

'KRAUATUNGALUNG WALK' CONSULTATION REVIEW

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1.0 BACKGROUND

In April 2019, Darren Chester MP developed a project brief for the proposed development of an All Abilities Walking Circuit to be built along the shores of Cunninghame Arm, celebrating the region's rich Indigenous heritage and delivering cultural, economic, social and environmental benefits to the community.

The proposal further built upon previous plans and attempts by the East Gippsland Shire Council to link existing infrastructure and develop the 'missing link' between Eastern Beach and the town.

Named Krauatungalung Walk, the 4.5 kilometre circuit will link existing infrastructure and create new boardwalks and pathways. It will take users along a safe, flat circuit between the footbridge and Eastern Beach, crossing some of the Gippsland Lakes' most attractive coastal scenery.

It will commission local artists to tell the story of the Lakes Entrance Aboriginal community and the Traditional Owners of this special place, creating an opportunity to deepen understanding and respect of Indigenous culture in a way that has never been done before, in such a high profile location in East Gippsland.

The construction of the circuit will fill in missing sections of path along both sides of the water, while preserving access to Cunninghame Arm for swimmers, kayaks, paddle boards and boating.

Raised boardwalks will protect environmentally-sensitive areas currently impacted by uncontrolled foot traffic, and assist its regeneration, while elsewhere the boardwalk structure will be co-designed to limit the impact of erosion on private and public assets.

The circuit will inspire people of all abilities to be more active: locals will be encouraged to use the trail as part of their regular exercise routine, while visitors will be enticed to extend their visit and explore more of Lakes Entrance's attractions.

With government funding support, Krauatungalung Walk will create jobs and play an important role in fostering greater indigenous understanding; supporting the resilience of the visitor economy; enhancing the liveability of Lakes Entrance; and protecting the natural environment for all to enjoy.

2.0 CONSULTATION PROCESS

In March 2019, Darren Chester's office met with Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Corporation (GLaWAC) to seek initial 'in principle' support for the development of a project brief for the all abilities accessible Indigenous themed boardwalk.

Following this meeting, in April 2019, Darren Chester MP developed a project brief for the proposed all abilities accessible Indigenous themed boardwalk with the working title 'Tatungalung Circuit' in recognition of the traditional clan of Lake Entrance.

The project received \$50,000 in Federal Government funding to develop designs, investigate the environmental impact, and provide cost estimates for the proposed boardwalk. Local community development group, Lakes Entrance Action and Development Association (LEADA) have managed and administered the concept design stage of this project.

A meeting of key stakeholders including representatives from, LEADA, East Gippsland Shire Council (EGSC), GLaWAC, Lakes Entrance Aboriginal Health Association (LEAHA), Local Indigenous Elders, Department of Environment Land Water and Planning (DELWP), Disability Advisory Committee (DAC), Gippsland Ports, Local Designers and Darren Chester MP met in October 2019.

The purpose of this meeting was to seek 'in principle' support for the proposal and to identify any reasons that the proposal would be undeliverable. All stakeholders gave their 'in principle' support

and a project working committee was formed. It was identified that environmental and cultural heritage sensitivities will need to be closely considered.

In December 2019, Darren Chester and the designer engaged by LEADA, Ryan Summerton, Archistyle met with a number of directly adjoining land owners. This meeting enabled the designers to understand the concerns and desires of the land owners. The discussion helped shape the initial concept proposals.

In May 2020, Darren Chester posted a project update on his private social media platform, Facebook.

Unfortunately, the opportunity to hold another meeting with residence had not been possible due to the coronavirus pandemic, in order to ensure the project continued to progress, in July 2020, Darren Chester sent a direct mail out to adjoining land owners to seek their feedback and preference for the proposed concept designs prior to seeking wider community feedback.

News of the proposal was circulating around the wider community, in an effort to provide transparency Darren Chester provided the wider community with a 'sneak peak' of the initial concept designs, ideally, consultation would have completed with the adjoining land owners prior to revealing the concept to the wider community.

The initial concept design was featured on the TRFM social media platform and further shared by LEADA.

In September 2020, the concept design proposal had been completed and was released for public feedback. The following table provides a summary of the outcomes of the consultation process.

