

Catherine Hill Bay Jetty Community Consultation Outcomes

Consultation Undertaken

- Engagement was undertaken between **3 September and 31 October 2025** with the local Catherine Hill Bay and broader Lake Macquarie community to inform stakeholders and the community of the outcome of a structural engineering report highlighting the risk to public safety posed by the jetty and to gather feedback prior to the commencement of a formal planning process to address the safety risk.
- Consultation activities & community input:
 - **Direct notification to 525 households** in Catherine Hill Bay via letterbox drop.
 - **Direct outreach to 17 stakeholder organisations and individuals** , including local council, community groups, environmental and recreational organisations, businesses, landowners and developer interests.
 - **Formal meetings with 7 key stakeholder groups** , with an additional meeting held with a developer group.
 - **Two community information sessions** , attended by approximately **60 unique community members**.
 - A public survey completed by **224 respondents** , with **57% residing in Catherine Hill Bay** .
 - **Three formal written submissions** from a resident, a community association and Lake Macquarie City Council.
 - Online engagement through the NSW Government Have Your Say website, which received **931 unique visitors** .
 - Supporting local media coverage across radio, print and television.

Key Stakeholder and Community Feedback

Feedback was broadly consistent across all engagement channels.

- Key themes included:
 - **Strong recognition of the jetty's heritage, cultural and landmark value**
 - Widespread acknowledgement that the jetty is in **poor condition and presents a public safety risk**.
 - A clear preference from most stakeholders and community participants for **retention or partial retention** of the jetty, rather than full removal.

- Strong concern regarding **potential environmental impacts** , particularly on the marine ecosystem and artificial reef around the pylons.
- High levels of support for **commemoration of the jetty** , including reuse of salvaged materials, heritage interpretation, public art, or integration with existing and planned walking tracks.
- Some support for **full removal** on safety grounds.

Quantitative analysis

- **81% of survey respondents** supported retaining or restoring the jetty in some form.
- **93% of survey respondents** agreed the jetty should be commemorated.

Next Steps

- Expert **engineers BG&E** have been engaged to investigate the jetty pylons to **assess the feasibility of leaving some pylons** in situ.
- Findings from the engineering report will be presented to the community at an in person information session scheduled for July/August.
- **184** people are subscribed to receive quarterly project updates via email.