



MINUTES

Port of Eden Stakeholder Group

Date	25 June 2025
Time	5:00 – 6:15 PM
Venue	Eden Welcome Centre, Level 1, and online
Chairperson	Andrew Dooley, Transport for NSW
Minute Taker	Andrew Dooley, Transport for NSW
Members	Nick Dunne - Eden Slipway Jason Lewington – Eden Visitor Information Centre Annika Leslie – Destination NSW Peter Smith – Marine Rescue Eden Jenny Robb –Destination Southern NSW Robin Arthur – Port of Eden Marina (POEM) Inc. Kent Farrell - POEM Nick Dunne - Eden Slipway Gail Ward - Cruise Eden Coordinator Carina Severs - Manager, Eden Community Access Centre
Port Authority of NSW	Paul Webster – Harbour Master Peter Lipman – Manager, Regional Cruise John Shearsby – Assets Maintenance Dan O’Connell – Senior Manager, Property Jennifer Tai – Manager, Property Francisca Alvarez – Environmental Planning Officer Colleen Elcham – Community and Stakeholder Engagement Manager Lana Wills - Cruise Coordinator, Port Authority
Transport for NSW	Andrew Dooley – Senior Project Manager Deon Voyer - Principal Manager, NSW Maritime
Bega Valley Shire Council	Kalieg Smerdon – Corporate Planning and Improvement Manager
Eden Local Aboriginal Land Council	Miriam Wolstencroft
NSW Regional Development	Scott Baker - Economic Development Manager for Eurobodalla and Bega Valley

Apologies:	<p>Larissa Shashkof - Senior Stakeholder Engagement Advisor, Port Authority Alix Carpenter - Senior Manager, Infrastructure Planning, Port Authority Isaac Smith - Maritime Infrastructure Delivery Office, TfNSW Adam Milgate - Communication and Engagement Manager, TfNSW Brad Dudley - Manager Regional Harbours -South, TfNSW Jayde Rankin - Dive Eden / Bega Valley Shire Council Jenny Allitt - Fish Care Facilitator and Teacher Deb Meers - Manager, Cruise Eden Clair Mudaliar - Councillor, Bega Valley Shire Council Steve Marks - Pacific Tug Jennifer Cook - Consultant – Place and Visitor Economies Mike Hammond - Marine Rescue NSW, former NSW Maritime Ops Manager Mark Cattanach - Freedom Charters – Moorings and Pontoons Deb Richardson - Eden Community Access Centre Rob Whiter - Local property owner Jennifer Drenkhahn - Twofold Bay Yacht Club / Marine Rescue / KW Museum Roger Barson -Commander, Marine Rescue Eden Paul Pincini - Sapphire Coast Bus Lines Peter Whiter-Local resident, former Eden Chamber of Commerce president</p>
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		Responsible/ Due Date
1.	Minutes from the Previous Meeting	
1.1	Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.	Note
2.	Acknowledgement of Country	
2.1	Acknowledgement was made to the Yuin peoples.	Note
3.	Introduction and Apologies	
3.1	Attendees were welcomed by the Chair. Introductions were made by new attendees and apologies were noted.	Note
4.	Port Authority for NSW Update	
4.1	<p>Cruise Operations (Peter Lipman)</p> <p><u>Upcoming 2025–26 cruise season</u> includes 34 scheduled cruise arrivals, 27 of which are international.</p> <p><u>First ship:</u> Silver Nova (16 Oct 2025); final ship: 21 Apr 2026.</p> <p><u>The MOU</u> between Port Authority, Bega Valley Shire Council and Eden Tourism is nearing finalisation, following delays.</p>	Note
4.2	Asset Management (John Shearsby)	Note