2.1 Summary of Consultation

Consultation Date	Consultation Platform	Support			Against
		'Likes'	'Loves'	Partial Support	
9 April 2019	Darren Chester Facebook Post (Private) – Project Brief	126 18 Comments	12		
9 April 2019	Darren Chester MP Facebook Post – Project Brief	42 1 comment	5		
8 May 2020	Darren Chester Facebook Post (Private) – Project proposal update	136 11comments	10		
3 July 2020	Direct Mailout – Adjoining land owner feedback request	6 with boardwalk modifications Submission			3 submissions
18 July 2020	Darren Chester Facebook Post – 'Sneak Peak' initial concept designs	177 32 comments 1 submission	27	2 submissions	1 1 comment 1 submission
18 July 2020	Lakes Post 'Sneak Peak'				
18 July 2020	LEADA shared Darren Chester Facebook post	9	1		1
23 July 2020	TRFM Facebook Post – Lakes Entrance Boardwalk	219 14 comments	22		

23 July 2020	LEADA Shared TRFM Facebook Post	5 1 comment			1
8 September 2020	LEADA Facebook request for feedback	1 7 submissions	1	2 submissions	10 submissions
8 September 2020	Lakes Post request for feedback				
8 September	LEADA Website request for information				
23 September 2020	Darren Chester Facebook Post (Private) – in response to Lakes Post newspaper feature. Requested feedback	152 53 comments	16	1 comment	2 comments

3.0 DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

3.1 Project Brief Consultation – Darren Chester Facebook pages

On April 9, 2019, Darren Chester posted on both his private and public social media platform Facebook, advising the local community and seeking feedback on the concept plan with the working title 'Tatungalung Circuit – Lakes Entrance'

The support was overwhelming positive with 168 'likes', 17 'loves' and 19 positive comments across both Facebook pages.

Some of the positive comments received included:

'Fantastic for the town', 'great idea wonderful plan for all ages awesome'. 'This would be awesome for Lakes Entrance and health and fitness in the area'. 'Sounds like a great idea! How can we show our support to help get this over the line?' 'Brilliant this will allow a comfortable walk along the pathways, leading to the beach instead of thick sand. Physically challenged, aged and expectant mum's will have an easier walk'.

The following table outlines the key comments and concerns raised through this consultation; it also serves to offer a response. It is important to note that whilst some comments / concerns have been raised, it does not necessarily indicate the support or lack thereof.

Key Comments / Concerns	Response
Unsure how it fits in with the Foreshore management plan	The proposal to construct the 'missing link' on the northern side of Cunninghame Arm is consistent and has been clearly identified in the Lakes Entrance Foreshore Management Plan October 2012.
Extend through to link Lake Tyers with Lakes Entrance	Noted.
Continue to link through to the Entrance	Noted.

3.2 Facebook Update Post – Darren Chester

On 8 May 2020, Darren Chester posted a project proposal update. This post served to keep the community informed and updated on the progress of the proposed all abilities walk.

Once again, this post attracted overwhelming support with 136 'likes', 10 'loves' and 11 positive comments.

Some of the positive comments received included:

'Brilliant idea'. 'Tatungalung, local tribe of the Gunaikurnai Nation, that's awesome'. 'Looking forward to it.' 'New running circuit for when we stay at Eastern Beach'. 'Wow how awesome would that be for those that need a flat level surface to walk on'.

The following table outlines the key comments and concerns raised through this consultation; it also serves to offer a response. It is important to note that whilst some comments / concerns have been raised, it does not necessarily indicate the support or lack thereof.

Key Comments / Concerns	Response
Looking forward to viewing concept plans	Concept designs will be made public hopefully by the end of the month.
This will impact on several lake fronting properties. End of the quiet atmosphere at Lakes Waterfront Motel – Pity.	Meeting held with neighbouring land owners prior to Christmas. Concept designs will take into account concerns raised. Important to note that there is a high level of erosion along this stretch of Cunningham Arm, already threatening properties. There is a designated road reserve. Designers have been asked to balance the neighbouring land owners right to privacy, the public's right to access the foreshore, the opportunity to enhance an environmentally degraded section of the foreshore and the overall aims of the project to provide an all-abilities accessible circuit.
When is Lake Tyers getting connected with Lakes Entrance via a walking / running / cycling track that's safe and you don't have to go on the hwy.	Good point – suggestion is noted by LEADA

3.3 Direct Mailout to Adjoining Land Owners

In December 2019, Darren Chester and Ryan Summerton from Archistyle, engaged to develop the concept design, met with a number of the land owners whose properties directly connect to the proposal. Key outcomes from this discussion was primarily that the eroding foreshore need to be re-established whilst privacy and water access needs to be maintained.

