

Public Question Time – answers to questions taken on notice*

Questions from Geoffrey Love

- Q1: In relation to coastal flooding, how many of the 32 recommended one way valves are to be installed in Elwood Canal and what consideration is being given to the mouth of the canal?
- Q2: When can a 'coastal hazards vulnerability assessment plan' be expected to be developed?

Response

Thank you for your questions at the Council Meeting on 18 July.

Regarding the installation of valves in Elwood Canal, Council has undertaken an assessment of the outlets along the canal. In order to retrofit the traditional 'duck bill' valves would require reinforcement of the canal wall, which is considered cost prohibitive.

As an alternative, Council is trialling a new one-way valve, the 'checkmate', which is installed inside the stormwater pipe and will be much less visible. For the trial, Council Officers have selected the most at-risk outlet near the Barkly Street crossing. This is currently being installed and will be trialled for a period of 6 months. If the trial is successful, we will roll out further valves to outlets which have the greatest potential for preventing saltwater intrusion up the stormwater system. If you have any further questions about these valves and the work program, please contact Martin Wong at martin.wong@portphillip.vic.gov.au.

Regarding the Coastal Hazard Assessment, this is due to be completed by mid-2020. The Department of Land Water and Planning are leading this process. A representative from the City of Port Phillip sits on the project control board and will be ensuring that the results can be used by Council to inform management of our coastline.

This Hazard Assessment will identify key assets of importance around Port Phillip Bay, address relevant data and information gaps and then use technical specialist modelling to provide climate change related inundation and erosion information. It is intended that the information will inform planning decisions and actions that relate to protection of vulnerable high value coastal assets.

**Please note: answers to any questions in Public Question Time which were answered at the meeting are included in the minutes of that meeting.*