

Media Release

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Walker Corporation

Walker Corporation Pty Limited
ABN 95 001 176 263

Campaign of Misinformation – Lauderdale Quay will Not Be Built in a Conservation Zone

Walker Corporation says it is concerned that opponents to its proposed development at Ralphs Bay are spreading misinformation about the project in an attempt to scare the public and gather more support for their cause.

One of the major untruths is the claim the development will be built in a conservation area.

Walker's Tasmanian manager Lia Morris says this is simply untrue.

"The Ralphs Bay Area is a thin strip of land to the north and north east of Ralphs Bay comprising just 7.3 hectares. This conservation area currently extends only to the shoreline and does not include the tidal sandflats where Lauderdale Quay would be constructed," Mrs Morris said.

However Mrs Morris said if Lauderdale Quay was given approval to proceed, a new conservation area would be created in the southern half of Ralphs Bay where it plans to build new nesting and roosting areas for the birds as part of its environmental strategy. Walker will also contribute \$50,000 towards development of a formal Ralphs Bay Conservation Area Management Plan.

Opponents also claim the spotted handfish will be impacted by the development. Again, this is false.

"There are no spotted handfish in the proposed development area and the closest colony is located 2.5km from the proposed navigation channel and more than 3km from the reclaimed land."

Other false claims being spread relate to the construction period for the development, noise, dust, odour and the impact on the birds.

"We have put together the most comprehensive series of studies ever undertaken on Ralphs Bay and that is now publicly available for people to read for themselves in the form of the Draft Integrated Impact Statement.

"No stone has been left unturned in our quest to address honestly and transparently the guidelines using the best independent consultants and scientists in Australia."

All of these issues have been addressed and all that we ask is for the process of assessment to be allowed to proceed on the basis of scientific fact and not false statements and emotion," Mrs Morris said.

Further information or interview: Keryn Nylander Tel. 0418 996 536

Attached to this media release is a list of the misinformation that has been spread and answers to the claims.

Also attached is a PDF of the 'conservation area'.