

The City of Stirling is developing a comprehensive Coastal Hazard Mitigation Strategy that will outline how the City will manage coastal erosion, now and into the future.

What is coastal erosion?

Coastal erosion is the loss of coastal land due to the net removal of sediments or bedrock from the shoreline.

There are two types of coastal erosion:

- Rapid-onset hazard (occurs very quickly, a period of days to weeks)
- Slow-onset hazard (occurring over years, or possibly decades to centuries).

Why does the City need a coastal hazard mitigation strategy?

The City's coastline has been subject to both types of coastal erosion. Slow onset due to climate change and rising sea levels and rapid onset due to severe weather events.

What informed the strategy?

Following a series of storms in 2009 that significantly impacted coastal infrastructure at Watermans Bay, the City commissioned a 'Strategic Coastal Processes Study.' This study allowed the City to better understand the coastal processes, determine which areas of our coastline were most at risk and identify what those risks were.

Which areas are at risk?

Watermans Bay

Infrastructure at Watermans Bay was heavily impacted by erosion after the 2009 storms. In order to restore and reinforce the affected sand dunes, which support change rooms and a section of the coastal shared path, the City constructed a Geotextile 'sandbag wall.' While this was very successful and the area is not of immediate concern, a long term solution will be needed in the next 10 years.

Mettams Pool

Mettams Pool has also experienced significant sand loss and dune erosion. This has not only impacted beach access ways but placed infrastructure, such as the changing rooms and shared path, at significant risk. As a result, the City has initiated the Mettams Pool Coastal Erosion Project.

What is Mettams Pool Coastal Erosion Project?

The City is working with the community to investigate engineering options that address ongoing coastal erosion at Mettams Pool.

To do this, the City is seeking feedback from the community on what they value about Mettams Pool, which will inform a series of concept designs which will be presented for consideration.

From there, a report will be prepared for Council including the preferred solution and estimate of project costs. Until that process has been completed no construction works will be undertaken.