Following this meeting, a number of draft concepts options were presented to the adjoining land owners for feedback and preference of option prior to presenting the draft concept to the wider community.

The feedback provided from this consultation process helped for the final concept proposal released for public feedback in September 2020.

Of the nine formal submissions received, six submissions were supportive of the proposal, provided a number of alterations to the concept design occur. Three of the submissions are opposed to the proposal.

The following table outlines the key comments and concerns raised through this consultation; it also serves to offer a response. It is important to note that whilst some comments / concerns have been raised, it does not necessarily indicate the support or lack thereof.

Key Comments / Concerns	Response
Strongly oppose all of the options put forward	Noted.
Takes away natural look and owning 'absolute water frontage'	Unfortunately, there is a gazetted road between the houses and the lake.
Foreshore should be renourished only and allow pedestrian access	Renourishing the foreshore and leaving the sand for pedestrians will not achieve the all abilities access the proposal is aiming for.
Preference is still purely for a refurbishment of the area with sand, that will allow pedestrians to walk in front of properties without impinging on the privacy of the residents.	A boardwalk will create a defined walking path approx. 11mt from property boundary – simply renourishing foreshore and not creating a defined path will have more of a privacy implication.
Proposal to link Main Beach with Eastern beach on the southern side is supported	Noted.
Water access needs to be maintained. Biggest concern is that there will be no natural easy recreational access from the sand to the water.	Noted. New concept design maintains water from the sand, utilising ramps to intercept the boardwalk. An additional kayak launching area has been included near the Eastern Princes Hwy car park – it is anticipated that this will alleviate traffic down Short Street, Jetty and Middle Road for the purpose of kayak launching.
Removal / relocation of 5th shield	Noted. 5 th shield has been removed in the revised concept proposal
If same design as southern side can be employed for the northern side it would be ideal	Noted. Revised concept proposal renourishes the foreshore and employs the same boardwalk design as proposed for the southern side – grid mesh with small kick-rail.
Preference to reinstate both jetties	Noted. Revised concept reinstates both jetties.
Design option not consistent with Esplanade upgrades	Noted. The seawall option has been removed.
Local Elders are not supportive of the proposal	GLaWAC and representatives from LEAHA are supportive of this proposal and are represented on the Project Committee as well as the Aboriginal Advisory Committee.
Proposal is not consistent with the Foreshore Management Plan	The proposal to construct the 'missing link' on the northern side of Cunninghame Arm is consistent and has been clearly identified in the Foreshore Management Plan
Area is considered a natural precinct – concrete wall is inappropriate	Noted. The seawall option has been removed.
Lack of environmental and Indigenous facilitation and investigation	Environmental consultant has been engaged to conduct the relevant environmental studies. Indigenous organisations and local Elders have been engaged in Project Committee as well as the Aboriginal Advisory Committee
Drains require monthly maintenance	Noted. This will be addressed in the detail design process
Is an additional pedestrian bridge necessary?	The additional pedestrian bridge will create a feature point for the development and will be an essential element in the 'story telling'.

Why is it necessary to cut off the lake with a high seawall?	The seawall option attempted to address the foreshore erosion concerns of residents. Agreed an alternative option is more appropriate
Would like a boardwalk similar to the Noosa boardwalk	Noted. Feedback will be passed on to designers for consideration.
Concerned that the boardwalk would result in a cycle speedway	Noted. Detailed design works can address this potential issue.

3.4 Facebook Post – ‘Sneak Peak’ Initial Concept Designs released for Feedback

In an effort to provide transparency, a ‘sneak peak’ of the initial concept designs were released. Ideally, the process would have continued with the adjoining land owners to ensure the concept was acceptable prior to seeking wider community feedback, however, news of the proposal was making its way into the public domain.

