



3 December 2020

Mr P Crozier
Engineering Works
Ballina Shire Council
paulc@ballina.nsw.gov.au

Dear Paul

Following on from our call today regarding the impact of the Carrs Bridge replacement project rescheduled to commence work on 6 January 2021 for six weeks (17 February 2021) on the basis the project is delivered on time. This revised start date timetable is really problematic for our business – we are peak season in a post Covid 19 recovery – we cannot afford any additional new and unforeseen business obstacle at this time.

We understand the challenges for Council managing the three key stakeholders – local school, cane farmers and Ballina Beach Village and that no solution is perfect. Equally, we cannot afford to take the brunt of this logistic and economic pain.

On the basis that the project starts on 6 January 2021, we ask that Ballina Council waives the ferry fees – both ways – for all our guests with valid accommodation bookings for the duration of the project. We will need to alter / expand our booking confirmation documentation to cover the ferry – but this is doable. We also ask that access to the emergency vehicle slipway be granted to vehicles and vans that are unable to access the ferry – due to tidal jack – knifing.

In a moment of reflection, had the project commenced at its planned date of June through July 2020 – we had a Covid imposed occupancy of 5-8% and the Ferry was Covid tariff free for all.

As you will appreciate failure to agree this proposal will put our business under real and unfair duress. The actual impact and potential online / social channel trolling is not an operating issue we want to confront at this time.

We would ask for the Councils response to the above in the next week so that the changes can be operationalised.

Yours sincerely,

Stuart Roberts
Owner
0459346362

440 South Ballina Rd, South Ballina NSW 2478
Phone 02 6686 3347