Expansion of the Exmouth Harbour

Public Forum
10th & 11th June 2008
Exmouth Recreation Centre
6.30pm - 8.30pm

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Project Overview
- The Department for Planning and Infrastructure has responsibility for Exmouth Boat Harbour.
- The operational focus of the harbour is changing and there are a number of key factors influencing its future.
- Exmouth Boat Harbour is operating at full capacity and demand for harbour berthing facilities remains at a level that cannot be met. A separate project is underway to consider the need for expansion for recreational uses in the existing harbour.
- Expressions of interest received from offshore and tourism industries for the self funded expansion of the Exmouth Boat Harbour within the harbour reserve.

Project Objective
- To engage stakeholders and the Exmouth community in a consultation process to assess the opportunity for a potential expansion of the Exmouth Boat Harbour.

Study Area
- The study area for this expansion (shown below) is the extent of the harbour reserve that is managed by DPI.
Steering Committee

- Hon Vince Catania MP (Chairperson) - Member for Mining and Pastoral Region
- Hon Bob Kucera MLA - Member for Yokine
- Mr Phil Anastasakis - Shire of Exmouth
- Mrs Ronnie Fleay - Shire of Exmouth
- Mr Stephen Yule - Gascoyne Development Commission
- Mr Barry Sullivan - Exmouth Chamber of Commerce
- Mr Glenn Musto - Department for Planning and Infrastructure
- Mr Peter McNally - LandCorp
- Mr Peter Sewell - Main Roads WA
- Mr Steve Jenkins - Department for Planning and Infrastructure
- Mr Nich Grundy - Department for Planning and Infrastructure

Drivers for Change

- Limited vessel size capacity of the existing harbour
- Substantial growth in large charter and deep sea sport fishing vessels serving a growing tourism market at Ningaloo Reef.
- Demand for access to additional harbour facilities in the North West servicing extensive growth in the offshore oil and gas industries
- Ningaloo reef’s emergence as a new and attractive destination for Super Yachts and Cruise Ships.

Drivers for change - Growth in charter and maxi sized cruising vessels:

Tourism:
- Recently opened resort at the harbour has resulted in requests for new pens to accommodate larger charter and deep sea sport fishing vessels ranging from 20-30m.

Super Yacht base:
- Ningaloo reef is a new and attractive destination for super yachts.
- Contributing to the local economy - services, tourism, fuel, food, etc.

Maxi-sized cruising vessels
Offshore oil and gas:

- Australia provides 9 per cent of the world production of LNG gas of 82 million tonnes;
- Forecast is for this to double by 2010;
- By early next decade there should be five floating processing, storage and off take vessels working off the North West Cape in the Exmouth Sub Basin.
- The value of oil and gas production to Woodside operating in the North-West Shelf during 2007 was $431M.

Drivers for change

Offshore Oil and Gas - Maritime Infrastructure Requirements:

- Hardstand, slip and storage facilities
- Mooring and lay down facilities
Offshore Oil and Gas – Work Vessels

Drivers for change – Destination for cruise ships

- Growth in the number of cruise ships visits to port.
- Contributing to the local economy - tourism, services, food, etc.
- Current arrangements limited by seasonal conditions.
- Potential for small to medium size vessels to berth.

Expression of Interest (EOI) Process to Date

- DPI does not have any set ideas for the design and functionality of future infrastructure.
- If provided new infrastructure will operate on a common user basis with land and water facilities available to any vessels or companies without prejudice.

Future Expansion

- Must offer a mix of uses:
  - Tourism - charter boats, super yachts and cruise ships
  - Offshore oil and gas - support vessels, rig tenders.
  - Commercial - chandlery, offices, marine services.
  - Recreational - berthing for large cruising vessels and yachts
- Privately funded
- Offering some access to the public - viewing areas, seating, fishing, paths, walking, cycling.

Criteria for Assessing EOI's

- Demonstrate an understanding of the operational and project issues related to the development
- Evidence of financial capacity and proven suitable marine experience to produce the detailed proposal
- Demonstrate development, management and commercial marine industry expertise available to the applicant

Many enquiries received from companies wanting to access the harbour for a range of purposes.
- The harbour could not accommodate the number and size of the vessels sought.
- DPI invited Expressions of Interest (EOI's)
Why Exmouth?

- Expansion complements existing infrastructure and facilities.
- Capacity exists within the existing harbour reserve.
- Ideally located to service the north west offshore industry.
- Protection offered by the waters of the Exmouth Gulf.
- The harbour already houses a small number of vessels servicing the offshore oil and gas industry.

What's in it for the people of Exmouth?

- Economic growth and stronger commercial base.
- Business and (year round) employment opportunities.
- Diversification of local industry.
- Attracting investment to the area.
- Offers strong and viable industry links.
- Improved public amenity.
- Potential for expanded community infrastructure.
- Improved boating amenity and diversity.
- Key element of planned and sustainable growth - complementing the Exmouth Structure Plan.
- Improved harbour facilities.

Timeline & Next Steps

- Steering Committee Established: Feb 08
- Steering Committee Mtg & Develop Consultation Strategy/Discussion Paper: April 08
- Ministerial Decision
- Develop Report and recommendations to Minister: July/Aug 08
- Information Sessions & Registrations for Forums: May 08
- Stakeholder Debriefs: April/May 08
- Minister Media Release & Community awareness raising: Apr/May 08
- Community Forum/s: June 08
- EMC Approval for Project: Dec 07
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