



11 June 2013

# Major seawall works: South Mission Beach

## Boat ramp & road closures during construction

A \$1.9 million seawall will be built at South Mission Beach as part of the Cassowary Coast region's \$145.4 million cyclone recovery program.

Work is due to begin on Monday (June 17) on the 300m replacement seawall which will be built at the southern end of South Mission Beach between Jackey Jackey St and the public boat ramp.

Cassowary Coast Regional Council's Mayor Bill Shannon said the project was scheduled to run from Monday until the end of August, with local contractor Mager Constructions working around the low tides in the initial stages.

He said the southern end of Kennedy Esplanade between Jackey Jackey St and the boat ramp would be closed to the public (except for a couple of residents who access their homes via the street) while construction work was underway.

"We apologise for this inconvenience, especially to boat users," Cr Shannon said.

"The ramp and road won't be closed all the time but there will be lengthy closures while work is underway, and this will sometimes include parts of weekends as our contractor maximises use of the low tides to get this work completed in the short period that the tides are favourable.

"Road closures will be necessary to ensure the safety of the public while heavy machinery is manoeuvred backwards and forwards for the placement of large rocks among other things.

"In the early stages, work is dependent on the tides because the toe of the seawall will be built at the level of the lowest astronomical tide.

"There will be access to the boat ramp as circumstances permit.

"We will be advising people during closures to use the Clump Point boat ramp at Mission Beach or the nearby Jackey Jackey St boat ramp on the Hull River at South Mission Beach, taking the usual precautions on low tides."

Cr Shannon said Council and Mager Constructions had worked around the beach's large shade trees when finalising the seawall's design.

"Some low-hanging branches on two large beach trees will need to be lopped but they will otherwise remain intact, which is a good result," Cr Shannon said. "Unfortunately a couple of palm trees may, however, have to be removed. This will depend on final road drainage plans."

The Federal and State Government have jointly funded the replacement seawall project under Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements. The new wall, which will be the height of the road and will have sand placed against its face, is necessary to reduce the potential for infrastructure damage and further erosion.

**Media contact: Julie Lightfoot: 4043 8833 or 0417 721 754**