

Boat Owners Association of NSW - Member Alert

Boating Infrastructure on Lake Macquarie is Under Threat

Boating infrastructure at Toronto on Lake Macquarie is under threat now that the Lake Macquarie Council has made public its draft waterfront reserve master plan.

Toronto has long been a popular boating destination and an active boating centre on Lake Macquarie, but important boating facilities are set to disappear.

The Wharf Street boat ramp will be removed and the Bath Street boat ramp at the Royal Motor Yacht Club will be rendered inoperative. The recently reconstructed boat ramp at the Lions Park will remain a white elephant because of a lack of water depth.

Although the Toronto Amateur Sailing Club's facilities, which also support Sailability's operation, will survive under the master plan, the RMYC is being squeezed out.

The Council's own plans to develop its land on Bath Street, for many years an informal car park, and a proposed commercial and residential development adjacent to the RMYC will generate new parking pressures. The Club's operations will then be confined to its 35 on-site parking spaces, insufficient to support the its club operation and its 50 berth marina, let alone meet the Council's regulatory parking requirements. No provision has been made for parking for the Bath Street boat ramp.

Under the Council's master plan there will be no usable public boat ramps within 5 or 6 km of Toronto.

The closest ramps will be the gravel ramp on Bolton Point that has no facilities and a ramp at Coal Point which is dangerous in common southerly weather. The congested ramp at Marmong Point and ramps at Rathmines are 10km away.

Community boating and boating safety on Lake Macquarie are losers under the Council's draft Toronto waterfront master plan. Make your views known asap:

to the Council email council@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

and to the BOA admin@boatowners.org.au

The draft Toronto waterfront master plan can be found on the Council's web site:

shape.lakemac.com.au *Creating a Place for People in Toronto*

The public comment period is due to close on 18 December 2020. However, the BOA has asked the Council to extend the closure until late January 2021.