

22 March 2023

ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting 7

Details

Location: Southern Cross University, Lismore Campus, Boardroom Lis-A 3.03

Date/time: Wednesday, 22 March 2023, 9:00am – 12:00pm

Advisory Board in attendance:

- Chairperson: Rebecca Fox, Secretary, Department of Regional NSW
- Sharon Cadwallader, Chair, Northern Rivers Joint Organisation
- Michael Cassel, Secretary, NSW Department of Planning & Environment (via Zoom)
- Peter Duncan AM, Commissioner & Deputy Chair, NSW Independent Planning Commission (via Zoom)
- Andrew Hall, CEO, Insurance Council of Australia
- Jane Laverty, Regional Director, Northern Rivers Business NSW
- Mike Rayner, Former General Manager, Tweed Shire Council, technical expert, Tweed community member

Guests:

- Simon Draper, CEO, NSW Reconstruction Authority
- Andrew Hegedus, A/Executive Chair, North Coast Aboriginal Development Alliance (via Zoom)
- Jamie Simmonds, Water Technology

Apology:

- Darren Kershaw, Executive Chair, North Coast Aboriginal Development Alliance

NRRC staff:

- David Witherdin, Chief Executive
 - Kea Lambert, Project Officer Board Support
 - Kieron Hendicott, Executive Director, Strategy, Planning & Development
 - Gareth James, Executive Director, Program Delivery
 - Kristie Clarke, Director Housing
 - Rowan Howarth, Director, Infrastructure Coordination Office
 - Hala Hubraq, Director Resilience & Adaptation
 - Craig Jenkins, Director Industry, Economic Recovery & Aboriginal Engagement
 - Alex Platt, Director Business Operations, Governance & Performance
 - Gary Randall, Associate Director Program Coordination, Infrastructure Coordination Office
 - Emily Holborow, Manager Communications and Stakeholder Engagement
 - Emily Kearns, Manager Program Delivery & Optimisation
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Introduction

- The NRRC Advisory Board met on 22 March 2023. Apologies were received from Darren Kershaw.
- An Acknowledgement of Country was performed by the Chair.
- Board members attended a tour of the Living Lab Northern Rivers the night before. The Board acknowledged and commended the work of this collaboration with Southern Cross University and UTS.

Infrastructure Coordination Office (ICO) update and strategic roadmap

- A recap of ICO achievements to date was provided, including development of the ICO Working Group, compiling the \$6.4 billion infrastructure pipeline, commissioning the 6,000km Road Condition Assessment Program and progressing delivery of the \$145 million Water and Wastewater Program.
- The ICO Strategic Roadmap was presented and comprises 4 themes: program coordination and delivery; program optimisation; data coordination; and program engagement.

NRRC Master Program

- The NRRC Master Program was presented to the Board, showing overall progress to date and forward milestones across each key NRRC program, grouped by: All Hazards Risk Assessment; Critical Infrastructure; Resilient Housing and Economic Recovery.
- The Board noted it was critical that forward milestones and progress under NRRC workstreams and programs was proactively communicated to community and key stakeholders.

NSW Reconstruction Authority (NSWRA) update

- Simon Draper, CEO of the NSWRA, provided an update on stand up and mobilisation of the NSWRA, recent work and key priorities.

Resilient Homes Program: Deep dive including offer case studies

- An update on the Resilient Homes Program was delivered to the Board, including presentation of the Resilient Homes Fund dashboard. The dashboard is updated fortnightly to show program progress and is published on the NRRC website.
- As of 16 March 2023, 5,901 program registrations have been received, 155 valuations undertaken, and 27 letters of offer have been issued.
- Two homeowner case studies were outlined to the Board.

Resilient Lands Program update

- Progress on the Resilient Lands Program was presented to the Board.
- Shortlisted sites are under consideration by an expert panel as part of Stage 2 of the Land Suitability Assessment, and a Resilient Land Community Reference Group has been established.

Northern Rivers Resilience Initiative (NRRI) update

- An update was provided on the NRRI. This update included progress under Phase 1 of the NRRI to deliver \$150 million in projects across two tranches.
- The Board was also provided an update on next steps in the detailed hydrological/hydrodynamic modelling under Phase 2 of the NRRI.

Connecting with Country Framework

- NRRC's approach to develop a Connecting with Country Framework for all NRRC workstreams was outlined to the Board. It was discussed and noted that embedding Aboriginal cultural knowledge, practice and safety is critical to the work of the NRRC.