The Facebook post again received overwhelming support with 177 ‘likes’, 27 ‘loves’, 32 positive comments, 1 ‘dislike’, 1 negative comment and four formal written submissions.

Of the four formal written submissions received. One was supportive of the entire concept, whilst one was supportive of the need to provide a ‘missing link’ on the northern side without the ‘loop’ around the southern side of the lake. One agrees that it is a great project, however still believes that the Entrance Track will remain the “icon” track and will continue to be very popular. The final submissions offered recollections of the area rather than indicate any level of support.

Two formal submissions were received by the East Gippsland Shire Council, of these submissions, one submission was supportive of the concept in some sections, however felt that the section in front of the houses should be replenished and remain sandy without a boardwalk. Whilst the second submission felt that the proposal was an ‘eye sore’ in some parts, and that the proposal was a ‘very expensive’ project and other areas more importantly need to be finished or upgraded, such as the boardwalk from Kalimna to downtown and Jemmy’s Point.

The comments from the formal submissions have also been captured in the table below.

Some of the positive comments received included:

‘Great idea, something we need’. ‘We currently have very few options in East Gippsland for nature walks for people with disabilities.’ ‘This gives us a great option for a nature walk (or in my case roll), but gives access to the water, as well as beach access which we also currently don’t have’.

‘Great idea certainly an asset for Lakes Entrance’. ‘Looks fantastic – love the idea of learning history along the way’.

The following table outlines the key comments and concerns raised through this consultation; it also serves to offer a response. It is important to note that whilst some comments / concerns have been raised, it does not necessarily indicate the support or lack thereof.

Key Comments / Concerns	Response
Very big circuit, some drinking water access for users and pets	The proposal does link up with existing infrastructure at Eastern beach, the Rotunda and Main Beach, additional points may be easy to provide if required. The circuit is approximately 4.7Km
Bridge over water needs to be see through on fat side	Good idea. Feedback will be passed on to designers for consideration.
Would like to see the social story developed to encourage those diagnosed	Noted. Can be considered as detailed design progresses

with autism (and others) can be also included.	
If there is money to spare put it towards improving the water quality by upgrading the sewage treatment around the Lakes to avoid all the “Planned Emergency Releases”.	Noted.
Wouldn't be happy if I owned those houses on the lake – but like the walking track	We have met with the neighbouring landholders and sought their input. There is a gazetted road in front of those properties and the foreshore is currently eroding away.
Would rising sea levels compromise long term foreshore restoration?	Potentially, ongoing monitoring and maintenance will be required to manage the impacts of climate change. In regards to the boardwalk proposal intermittent inundation would not be significantly detrimental to the proposed infrastructure.
Does the design take into account the inevitable rise in ocean level?	Key stakeholders have been involved in the initial discussions about heights etc. The plan is to have the boardwalk elevated enough to be above high tide but not too high that it requires handrails or impedes the view
Would like to see toilets at car park area near the Kayak launch with some BBQ's on the foreshore	Good point – suggestion will be included in the foreshore development review plan
Why not put a stage	One of the shields could be utilised for this?
Upgrade of Surf Club side could include a small playground	Noted. Can be considered as detailed design progresses
Do they plan on re laying the surface of the track which runs along the Eastern Beach Caravan Park	Yes, the intention is to provide an all abilities accessible walking circuit.
Enough infrastructure down there already	Noted.
What about a path to the actual entrance – only able people are capable of using it	LEADA has successfully obtained over \$150,000 of federal, local and philanthropic funding to upgrade the entrance trail including installation of interpretative and wayfinding signage, weed removal and revegetation through community working bees.
Too much empty space on the far Eastern side of town should have BBQ's, toilets maybe even a water park.	Noted. Can be considered as detailed design progresses
Very expensive project – would like to see other areas such as Kalimna Boardwalk to town and Jemmy's Point upgraded.	Jemmy's Point Lookout is currently being developed through Local and Federal funding. Funding proposal are being developed for the upgrade and improved safety of the Kalimna walk
The area in front of the houses should be replenished and left as a natural sandy area.	The proposal will allow for renourishment of the foreshore, however omitting the development of a boardwalk will not achieve the all abilities accessible outcome desired. The development of a boardwalk with further provide a defined pathway approximately 8-11mt from property boundaries ensuring a higher level of privacy, than encouraging uncontrolled pedestrian activity.

