

Regarding the Heliport Development Proposed by Morris Aviation in Port Street

To whom it may concern,

We are formally writing you this letter in regards to the proposed Heliport development on Port Street.

We are business owners and operators in the Douglas Shire and the proposed Heliport development has sparked some questions regarding the affects it could possibly have on our operations.

Our business, Lady Douglas River Cruise has been operating in the Shire for over 30 years and we pride ourselves on spotting local wildlife on more than 95% of our tours. The Heliport is being proposed to be implemented on our route of operations and is suggesting that a minimum of 20 flights a day will take place. If the Heliport goes ahead, it will be a constant disturbance to the waters and winds within and surrounding Dickson Inlet disturbing crocodiles, marine life and birds resulting in a lack of experience for guests onboard Lady Douglas.

In the same location that this Heliport is being proposed, there have also been previous proposals for a multi-lane boat ramp to be implemented and an alternative location for a Port Douglas Marine Shipyard. A Port Douglas Marine Shipyard is vital to all of the local commercial operators located in the Port Douglas Marina. Without a shipyard, it is unrealistic and almost impossible to maintain our vessels.

If the Heliport goes ahead, resulting in a lack of the Port Douglas Marine Shipyard, this could potentially cause negative impacts towards small family businesses, like Lady Douglas River Cruise, as an operational shipyard is detrimental for the continuation of all marine operations.

Could Douglas Shire Council please give us some clarification on the usage of land between the Port Douglas Yacht Club and Marano's Fuel Station. Is there still an active proposal in process for a multi-lane boat ramp and the Port Douglas Marine Shipyard? What are the details surrounding this?

Thank you for your time and we look forward to hearing from you regarding this matter.

Kind regards,
Kate and Lucas Agrums
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