

3 September 2018

Dr Catherine Dale
General Manager
Eurobodalla Shire Council
PO Box 99
MORUYA NSW 2537

Ref: E18.1259.PS

**SUBMISSION - DRAFT COMPANION ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (CAMP) 2018
AND DOG EXERCISE AREAS**

Dear Dr Dale

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Council's updated draft CAMP, on behalf of the Committee and members of the Rosedale Association Inc (RAI). Overall, RAI welcomes Council's updated draft, particularly its attention to:

- Providing an Amber 'time share *on or off* leash' option for dog access and exercise areas;
- Reviewing signage to send clear and consistent messages and eliminate confusion about the rules and dog access areas;
- Increasing visibility of Rangers to enforce the rules; and
- Putting more effort into informing and educating dog owners on their responsibilities.

We do, however, object to the current proposal to totally ban dogs from the northern end of Rosedale Beach (locally known as Boatshed Beach).

As Council is aware, proposed dog access amendments have caused significant angst in our community. There are long-standing traditions of generations of Rosedale families and their dogs enjoying long walks along the beaches between north and south Rosedale, around the headland and through bushland to Guerilla Bay. We have never had a situation where any members of our community have been subjected to a total ban from accessing any part of the beach, so it is understandable that Rosedale dog owners are upset. Comments to our Committee on the updated draft CAMP continue to indicate a high level of concern, particularly regarding the "unnecessary and discriminatory" blanket restriction imposed on dog owners who wish to exercise their dogs on the full length of Rosedale Beach. The proposed introduction of a Red Zone (dogs prohibited) area for Rosedale Beach also attracted strong opposition in survey responses and submissions, when the previous draft CAMP was put on Public Exhibition.

RAI seeks to protect our amenity and traditions and make it easier for people to access the natural environment and enjoy the benefits of open space within the Rosedale precinct. We, therefore, recommend that Council zones the entire length of Rosedale Beach as Amber. This will eliminate confusion, as the entire beach will be subject to the timeshare arrangements that apply to the Amber zoning. Dog owners could then continue to walk their dogs on and across Boatshed Beach to access other zones, in accordance with the timeshare arrangements. An alternative option would be for Council to apply an 'on leash' walk-through zone for Boatshed Beach to allow people to traverse the beach with their dogs to access other zones. Several members have also called for the time-share period to be reduced to 1 December to the end of February each year. This would mean that beach goers could expect to enjoy a dog-free environment along the entire Rosedale Beach, from 9 am to 5 pm over summer, with the beach available to everyone to access outside of the busy summer holiday period.

I have also had several telephone and email communications with Council over the past few weeks regarding the confusing wording of the draft CAMP, in relation to dog access arrangements in intertidal zones within the Batemans Marine Park. I understand from Council (*ref. phone discussion 30 August 2018*) that this is being addressed. I also note Council's phone advice of the same date regarding dog access at Nuns Beach and Tranquil Bay within the Rosedale precinct, where dogs will be allowed 'on leash' 24 hours a day.

RAI again thanks Council for the opportunity to comment on the updated draft CAMP. We will inform our members in due course of the finalised CAMP, clearly setting out the dog access rules that apply at Rosedale and the responsibilities of dog owners.

Please note, RAI has made no political donations or gifts that would require a disclosure under Section 147 (5) and (6) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Boardman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Boardman

President

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