A need for additional seating along the way and basic shelter from sun and rain	Noted. Can be considered as detailed design progresses
Pathway needs to be accessible at various points for ambulance etc.	Noted. The proposed circuit can be accessed at from the second Eastern beach carpark and the Surf club
Need to define what transport can use the pathway (bicycles, scooters, electric carts, Segways etc)	Noted. Can be considered as detailed design progresses
While this is a great project, believe that the Entrance track is still the icon track and will continue to be very popular.	Noted. Upgrades are currently occurring on the Entrance trail. This proposal does not seek to replace the Entrance trail, it aims to provide an all abilities accessible cultural alternative.

3.5 Facebook Post – LEADA sharing Darren Chester’s Post

On July 18, 2020 LEADA shared Darren Chester’s ‘sneak peak’ post.

Once again the support for the development of this proposal was encouraging, with 9 ‘likes’, 1 ‘love’, and 1 negative comment.

The following table outlines the key comments and concerns raised through this consultation, it also serves to offer a response. It is important to note that whilst some comments / concerns have been raised, it does not necessarily indicate the support or lack thereof.

Key Comments / Concerns	Response
Looks ugly, Lakes does not need this.	Noted.
Tourist information is required on the surf club side	This will form part of the detailed design phase.
A fenced in playground near the surf club would be good.	Good point – suggestion will be considered in the detailed design phase.
Shade is required on the surf club side	Good point – suggestion will be considered in the detailed design phase.
Umbrella’s aren’t viable it is too windy	Good point – suggestion will be considered in the detailed design phase.

3.6 Facebook Post – TRFM Lakes Entrance boardwalk plan

23 July, 2020 TRFM highlighted ‘A great project’ being planned in that will link Lakes Entrance main beach and eastern beach with an Indigenous – themed raised boardwalk.

This post once again showed overwhelming community support for the proposal with 219 ‘likes’, 22 ‘loves’ and 14 positive comments.

Some of the positive comments received included:

‘Wonderful idea, how good will it be?’ ‘Woohoo another walk opportunity’, ‘looks wonderful’, ‘great concept’. ‘Oh looks so nice’. ‘It is quite a boardwalk, it’ll be an asset to our area, can’t wait’. ‘Looks amazing! Hope it gets the funding!’

In addition to the positive comments some key comments, suggestions have also been noted.

The following table outlines the key comments and concerns raised through this consultation; it also serves to offer a response. It is important to note that whilst some comments / concerns have been raised, it does not necessarily indicate the support or lack thereof.

Key Comments / Concerns	Response
Too much concrete needs to blend into the environment	The proposal is for a grid mesh boardwalk, along the southern side and across the 'missing link'
Need to provide a place to swim in Lakes	Funding is being sought to upgrade the Club Spit area near North Arm, this along with the improvement to the Surf Club Precinct will hopefully achieve this outcome for locals and visitors
More shade is required	Noted. Will be considered in the detailed design phase.
Should go out over the water near the footbridge and have an inflatable water park inside it.	Noted.

3.7 Facebook Post – LEADA shared TRFM Lakes Entrance boardwalk plan

On July 23, 2020 LEADA shared TRFM's post.

Once again the support for the development of this proposal was encouraging, with 5 'likes', 1 positive comment, and 1 negative comment.

The following table outlines the key comments and concerns raised through this consultation; it also serves to offer a response. It is important to note that whilst some comments / concerns have been raised, it does not necessarily indicate the support or lack thereof.

Key Comments / Concerns	Response
As a wheelchair user I would like to be able to get to the entrance, this circuit is not as important to me and seems an unnecessary expense.	Noted.
This is ugly, stop ruining this town	Noted.

