



A voice
for koalas
in the Redlands

www.koalagroup.asn.au
email:admin@koalagroup.asn.au

KAG Newsletter

Oct-Dec 2022

INVITATION

Please join us
for KAG's
end of year
party



When: Friday
November 25th
6.30-9.30pm

Where: Lions
Hall -122 Shore
St North,
Cleveland

For catering purposes
please RSVP by
November 20 -
admin@koalagroup.as
n.au or call 3823 5575
and leave a message.

Toondah EIS Released - Have Your Say!

Walker Corporation have released their draft Environmental Impact Study for the Toondah Harbour development proposal and community members have until December 6 to send in comments.

Hard copies of the 5000 plus page EIS document can be viewed at the libraries in Capalaba, Cleveland and Victoria Pt or online at <https://caportal.com.au/walker/toondah-vic/toondah-habour-eis-documents>.

The developers claim that the proposed Toondah Harbour development will not have a significant impact on koalas living in and around the precinct is fanciful thinking.

Walker Corporation's idea of providing a fauna underpass to remove the threat from increased traffic is flawed as it won't be effective in such a built-up urban environment, considering extensive fauna exclusion fencing without breaks would be required to funnel koalas to the underpass. This type of mitigation measure is generally not used in areas that are considered high density residential or have heavy pedestrian traffic due to the number of access points required.

As for planting 1000 trees, these won't be any use to koalas for at least ten years which KAG suggests will be too late for this population of koalas. This planting should happen anyway and is part of what KAG with the support of Redlands Council has been doing for more than three decades.

After a period of 12 months tracking numerous Toondah koalas, it was revealed that the population were breeding, mostly healthy and densities of koalas in the Toondah precinct higher than elsewhere in the Redlands. The research also showed koalas regularly cross four roads within and nearby the precinct as they move along the north-south coastal corridor and east-west creek corridor.

KAG firmly believes these koalas will not cope with the substantial increase in traffic during the 20 year construction phase and the additional 8,000 residents that will eventually live in this confined area.

Put simply, the Toondah koalas cannot possibly survive the monstrous scale of the proposed development and if approved by the Federal government our group fears it will effectively be a death sentence for them.

Send your comments to engage@toondah.com.au and cc a copy to the Federal Environment Minister: tanya.plibersek.mp@aph.gov.au or post to PO Box 9189, GCMC Bundall Qld 9726

KAG has put together a Toondah fact sheet that may assist with your submission. (see page 3)

NOVEMBER 15 & 16 - Toondah drop-in information sessions

A number of community groups including KAG are hosting information drop-in sessions for people to ask questions and learn more about the environmental and social impacts from Walker Corporation's Toondah Harbour proposal and how they can have their say.

The sessions will run from 6-9PM and will be open to the public.

This newsletter is produced by
The Koala Action Group Qld Inc

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Councillor Wendy Boglary

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Lynn Roberts

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(Tree Planting Convenor)

Treasurer Tanya Golitschenko

Newsletter Debbie Pointing

Executive Members

Chris Bray

Carmel Rackemann

KOALA SIGHTINGS SEPT-NOV 2022

Alexandra Hills: Allenby Rd,
McDonald Rd, Snowden St.

Birkdale: Burbank Rd, Collingwood
Rd, Mary St, Napier St, Old Cleveland
Rd E, Quarry Rd, Whitehall Av.

Capalaba: Runnymede Rd.

Cleveland: Carinya St, Erubin St,
Fitzroy St, Long St, Middle St,
Paranka Dr S, Shore St E, Shore St W,
Wellington St, Wynyard St. **NSI:**

Ballow St, Claytons Rd, East Coast
Rd, George Nothling Dr, Gonzales St,
Karboora Dr, Llewellyn St, Miles St,
Old Ballow St, Oxley Pde, Snapper St,
Tramican St, Wallum Creek Dr,
Yabby St. **Ormiston:** Delancey St,

Sturgeon St. **Redland Bay:** Marine St.

Sheldon: Mt Cotton Rd. **Thornlands:**

Boundary Rd. **Victoria Pt:**

Cleveland-Redland Bay Rd, Jacob St,
Schmidt St. **Wellington Pt:** Bibury St,
Bligh St, Duke St, Fernbourne Rd,
Mindarie Cr, Sawmill Dr.

