

The Premier of New South Wales,
The Hon Morris Iemma.

Level 40 Governor Macquarie Tower,
1 Farrer Place, Sydney NSW 2000.

Dear Premier,

Re: LOT 107 SHARA BOULEVARDE, BYRON SHIRE

I am enclosing a copy of a letter you sent to my Local Member Don Page MP Member for Ballina on 12/10/00 concerning the poor environmental qualities of a parcel of land (Lot 107) purchased in 1996 by Byron Shire Council for sporting fields for the residents of Ocean Shores in Byron Shire. **Annex 1.**

You may be interested to know that the RTA is now proposing to purchase this land from Council with the intention of giving it to the National Parks to add to the Billnudge Nature Reserve (apparently for its environmental values), as Compensatory habitat for the loss of environmentally valuable land lost by the community in the current Pacific Highway upgrade.

Enclosed find also a copy of the RTA's confirmation of the purchase of this land for a sporting field dated 12/02/99. **Annex 2.**

I enclose also a copy of Byron Council's ordinary meeting of 11/03/97 which endorses your view of this land's low environmental qualities. **Annex 3.**

The residents have overwhelmingly opposed this Council's intention to go back on their original purpose for purchase of this land and I also enclose a newspaper report from the then General Manager Mr Max Eastcott in a local newspaper (10/04/00) and I quote his last paragraph which clearly conveys the hurt being suffered by the Ocean Shores community if this land is lost to their children.

"If the people of Ocean Shores do not get this land as sporting fields they will have missed out badly, been misled and lied to by Council. Council will be ensuring that Ocean Shores is scandalously short of sporting facilities just as Byron Bay is. And the same people will be responsible for both situations." **Annex 4.**

An alternative site is now being dangled in front of the community by this Council.

This new site is further north than the original site and vehicles transporting teams or players to this site will have to encounter B Double and heavy vehicles entering and leaving a massive truck stop being erected on the access road that leads to this new site.

John Burgess 2005

Lot 107 is situated just 1100 metres from the Ocean Shores public school who support the development of Lot 107 for sports facilities and regular inter-school events.

Lot 107 is not only between the two Ocean Shores communities, it is also easily accessible by foot or bike for the residents of two other small adjoining communities of Golden Beach and New Brighton.

The Ocean Shores Community Association Inc urgently seeks your intervention to stop Council from selling the only parcel of land suitable for the affected community that can be safely accessed by the children of the area.

It appears that a "deal" may have been undertaken between the RTA and several environmental groups at a meeting in Byron Bay in 1999 where the current highway route was preselected without any input from the adversely affected community of Ocean Shores. **Annex 5.**

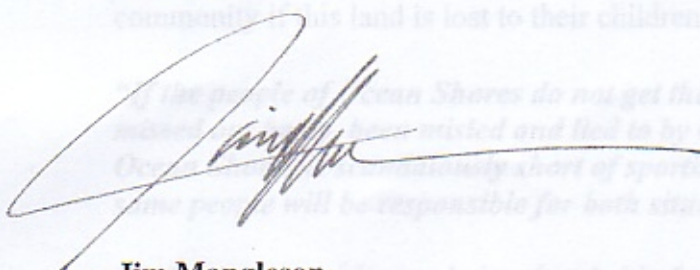
More disturbingly a memo to Cr Tucker from the then Gen Manager, Ray Kent, mentions a meeting between Council and the RTA as far back as May 1997 where the compensation package was initially mentioned, **just after the land was purchased supposedly for sporting fields.** **Annex 6.**

Find copy of file note of that RTA meeting and Green groups in May 1997 **Annex 7.**

Please note that the RTA held no meetings with the affected community of Ocean Shores residents regarding compensatory habitat or the loss of their sporting fields.

Trusting you will be able to assist.

Yours faithfully



Jim Mangleson
for
OSCA Ocean Shores Community Association Inc.

P.O Box 6, Mullumbimby NSW 2482

30th August 2005