3.8 Facebook Post / Lakes Post Media Release / LEADA Website – LEADA Request for Feedback

On September 8, 2020 LEADA officially released the Proposed Krauatunglung Walk concept design for feedback. As a result of this request twenty written submission were received. Of the twenty submissions received, seven fully supported the concept designs, two supported the concept with exclusion of the 'missing link', one submission whilst not directly stating their objection to the proposal offers a number other alternative projects to focus on, ten do not support the proposal at all, of the ten submissions against this proposal five of the submission were received from two residential addresses, and one was from a local representative group with a member base of approximately three members.

No comments were made on the Facebook post however two people 'liked' the proposal.

Details of the submissions have been captured below.

Positive comments received included:

'The proposal is an excellent idea'. 'Pedestrians walking past the aprons of tyre power, the service station, and boat repair is a safety risk for both businesses and pedestrians.' 'There is constant in and out reversing traffic from these businesses.' 'The walk down Middle Street to link back into the current foreshore walk does not have a path so pedestrians walk on the road. Extending the current

walk / linking the two sections of walk along the lake edge will eliminate these risks, and provide a seamless and scenic walking path linking Eastern Beach with the centre of town’.

‘Plan has great vision, probably one of the best so far’. ‘This proposal will be an asset to Lakes Entrance’. ‘Will provide a safer walking access and is a logical development for residents and tourists to enjoy the natural beauty of our town’. ‘Thank you for persisting with the great idea’.

‘Absolutely LOVE the Krauatunglung walk. I love the Aboriginal art and culture tied in’.

‘Fantastic proposal’. ‘Something Lakes Entrance badly needs’.

The following table outlines the key comments and concerns raised through this consultation; it also serves to offer a response. It is important to note that whilst some comments / concerns have been raised, it does not necessarily indicate the support or lack thereof.

Key Comments / Concerns	Response
Boardwalk is creating a devastating impact both physically and mentally.	Noted.
The Tataunglung nature walk should not include passing through our private backyard	There is a gazetted road in front of those properties and the foreshore is currently eroding away.
Wow what an eyesore – such an obtrusive structure for a very tranquil location	Noted.
Please don’t destroy the natural beauty of Lakes Entrance, we and others do not travel there to experience Gold Coast like facilities	Noted.
Have you honestly consulted with the residents of the ‘missing link’ section re noise and pollution outside their homes	Residents have been consulted and have effectively contributed to the final concept proposal.
This construction will be very damaging to the birdlife in the area.	The proposal will be subjected to relevant environmental impact studies.
Please consult with the locals and Gunaikurnai people more closely.	Representatives from GLaWAC, LEAHA and local elders have been consulted with and involved with this proposal since March 2019.
The residencies and holiday accommodation around Middle Street, Jetty Road and Short Street would be particularly affected, as they would be constantly overlooked by an overpass	The ‘overpass’ will be no higher than the existing jetties and will be 8-11mt from the property boundaries. The proposal further looks to address the eroding foreshore.
The huge cost of building this raised boardwalk and continual ongoing maintenance costs to the Shire, surely could be put to better use on other projects in the local area.	Noted. Every effort will be made to ensure the ongoing maintenance and any costs associated will be minimal.
We are all wondering why Mr Chester and his entourage are hell bent on destroying the eastern end of Cunningham Arm with his never ending boardwalk proposals.	The boardwalk proposal, particularly on the northern side of Cunningham Arm was identified as a high priority action in the Lakes Entrance Foreshore Management October 2012 prepared on behalf of the East Gippsland Shire Council and the Department of Sustainability and Environment.
Replenish the foreshore and allow pedestrian access.	The proposal will allow for renourishment of the foreshore, however omitting the development of a boardwalk will not achieve the all abilities accessible outcome desired. The development of a boardwalk with further provide a defined

