strongly disagree with the Kelly st site being used for this purpose

This is completely unsuitable. It would cause environmental damage as it is very close to one of the major creeks on the island, which ultimately empty into the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. It would also have an adverse impact on the residents whose properties surround the site, and who would be subjected to noise, dust, smell and other disturbances arising from the activities. The island makes part of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area, and the Council should be proud custodians of this jewel instead of allowing all kinds of detrimental activities to take place here.

Take it to the mainland.

I do not want the dredged material stored & treated at the site in Kelly st.

N/a

Take it out to the mainland out west. There is no room for more rubbish on this island or in the ocean.

I would prefer sea placement of dredging material

Storage and management of dredged sea waste material must not be at Kelly Street site. Or anywhere else here. The option is to dump all sea waste material out at sea, away from our World Heritage island and away from contamination or destroying the reef.

No this really is a bad option

There are so many reasons why this will not work

Run off and congestion of Kelly Street to mention just a few

I am opposing this option, it would constitute unacceptable impacts onto the bays of the World Heritage Island.

Increase vehicle traffic with its adverse consequences

Air pollution from dredging spoils

Magnetic island and its adjacent waters should not be a dumping ground from dredging material because we don't fully appreciate or understand the environmental impacts on the island flora and fauna and the National Parks. Let alone to say that this is part of the World Heritage area and far more consideration should be given to the latter.

The social impact on residents and visitors from the loading of dredged materials and then the increased truck traffic related to those have been poorly assessed by TCC. Moreover, also will be impacts on infrastructure like roads, impacts on aesthetic of the place etc..

(blank)

I agree the smell and unknown toxicity of sediment is a risk to island habitats, the enormous energy to treat and turn and dry material is not sensible. The significant risk of mismanagement of fill by island residents and business has not been considered, the flow on effects of council removing its responsibility by giving away material that can damage the normal ecological habitat warrants a ban on such an idea. The fill could damage low-lying areas, block natural flow paths, change creek lines, soil beaches and our harm our fringing reefs. Stop this plan!

I am opposed to Council using community land on the island for dredge dumping. I'm particularly opposed to using the material to fill in or otherwise alter natural waterways and wetlands. Council has a terrible record of degrading our waterways, eg recent redirection of urban drainage into Alma Creek and Alma Bay

(blank)

Appalling idea. There should be no dumping of dredged spoil anywhere on Magnetic Island.

Future sea dumping should be the option

The Kelly Street site should be developed in accordance with its public use purpose, not as a convenient option for waste dumping

I have first hand experience of the horrible nature of harbour spoil ending up as fill. The footings in my complex are rusting away.

This is not the best option for storage and management of dredge material. It will have more negative impacts on people living on the island, and I have serious concerns about the longer term impacts it will have on waterways and reefs, especially following extreme events which are becoming more frequent due to climate change. The better option is for sea placement of the dredge material.

I am concerned that the subsequent use of treated dredge spoil stored on the island could well have unintended negative consequences for the island environment. These include disruption of natural water flow patterns after significant rain events and erosion and run off off the treated sediment into island creeks and surrounding waters.

See above. Ie build a larger capacity dredge spoils facility on the mainland. Most likely technologies developed by university of Queensland and others for mins waste utilisation (eg red mud and tailings) will be very applicable.

The re zoning of land on Magnetic Island , aka “The jewel” to facilitate heavy industrial processing is entirely incompatible with the islands role, for residents, tourists, Townsville and the nation.

Absolutely SHOULD NOT be stored at the Kelly St site. That level of heavy haulage on Kelly Street is completely inappropriate. I live very close to Kelly St and vehemently oppose the dumping there.

As above Tvllle Harbour

Could the dredged material be placed at the Port of Townsville reclamation area?!

TCC could place some of the dredged sand on the adjoining beach at Lions Park (121 Sooning St), removing the unwanted mangrove trees and building a sand bank to hold back water from king tides which on occasion covers the pedestrian path to Beachside Apartments.

This proposal is half-baked. There is no strategy for its use beyond treatment and it will be inevitably used to fill low lying areas, interfering with natural hydrologies and causing downstream damage when eroded by extreme events. It is very mobile material.

As there is no strategy for future use, there has been no impact assessment of future use. Given the potential for significant impacts on the Island's World Heritage values, this strategy should be subject to public review and must be assessed under the EPBC Act. Given council's record with drainage on the island (eg diverting urban run-off into the Alma Bay Marine Park, and the interception of groundwater by the Apjohn Street drain), it cannot be trusted to respect natural processes or natural values.

Unknown

The amount of mainteance spoil that will be dredged in future will fast overcome the storage capacity of Kelly St.

Further; Dumping at Kelly Street would destroy the local biosystems and possibly leach deleterious compounds.

Find a better place away from residential areas and headwaters of creeks running into the bay or harbour

Material from the marina should not go to Kelly Street instead taken off shore and dumped where it will not harm our reefs

The marine dredge spoil from Nelly Bay harbour should NOT be stored, treated and disposed of on land on MI due to contaminants in and nature of the dredge spoil, and the potential impacts on groundwater, catchment function, and downstream receiving marine waters of the Great Barrier Reef.

- previous documents prepared by MICDA (<https://a3da87a6-61ad-4634-85c1->

ec2a367cd643.filesusr.com/ugd/a5c290_70524c6883db435aa0df636ca53c4895.pdf) explain why it should not be stored and treated on land; and

- previous documents prepared by MINCA (see <https://www.minca.org/history-847864-534081.html>) explain why it should not be re-purposed for use on and around MI on land (once treated).

Also, management of the Kelly St block MUST deal with existing contamination issues there, at minimum should not contaminate it further (by placing the contaminated dredge spoil there), and make progress towards future uses of the block which align with the purpose of 'community facility' zoning.

As mentioned in response to Q4 and also, possibly spreading the decontaminated spoil around the Island is concerning as it may end up as fill in low lying areas and impact on natural drainage during the wet season. The Kelly st option would be likely to impact on the mental health of the street's residents as they have had to cope with Kelly St becoming the main thoroughfare, a thoroughfare which for most of the year was like a goat track full of potholes and wash outs. These residents should not now face a continuous stream of heavy vehicles adding to the already large flow of traffic.

Material at Kelly street should be only stuff that is suitable for such a location. Moreover, the land is zoned community use and dumping is not really such a use.

(blank)

Storing and management on land will help protect the natural beauty of Magnetic Island for locals and visiting tourists to enjoy.

It should not be stored, under any circumstances, in any areas near to residential areas.

7.3. Appendix C - attachments supplied in responses

Attachment 1 - a photograph showing a view of Gustav Creek (no commentary supplied)



Attachment 2 - a scanned 78-page document entitled *world Heritage Attributes and Values Identified for Magnetic Island and the Surrounding Marine Environment* (dated 2005). Due to attachment size, this document will be made available on request to Townsville City Council.

