

Question on Notice

No. 553

Asked on Wednesday, 25 May 2022

MR N DAMETTO ASKED THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF AND MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND YOUTH AFFAIRS (HON M SCANLON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the financial year being approximately one month away and the lack of a progress report on the Wallaman Falls Visitor Facilities Upgrades project that was allocated \$600,000 in 2021-22 budget out of \$2m total spend—

Will the Minister provide an update on the consultation phase of this project and a copy of any revised plans that have been submitted to the department?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

I am advised that the design and consultation phase of this project is progressing. On 21 May 2022, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service officers met with board members of the newly formed Warrgamay Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation at Wallaman Falls to discuss concept plans for the project.

The Warrgamay People's rights were formally recognised under native title on 18 August 2021. The Warrgamay people hold native title over sections of the Girringun National Park, including Wallaman Falls.

The Warrgamay people have advised that Wallaman Falls is a very significant cultural site. Warrgamay Traditional Owners who attended the site visit have requested further information prior to providing cultural advice.

Warrgamay Traditional Owners are committed to working with the Department of Environment and Science to achieve a positive outcome for the upgrade of this regionally significant visitor destination.

The considered input of the Warrgamay people will enhance the visitor experience for this iconic site, providing cultural heritage information and contributing artwork for interpretive signage.

The draft concept plan will be subject to further discussion with the Warrgamay people.