



Media release

Mayor: Jim Simmons
General Manager: Ashley Lindsay

LOCKED BAG 23 GRAFTON NSW 2460
Telephone: (02) 6643 0200
Fax: (02) 6642 7647

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ulmarra plans for life after the highway

PLANNING is underway for the future of Ulmarra once the village is bypassed by the highway – and it's the residents in the driving seat.

More than 50 members of the Ulmarra community attended an action planning workshop on Monday, hosted by Clarence Valley Council, to forge a master plan for the village once the highway moves inland.

The meeting was a follow-up to a community conversation held last month where residents brainstormed ideas to ensure the sustainability of their village, including its businesses.

Clarence Valley Council's economic development coordinator, Liz Fairweather, said the high attendance at the meetings highlighted the community's desire to be in the driving seat to plan for the future of their village.

At Monday's meeting, residents prioritised their ideas into three categories: instant wins, great ideas with barriers, and projects that could maybe happen someday.

The instant wins were ideas that were already planned for the village, or could happen soon, including heritage signage, upgraded footpaths, new toilets, a new playground, signage on the new highway promoting Ulmarra and, the expansion of jetty facilities.

A number of the 'instant win' ideas were already incorporated into the proposed upgrade of Bailey Park and the concept plans were on display at the meeting for feedback from residents.

Council will now compile the feedback from the meeting and present action plans to the community in a few weeks.

"Some of the action plans will be council driven, while others will be driven by the community, with assistance from council," Mrs Fairweather said.

"The community can then comment on the action plans, or add more, and then we will meet again so we can keep driving the project forward."

There was also a discussion at the meeting to form an Ulmarra progress association to investigate and drive some of the ideas that had barriers.

Councillors Greg Clancy and Andrew Baker, council general manager, Ashley Lindsay, Member for Clarence, Chris Gulaptis, and representatives from RMS also attended the meeting.



Photo caption: Ulmarra residents ranking their ideas for the future of the village.

Release ends.

For media inquiries contact Clarence Valley Council communications coordinator, David Bancroft, on 6643 0230 or 0429 104 118.