		Responsible/ Due Date
	Reported poor condition of bollards and adjacent footpath due to Norfolk Pine root damage. These are now earmarked for replacement as part of a broader footpath upgrade in collaboration with Transport for NSW. Port Authority are awaiting TfNSW to commence their works.	
4.3	<p>Environmental Monitoring (Francisca Alvarez)</p> <p>Finalised water quality monitoring report submitted to Department of Planning and BVSC. The report will be published on the Port Authority website and shared with stakeholders.</p>	Note
4.4	<p>Property and Land Activation (Jennifer Tai)</p> <p><u>Precinct Plan</u>: Internal scoping/design commenced.</p> <p><u>Food & Beverage Activation</u>: Ongoing investigations into relocating shipping containers from the Chamber of Commerce site to Port Authority land due to service connection challenges.</p> <p>Sites under consideration include areas near the Breakwater Wharf, Eden Ice Works tenancy (future relocation planned), and land near the Cruise Wharf.</p> <p>Engineers assessing container specs and connection options; traffic management and pedestrian movement are key considerations.</p> <p><u>Waste Oil Facility</u>: Remediation of the facility behind Gotcha Bait underway to support further land activation.</p> <p><u>Partnerships with Eden Tourism</u>: Working to introduce food trucks and coffee vans at the Welcome Centre — both on ship and non-ship days. Coordination with Sapphire Coast Whale Watching Tours also ongoing.</p> <p><u>Gotcha Bait Warehouse</u>: Business proposal for sub-licensee offering under review.</p>	Note
4.5	<p>Community and Stakeholder Engagement (Colleen Elcham)</p> <p><u>Community Grants Program</u>: 87 applications received; 10 from Eden-based organisations. Announcements to be made in July.</p> <p><u>Seafarer Welfare Fund</u>: Funding confirmed for Mission to Seafarers Eden to support operational costs and bus replacement. Local media coverage achieved via East Coast Radio and PowerFM.</p>	Note
5.	Transport for NSW Update	
5.1	<p>Land-side Management (Brad Dudley via update)</p> <p>Bin replacements and relocation of front skip bins scheduled for the next month. New signage delivered to Eden and will be progressively installed.</p>	Note

		Responsible/ Due Date
5.2	<p>Snug Cove Maritime Precinct (Andrew Dooley)</p> <p>Wave attenuator completed; federal and state planning approvals secured for the broader development (79 marina berths, administrative buildings, public domain works).</p> <p>Funding application (Dec 2024) to the Commonwealth's Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program was unsuccessful. Feedback cited strong agency support but insufficient broader community advocacy.</p> <p>TfNSW continues to consider funding options.</p>	Note
5.3	<p>Stakeholder Discussion:</p> <p>Strong support for Snug Cove Maritime Precinct, discussion regarding reviving community advocacy and momentum, including potentially convening a public meeting.</p> <p>Comments suggested that previous community involvement was strong, but recent engagement has waned. Stakeholders stressed importance of economic benefits of a marina that supports year-round visitation.</p> <p>Concerns raised that access to swing moorings is being prevented by both Cattle Bay and Snug Cove marina proposals, and that an interim solution is required to satisfy high demand for moorings.</p> <p>Suggestions made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TfNSW should repeat the Expression of Interest process given renewed market interest in investment; and • TfNSW should resubmit the rPPP application in partnership with BVSC and ELALC 	Note
6	Bega Valley Shire Council Update (Kaliegh Smerdon)	

		Responsible/ Due Date
6.1	<p><u>4-Year Delivery Plan (2025–2029)</u> adopted 23 June. Key Eden capital works include: Quarantine Bay amenities, playground upgrades, roadworks (Imlay St), Lake Curalo renewal planning, urban renewal plan, Cattle Bay remediation. Full details available via BVSC planning documents online.</p> <p><u>MOU Support:</u> Report to July Council meeting will seek approval to execute the tripartite MOU with Port Authority and Eden Tourism (incl. indexed Cruise Coordinator funding).</p> <p><u>Shipping Containers (Snug Cove):</u> Council updated on ongoing discussions with the Chamber; significant technical challenges exist around sewer connection, compliance with liquid trade waste regulations, and excavation risks. Some community speculation around relocation to Merimbula was noted.</p> <p><u>Footpath Repairs:</u> Contractor scheduled to begin Imlay Street pathway repairs in July/August (post-Bega project).</p> <p><u>DA Updates:</u> Eden Harbour Quarter DA approved – Planning Portal link provided. Cattle Bay Tourism Development is under assessment as a State Significant Development.</p>	Note
7	Eden Local Aboriginal Land Council Update (Miriam Wolstencroft)	
7.1	<p>Eden LALC gained title to local land in Dec 2023.</p> <p>Community consultation supports a Marine Discovery Centre and broader vision including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short-term: temporary office and tourism hub by Sept 2025. • Long-term: cultural centre, hospitality, healing garden, and open green space. <p>LALC has applied for a \$15,000 grant to support a modular healing garden.</p>	Note
8	Questions and General Business	
8.1	<p>Matters discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns over signage encouraging illegal overnight camping — improved signage and enforcement suggested. • Stakeholder frustration regarding food container delays. • Desire for better clarity around Eden Harbour Quarter DA (Council provided link). • Renewed push for marina community advocacy — letters to ministers and local members discussed. 	Note
9	Next Meeting	

		Responsible/ Due Date
9.1	The next meeting will be held on 17 September 2025	Note