	pathway approximately 8-11mt from property boundaries ensuring a higher level of privacy, than encouraging 'ad hoc' pedestrian activity.
Now a new name.	As a result of ongoing consultation with GLaWAC and the Aboriginal Advisory Committee established for this proposal, the working title 'Tatungalung Circuit' was reviewed and agreed that Krauatungalung Walk was more appropriate in recognising the Traditional owners.
Why should tax payers money be spent on a new project, when so many other projects around town would be more beneficial	Projects such as Jemmy's Point lookout, Lakes Entrance Streetscape Improvements and the Bullock Island Masterplan Implementation have already successfully obtained Federal, State and Local government funding. The particular funding programs on offer assist in determining the projects eligible for funding.
The walk down Kalimna Hill needs to be upgraded.	Funding is being sought for the upgrade and safety works associated with improving the Kalimna Hill walk.
Bullock Island needs to be completed.	Bullock Island Refreshed Master Plan is currently being implemented as a result of substantial funding from all levels of government.
Upgrade the Entrance Walk	LEADA has successfully obtained over \$150,000 of federal, local and philanthropic funding to upgrade the entrance trail including installation of interpretative and wayfinding signage, weed removal and revegetation through community working bees.
Jemmy's Point needs to be completed.	Jemmy's Point project is currently being developed. Additional funding is being sought.
The name is virtually unpronounceable	The name is in honour and recognition of our Traditional Land Owners. An interpretive sign explaining the pronunciation can be added to the walk.
The proposed circuit is located in a RAMSAR wetland	LEADA is aware of this classification and the relevant environmental requirements associated. An Environmental Consultant has been engaged to ensure environmental compliance. Following completion of the concept design the environmental studies can be finalised.
Who will be responsible for the on going maintenance of the boardwalk?	EGSC
Boardwalk is not a good idea due to the fragility of the ecosystem	Raised boardwalks will protect environmentally-sensitive areas currently impacted by uncontrolled foot traffic, and assist its regeneration, while elsewhere the boardwalk structure will be co-designed to limit the impact of erosion on private and public assets.
Does not meet the East Gippsland Shire Council Foreshore Management Plan	The proposal to construct the 'missing link' on the northern side of Cunninghame Arm is consistent and has been clearly identified in the Foreshore Management Plan

Why would you build the eastern link when the Council has already provided an all abilities path?	This proposal provides a safe accessible alternative to the existing pathway which requires pedestrians to cross several roads and commercial premises with undefined driveways.
Foreshore Management Plan proposes Cunningham Arm becomes a family recreational space, by creating sandy beaches – perhaps time to implement this. Improve swimming area	Federal funding is being sought to upgrade the Club Spit area near North Arm, this along with the improvement to the Surf Club Precinct will hopefully achieve this outcome for locals and visitors
The described project design was to preserve the water access for all community, including adjoining landowners, and that the design would not impede any water views. This has clearly not been achieved.	We believe the concept design we have developed maintains water access whilst providing improved all abilities access to the sand. The concept design includes an additional kayak launching ramps. The maximum height of the boardwalk will not exceed the height of the existing jetties.
Detailed estimated Engineering and construction costs have not been provided.	The project is at the concept design phase, as such detailed engineering and construction costs have not been obtained.
Estimated costs started at \$5M, went to \$8.5M and then finishing off at \$6.5M	The concept design process has reviewed a number of options, each option has resulted in alternative costs. The final concept design offered for public consultation has been estimated at \$6.5M
Has DELWP, Coastal Management Board, Gippsland Ports been advised of this project?	Key stakeholders have been engaged with this process since October 2019.
There is no Environmental Effects statement tendered with the concept.	Following completion of the consultation process, confirmation of the alignment will be provided to the Environmental consultant to ensure the environmental impact studies are accurate.
Understanding of the local Indigenous community, a more sensitive approach to communicating its history and culture would be to incorporate information at relevant sites throughout the town and local area.	Local Indigenous elders and organisations have been intimately involved with this proposal. There has been a number of relevant sites identified around the proposed circuit.
If track is deemed essential, it should maintain access to the sand and lake. This could be done with the entire section of the walkway sitting at sand level. Does it really matter if it goes under	The final concept design has maintained access to the sand and the lake. The proposal is to provide for some foreshore renourishment. Agree, it doesn't matter if the boardwalk occasionally becomes inundated.
I don't believe this is a good use of the public purse.	Noted.
Foreshore playground is unnecessary	Noted.
The walkway section at Eastern Beach looks to big and dominates the landscape.	Noted.
The south east section continues to Lions Park	The concept does continue to Lions Park. However to access the park you will need to leave the 'circuit' and cross the road.
The boardwalk should have points where you can get on or off.	Agreed. There are several entry and exit point throughout the proposal.
Similar walk or even drive pathway from surf beach to entrance and back would be great.	Noted

Include a small kayak / canoe launching area would be good.	An additional kayak / canoe launching ramp has been located at the Eastern Hwy carpark opposite the Lakes Entrance Backpackers.
Would be great to have a "grand opening" with local Elders giving a speech about the area	Agreed.

