Community Engagement Report: Stage 1: Outcome of Consultation with Licensees



Boatshed/Bathing Box Policy Review

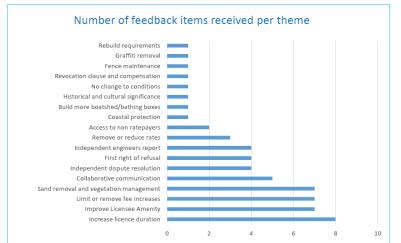
Project Overview

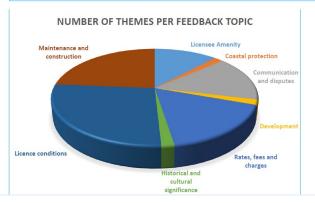
Boatsheds and Bathing boxes (bathing boxes) continue to be unique feature of Port Phillip Bay. Frankston City Council (Council) manages 60 bathing boxes on the Frankston foreshore. The Frankston foreshore is Crown Land, Council is the appointed Committee of Management under the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978.* Council's Bathing Box Policy was adopted in May 2006 and last reviewed in July 2012. The introduction of the Marine and Coastal Act and Policy as well as changes to the Victorian Coastal Strategy, has influenced the overarching direction and management of Bathing Boxes and Boat Sheds on the foreshore. Council's existing Bathing Box/ Boat Shed Policy required review to better align with the current strategic direction and the changing needs of existing licence holders.

Community Consultation Process

Extensive consultation was undertaken with priority external and internal stakeholders in 2021 and 2022. This included a pre-review survey of Licensees and the Frankston Bathing Box Association (FBBA), requesting the top three (3) areas of concern or items that submitters would like addressed in an updated Policy. The resulting feedback was categorised into themes and where appropriate, included in the updated draft Policy. As the review has continued, Licensees and the FBBA has been provided with progress updates. The following engagement statistics show the results of the top three areas of concern.

Quick Engagement Stats





Summary of outcomes

Following licensee and internal feedback, and review of the "Guidelines for the management of existing bathing boxes and boatsheds on marine and coastal Crown Land – March 2022" from the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), formerly known as the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), key updates were made to the proposed Policy as follows:

KEY UPDATE	SECTION	REASON FOR UPDATE
Conditions of use	5.2	Clarification of existing conditions
Term increased to five (5) years	5.3	Licensee consultation feedback
Requirement for coastal vulnerability assessment, no more than 12 months old, for renewals (from 2028) determined on case by case basis.	5.3	Inclusion to reflect updated Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) policy and guidelines
Licence prerequisites	5.3	Clarification of requirements for obtaining and maintaining a boatshed/bathing box licence (licence)
Insurance	5.3.1	Documented existing arrangements
Transfer of licences	5.3.2	Clarification of requirements for licence transfer and inclusion of requirement that there be no outstanding matters
Deceased Estates	5.3.3	Clarification that a licence creates no legal interest in the land and ceases upon the passing of licence holder, however that transfers to deceased estates will be recognised for first licence issued under updated Policy. Thereafter family members will be provided the first right of refusal for any re-issue of a licence that has reverted back to Council after the passing of a licence holder.
Licence cancellation	5.3.4	Clarification of circumstances under which a licence may be cancelled. Includes information regarding cancellation where site is vulnerable

KEY UPDATE	SECTION	REASON FOR UPDATE
		and affected by coastal processes, to reflect updated DELWP policy and guidelines
Reconstruction and Alterations	5.4	Clarification of requirements and consistency with new DELWP policy and guidelines, including coastal processes
Retaining Walls	5.4.1	Clarification of existing requirements
Fencing	5.4.2	Clarification of requirements
Maintenance	5.5	Clarification of requirements, update to maintenance notice period and inclusion that licence cannot be transferred if there is outstanding maintenance
Sand Accretion	5.5.1	Information to reflect updated DELWP policy and guidelines.
Sand Removal	5.5.2	Clarification of existing requirements. Including annual mechanical clearing at front (opt-out service) and requirements for any other sand removal
Vegetation	5.5.3	Clarification of existing requirements
Asbestos	5.6	Documentation of existing requirements
Relocation	5.7	Information to reflect updated DELWP policy and guidelines
Removal	5.8	Clarification of existing requirements and consistency with new DELWP policy and guidelines
Services	5.9	Clarification of existing requirements – as per licensee consultation feedback
Foreshore access	5.9.1	Clarification of existing requirements

Recommendations and Next Steps

The updated Policy has been approved by Council on 31 July 2023 to go to public engagement.