

Timeline re Closure of Eastern Rd

Timing	Activity	Comments
1988	BSC Engineer declares LA in trouble	lake overloaded, action needed
1996	Manly Hydrological Lab completes a scientific study of Lake Ainsworth – <i>Lake Ainsworth Process Study</i>	highlights that the lake has a very small catchment and no through flow, integrity of coastal dunes critical to freshwater nature of lake.
2001	<i>Lake Ainsworth Management Study</i> completed by consultants	uses Processes report and public consultation to draft a range of possible management options and suggest priorities. First mention that proximity of the road to the lake is a concern and also that ‘people load’ on foreshores needs to be reduced
2002	<i>Independent Inquiry Into Coastal Lakes</i> investigates 95 NSW lakes and reports on their condition	LA in lowest category for environmental and public health water quality due to “extreme natural sensitivity, a modified catchment condition, a severely affected lake condition, a low recognised ecosystem and resource conservation status”. In addition, nutrient enrichment had reached “an extreme level”
2002	BSC adopts <i>Lake Ainsworth Management Plan</i> following usual BSC consultation procedures plus recommendations from a committee comprising stakeholders such as S&R, Caravan Park, BSC, Residents’ Association, BES	Key actions: close 4WD access from eastern road realign road towards dunes and away from lake edge move power lines along road corridor underground close southern road and open new road around Caravan park for western access

2005	<p><i>Lake Ainsworth Master Plan</i> report is completed, following consultation with 19 stakeholder groups representing local and statutory gov't. bodies, business & industry, residents/property owners, caravan park users, community associations, environmental groups, sporting/recreational groups.</p> <p>In addition 2 public meetings held: firstly to ID community concerns and then to provide feedback on the proposed draft. The process was aided with 2 newsletters distributed to all households outlining the process and providing contact details for both the consultants and BSC staff. In addition to usual consultation BSC exhibits from 11th Nov 2005 until Jan 13th 2006 in part to allow 28 days for locals before holidays and then time in holidays so CP users able to participate. Submissions until 13th Jan 2007.</p> <p>Display in Ballina St with BSC staff to answer questions. Draft finalised after second public consultation</p>	<p>BSC puts on public exhibition with preferred option 3 – close eastern road, use existing southern road with modifications for western access, return NE corner of caravan park to public use for open space and small car park provide compensatory car parking to 2005 levels.</p>
2006	4WD access to beach is moved away from eastern road	
2006/2007	<p>BSC puts <i>Lake Ainsworth Master Plan</i> on public exhibition with preferred Option 2 after Crown Lands declines to approve option 3.</p> <p>BSC calls public meeting.. Allows wide range of self nominated speakers. Note main public opposition is regarding LACP border readjustment, road reserve and parking. BSC confirms adoption of Option 2 at close of meeting in presence of public attendees.</p>	
2007	Crown Lands approves Master Plan Option 2	<p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> close east Rd as in all three road options. close south road and use road reserve through LACP as western access (Option 2). provide compensatory parking by; i) formalising existing LA parking ii) formalising Ross St parking nose-in iii) using portion of land resumed from LACP north east corner, and iv) extending surf club public parking.
2010	<p>Crown Lands confirms Option 2 including of closure of east road as its preferred option. Crown Lands funds & BSC builds compensatory parking in LACP 'resigned' land (NE corner) and surf club car park (as trade off for BSC resigning as LACP Trust Manager)</p>	Note: last two of these have been completed
2013	BSC moves LH Community Markets from eastern road in preparation for closure of the road	(following trials of potential sites)

2013	BSC engages Complete Urban to (among other things) “prepare concept plans for the work detailed in the Master Plan for the area on the eastern side of Lake Ainsworth”	
2014	<i>Complete Urban</i> report released following no public consultation re road options	recommends that eastern road be used predominantly for access to S&R with other traffic either prevented from entering at all or prevented from parking.
2014	In addition to usual BSC consultation procedures: BSC staff explain LA SE Precinct plans to ordinary meeting of LHRA LHRA advertises community info stalls re the options for the SE LA Precinct following the Complete Urban report LHRA holds community info stalls at IGA, Lake Ainsworth and the LH Community Markets, with support from Council staff	The options presented at these information sessions, and by BSC, included the Complete Urban proposal and Option 2 from the Master Plan.
Dec 2014	Following receipt of community submissions, BSC resolve to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reaffirm closure of eastern road and conversion to public open space • compensate lost parking 1:1 as much as possible • support underground placement of power lines along the eastern road corridor • commence negotiations with Crown Lands re use of the road reserve thro the caravan park should the southern road be closed at a later date 	Over 60 submissions were received by BSC of which a significant majority supported closure of the eastern road to all except service and emergency vehicles
Mar 2015	BSC Reserve Trust reaffirms decision to close eastern road and authorises staff to investigate Crown Lands’ position on replacing the road easement thro the caravan park with access via the western edge of the caravan park.	
July 2015	Plans for the Lake Ainsworth SE Precinct published in Community Connect	
Oct/Nov/Dec 2015	Further compensatory parking constructed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • extension to car park next to caravan park • Ross St BSC defers closure of eastern road until after the summer holiday period.	