BCC: Carina Heights, Nathan,
Pullenvale. **LCC:** Slacks Creek, Logan
Village, Bahrs Scrub. **MBRC:**
Narangba. **MRC:** Sunnyside. **SRRC:**
Tarome.

Primary data sources:

<https://biocollect.ala.org.au/project/index/edad0555-32a6-473e-8956-c70cf80329c4>

<https://biocollect.ala.org.au/acsa/project/index/f3d0ad81-135d-40bb-baec-50db553df6d0>

[https://biocache.ala.org.au/occurrences/search?q=text:koala&fq=c1959:%22Redland%20\(C\)%22&fq=occurrence_decade_i:%222020%22&pageSize=100](https://biocache.ala.org.au/occurrences/search?q=text:koala&fq=c1959:%22Redland%20(C)%22&fq=occurrence_decade_i:%222020%22&pageSize=100)

Containers for Change Scheme

KAG is registered with the Containers for Change Scheme.

www.containersforchange.com.au/qld/where-to-return

Our ID code is: **C10146563** and needs to be quoted at the time you deposit your containers.

A huge thank you to those who have already made the effort to take their recyclables to a container deposit depot and donated the refund to KAG as every little bit helps with the group's running costs such as public liability and trailer insurances, as well as registration for the tree planting trailer.

Thank you!

KAG received a generous donation from the Bayside Redland Business Network who are a group that have been supporting local businesses and local community groups since 1998.

<https://brbn.org.au/>

Final Tree Planting for 2022

With the restrictions of COVID mostly behind us, KAG planting team have had a great year and the wetter weather has given a helping hand to ensure that plants can thrive.

Thank you to Redland IndigiScapes bushcare team who are a great support and ensure the planting sites are prepped and plants are ready to go each month.

Our team will no doubt see the proceeds of their work in the following season with a higher than average rainfall season forecast.

Thanks again to the tree planting team, particularly Jen Niall who coordinates the plantings, Carmel who assists Jen and provides the vital morning teas to volunteers and Steve and Jen Anthony for looking after and transporting the KAG trailer.

Tree plantings will recommence in April or May 2023.



The tree planting team with Council Bushcare officer Mim Skelly (right) at the November planting in St James's Park Birkdale near the Tingalpa Creek

**To report a sick or injured koala contact
Redlands Wildlife Rescue Service on 3833 4031**

TOONDAH FACT SHEET

The Proposed Development

- A large scale residential and commercial development predominantly on reclaimed land in Moreton Bay Marine Park that will require more than half a million cubic metres of dredged spoil.
- 37 hectares of seagrass, 3.4 hectares of mangroves and 8.8 hectares of sand and mudflats will be dug up.
- The offset payment of \$4.75 million cannot possibly make up for the destruction of more than 40 hectares of Ramsar protected wetlands.
- Approx. 8,000 residents (the size of a new suburb/small town) will eventually live in the 3600 units proposed to be built in high rise building on protected wetlands in Moreton Bay marine park.
- The proposal also includes large scale commercial development and a 400 berth boat marina.
- The public lands of GJ Walter Park and Moreton Bay Marine Park should never have been handed over to a private entity for large scale and environmentally destructive development.

Impacts on Koalas

- According to the Walker EIS, traffic travelling along Middle St is expected to increase by almost 5 times in the first 10 years of development, so potentially 10 times by the 20th year of development (nearing completion), resulting in more than 30,000 vehicle trips per day.
- No traffic mitigation measures have been suggested for other streets in or around the Toondah Precinct that are all likely to experience the same estimates of traffic increases (10 times at least).
- The Koala Action Group conducted a GPS Koala Tracking Project in 2016-2017 which showed how frequently koalas move across the landscape within and around the Toondah Harbour Precinct. It also proved that koalas regularly cross roads in and around the Toondah Harbour Precinct including Middle, Wharf, North and Shore St East.
- Koala movement behaviours will be severely disrupted and impacted by the large scale proposal both during the 20 year construction phase and with the additional 8,000 residents that will eventually live in this confined area with the only two access streets transiting through koala corridors.
- Walker Corp is proposing to plant 1000 koala trees in a 1 hectare area of GJ Walter Park. Considering the number of trees already in the park, there will be not enough space to plant this number of trees without filling in and eliminating all open space areas, such as the cricket oval and off leash dog park area.

