



Marina Newsletter

Are you ready to lose Frankston's beach and prepared to wear the beach renourishment costs that may be up to \$2 million per year?

Environmental, Financial and Social Concerns



Might we never see this beach again?

Advice from Frankston City Council that the proposed Olivers Hill marina is likely to go ahead continues to reflect the publicity and dubious claims of the proponents.

Frankston has many major social problems that the proposed marina will further aggravate. It will be a financial and administrative drain on Council's resources for many years, rather than aid good government for the people. The coastal environment will be destroyed by the development and the provision of affordable housing, better public transport and a range of facilities for the young, the aged, the sick, the unemployed and the disadvantaged will again be postponed in favour of this development.

Frankston has more empty shops, offices and short stay accommodation now than at any time in the past. Similar business activities proposed for the marina will only exacerbate these problems in the CAD.

Frankston beach is the main local attraction for residents and visitors alike. Seven coastal scientists have stated that the marina will most likely destroy Frankston beach and cause silting of Davey's Bay. Some 150,000 residents and many more visitors will lose their most favoured recreational asset, in exchange for the benefit and infrequent use of a relatively few boat owners. Future renourishment of the beaches could cost \$2 million per year. Who is going to pay for this? What happens if the developer goes bankrupt (in either the development phase, or the on-going operation of the marina)?

The marina should never be built in this exposed and dangerous part of Port Phillip Bay. Calling it a safe boat harbour shows little knowledge of the behaviour of the sea in this area.

The marina was originally conceived to provide shelter for launching and retrieving trailer borne boats; however the project continues to grow in size like a cancer, allegedly to make it financially viable. The capital cost of the latest 22 hectare proposal is estimated to be approximately \$150 million. There are major concerns as to the financial, environmental and social probity of the project. No credible financial studies for the latest proposal have been made public. A small number of self-interested parties are perversely pushing ahead with this so-called 'iconic development' that is claimed will put Frankston on the map.

We are currently witnessing the financial failure of costly 'iconic developments' world wide. The community of Frankston cannot afford a financial, environmental and social disaster on their doorstep.

The proposal for an enlarged marina project should be abandoned.

What the Experts Say

Listed below are quotations from the Environment Protection Authority, as well as 7 coastal scientists/engineers. These quotes were made between 1995 and 2003 at various hearings into the environmental impact of the proposed marina. Their overall message is that the marina will damage the beach..... and yet to date, Frankston City Council has not addressed any of these recommendations.



Expert 1 - *'The effects of the proposed marina on the wave climate, and on the movement of sand, are unclear and may cause blockage at the entrance and damage to the beaches. The effects deserve serious consideration and need to be modelled. Monitoring and modelling require a time scale of approximately 10 years. Taking sand from off-shore sand bars should not be contemplated due to the possible effects on marine ecology of the area and unpredictable effects on coastal stability by removing material presently buffering the coast from the effects of large waves'.*

Expert 2 - *'The proposed marina has the potential to damage nearby beaches. I am unaware of any study of existing patterns of sediment motion in this area. Such studies should be done before proceeding'.*

Expert 3 - *'The marina proposal should take account of what has happened at other marina projects in Victoria including Portland, Warrnambool, Apollo Bay, St. Kilda, Brighton, Sandringham, Middle Park, and Lakes Entrance – all of which have on-going problems. The proposed marina will likely trap sand alongside and cause depletion of beaches and coastline erosion to the north and in Daveys Bay. I urge that coastal studies be carried out before proceeding with the project to avoid expensive remedies and perhaps removal'.*

Expert 4 - *'We draw your attention to the possible disastrous consequences of the proposal being implemented and draw your attention to the terrible consequences elsewhere in Port Phillip Bay'.*

Expert 5 - *'There is a need for a more thorough investigation of sediment transportation in the vicinity of the proposal, particularly given the likely impacts and the flawed hypotheses advanced by some'.*

Expert 6 - *'There is no conclusive scientific evidence of the effects of the proposal. A more detailed study of sediment movement and dredging is required. Haven't we learned from previous mistakes, including the expense of having to replenish other beaches? Guessing is not good enough'.*

Expert 7 - *'I urge Council to exercise caution in approving this development. If a coastal facility needs a protective or stabilising engineered structure it is almost certainly an inappropriate development'.*

Expert 8 - *'The proposed facility will create a sand trap and frequent dredging may be required. Up to 600 cubic meters of sand may be dumped in the entrance in one hit'.*



FBA Membership Application

I/we wish to join, or renew my/our membership for an annual subscription of \$10 per household (concession \$5).

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please detach this application and send with payment to the FBA Treasurer, PO Box 5004 Frankston South, Vic 3199.

Contact Details: Graeme Lyell, FBA Secretary, 2A Fenton Cres, Frankston South
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