3.9 Facebook Post – Darren Chester (Private) Response to Lakes Post Newspaper Feature

In response to a one sided article which is highly critical of the proposed 'Krautungalung Walk' Darren Chester posted on his social media profile clarifying some additional facts to balance out the conversation.

The post directly asked: 'What do you think? Is this a good project for Lakes Entrance? Would you use a new circuit if it was built?'

The support was overwhelmingly positive, with 152 likes, 16 loves, 53 positive comments, 1 comment providing partial support and 2 comments against the proposal.

Some positive comments received include:

'Would love to see it complete'. 'Anything that shines a light on the traditional owners of our land is a massive need, and any investment the local economy can get from State and Federal governments should be supported'. 'It's a great idea', 'excellent idea', 'magnificent asset for Lakes'. 'Looks like a fantastic plan'. 'Definitely use it'. 'So in favour of this'.

'There is usually a meal of some type at the end of the walk to contribute to the local economy'. 'Agreed, missing link into town and would value add to the stop over and things to do'. 'Top idea'. 'The privacy issues got me, its no different to people walking past peoples places along the street'. 'Would benefit the whole community in various ways for generations to come'. 'Has the potential to become one of the best Park Runs in Australia'.

'We need to be doing more to add to tourism in the area, and this ticks all the boxes'. 'Absolutely brilliant concept'. 'Great use of public land. Everyone gets to enjoy'.

'Great idea for all to use especially if you have family in wheelchairs'. 'Would be much better to be joining up and not having to cut through a court and go out onto the highway with four kids'. 'Needs to happen'. 'Love the Indigenous education part'. 'Am frustrated at being forced out through the road network to go around a group of houses, especially as I have always known the foreshore is not private property'.

'An excellent inclusive concept including access for all, state/commonwealth funding, indigenous involvement and remedial works for those adjacent land owners'.

'As our infrastructure improves so will the tourist numbers'.

The following table outlines the key comments and concerns raised through this consultation; it also serves to offer a response. It is important to note that whilst some comments / concerns have been raised, it does not necessarily indicate the support or lack thereof.

Key Comments / Concerns	Response
Don't agree with the concept	Noted.
That amount of money, public money could and should better spent on aspects of the town	Noted.

Upgrade the Entrance walk	LEADA has successfully obtained over \$150,000 of federal, local and philanthropic funding to upgrade the entrance trail including installation of interpretative and wayfinding signage, weed removal and revegetation through community working bees.
The Entrance walk could be a circular walk with a view of the town one way and return with an elevated view over the ocean	
The area up the end near Jetty Road is beautiful and should be left as is for kids to have a safe area to paddle and watch wildlife.	The sandy beach and water access will be maintained, thus allowing children to continue to enjoy the area
Fear for the wildlife on the south side	The proposal is subject to stringent environmental approvals and conditions, which will aid in the protection and education of the environment and wildlife.

4.0 CONCLUSION

The valuable feedback obtained from adjoining landowners and the wider community has helped shape and develop a wonderful opportunity to enhance the liveability and visitor experience of Lakes Entrance.

Whilst social media feedback may not be a scientific approach to quantifying community support for a proposal, it appears to receive the most engagement than the more traditional formal approaches. The data obtained shows an overwhelming 97.87% of active feedback displaying a very clear and strong level of support for this proposal, with 1.68% objecting to the proposal.

The feedback has also highlighted the communities desire to upgrade and improve a number of other key tourist attractions such as, Jemmy's Point and Kalimna Hill walk.

The proposal has received a number of clear objections primarily from adjoining landowners with a limited number coming from the wider community. These comments have been noted and every effort has been made to ensure the issues raised are addressed effectively to ensure the proposal achieves a good outcome for the nearby residents as well as the wider community.