

28 AUGUST 2001

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION RESULTS IN IMPROVED WETLAND DESIGN

An amended development application, based on changes suggested through discussion with the local community, is being submitted to Lake Macquarie City Council on behalf of the Office of the Lake Macquarie and Catchment Co-ordinator to construct a wetland in the foreshore reserve at Booragul.

Lake Macquarie and Catchment Coordinator, Jeff Jansson, said the Premier's Task Force on Lake Macquarie identified Cockle Bay for priority actions to address deteriorating environmental conditions.

"The wetland will remove sediments and nutrients from six stormwater pipes that discharge directly to the lake," said Mr Jansson.

"Input by landscape architects, together with the use of endemic plants, will create, as near as possible, a natural wetland that will also help improve the visual amenity of the park."

Following several meetings with community representatives and stakeholders, the original proposal of two separate wetlands has been changed to a single wetland, relocated on the site and reduced in length by approximately 30 metres.

"A pebble beach will form an integral part of the foreshore, while an attractive timber viewing platform for public use will be built into the wetland."

"Interpretative signs will also enhance the educational and recreational opportunities of the improvements," Mr Jansson said.

For further information contact Mr Jeff Jansson on 49 210 230.