Impacts on Community

- The estimated 20 year construction time will be extremely disruptive for residents living in and around the development area and there will be negative impacts on Cleveland roads, especially on local streets with approx. 120 truck trips per day and 520 construction vehicle trips per day.
- Noise from construction works will be 6 days per week and pumping of water 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- The digging up of acid sulphate soils in Moreton Bay marine park will omit odours that are likely to negatively impact residents, particularly on days with onshore breezes.
- Walker Corps advertising has consistently contained idyllic artists impressions of the project whilst omitting to show the 80 or so high rise residential towers that will contain 3600 units.

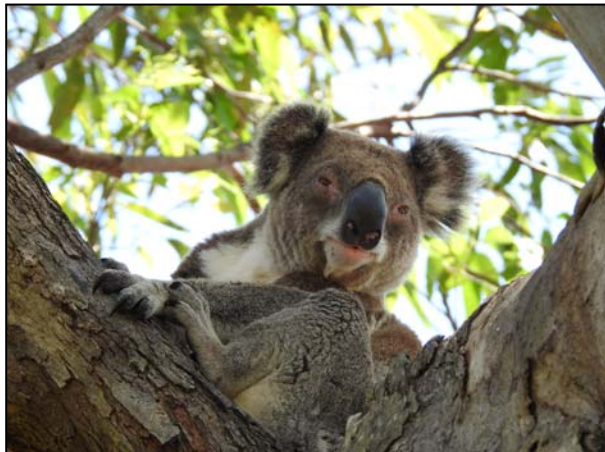
Loss of Ramsar Wetland and Moreton Bay Marine Park

- Shorebirds have declined by 80%. Raby Bay Harbour was developed in 1985 and destroyed one of the largest shorebird roosting sites in Moreton Bay that was home to more than 5000 birds.
- There is an assumption by Walker Corp that the decline of migratory shorebirds will continue, and if the wrongs of the past are not corrected, that will be the case.
- Ramsar listed wetlands must be 'no-go zones' for development which is one of the key goals for the Ramsar Convention. The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance is an international treaty for the conservation and sustainable use of Ramsar sites. It is named after the city of Ramsar in Iran, where the convention was signed in 1971.
- The majority of the Toondah proposal (over 40 hectares) will be built on Ramsar protected wetlands. This proposal will challenge the Australian Government's international obligation to Ramsar.
- Noise, lights, human presence etc. from 20-year construction will likely displace birds that use the Toondah Ramsar site.
- Many other endangered marine species such as Dugong and Turtles will be negatively impacted by the loss of 37 hectares of seagrass beds.
- The revocation of more than 100 acres of Moreton Bay Marine Park to gift to a private entity for large scale residential and commercial development is unacceptable, how can this be allowed to happen?
- If the Federal government approves this development proposal, they would be breaching the Ramsar Convention's general obligations and will set a dangerous precedent.

Straddie Koala Survey 2022

The North Stradbroke Island (Minjerribah) Urban Koala Survey was conducted on October 15, 2022. Numerous KAG members volunteered their time to walk the townships of Pt Lookout, Amity Pt, Dunwich and Flinders Beach to search for koalas and any sightings are then lodged onto the Redlands Coast Koala Watch reporting site.

Whilst the final count results of the survey were not available at the time of KAG's newsletter going to print, we thought we'd share a few of the gorgeous photos taken by members Lolita and Joel.



KAG Membership:Application/Renewal Please complete the following and forward to: KAG: PO Box 660, Capalaba Qld 4157 or email admin@koalagroup.asn.au
Fees can now be made via direct debit to: Koala Action Group Qld Inc. Suncorp Bank BSB: 484-799 Account No. 001748631 and include your name in the ref. line.
Please note: If paying by cheque or money order, ensure the payee line includes the full name - Koala Action Group Qld Inc. (the bank does not accept abbreviations)

Name -----

Address -----

Phone/email -----

Annual membership rates: Single:\$15; Family:\$25; Pensioner:\$10; Under 18:\$10 (Donation:optional) Please specify membership type.

If you're interested in any of the following, please indicate.

Tree planting { } Help with displays { } Letterbox drops { } Wildlife Rescue { }

I apply for membership of the Koala Action Group Qld Inc and enclose my membership fee.

Signature:Date:.....

All membership renewals are due in June unless otherwise stated on newsletter envelope's address label. Email recipients will receive an email renewal advice.