

# The CEPG Initiative

Incorporated in 2001, CEPG is a not for profit organisation of around 400 concerned individuals, including engineers, journalists, lawyers, environmentalists, architects, business and tradespeople, conservationists and community members young and old, all with a passionate interest in the coast between Grange and Semaphore Park.

For the last thirteen years one ongoing issue for CEPG is the proposed Active Living: Plan to Cycle/Coast Park Concept Plan and the disastrous environmental impact on the Estcourt House/Tenyson Dunes and the crucial North and South remnant frontal dune bio-corridors. This Bike Path, if built to Australian Standards, will be 3-4 metres wide (but up to 10 metres to construct) and is proposed to be built through the fragile Tennyson Dunes and on the north and south frontal dune corridors.

It is proposed to continue through to Cormorant Court, Sandpiper Place continuing to Third Ave. CEPG is especially concerned about environmental costs in that the building of the bike path will cause irreparable damage to dunes, flora and fauna and all habitats. These dunes are, in places, not wide enough to support a hard surface shared path.

- The Cost Of The Shared Path through this area, minimal cost of \$2,195,000 – this is only the construction cost, as of the 4th June 07 Ref: City of Charles Sturt CD Report 28 4/6/07
- The cost of maintaining the shared path will be borne by all ratepayers in Charles Sturt Council.

As already occurs on existing coastal paths, the bike path will be covered with windborne sand that will make the bike path dangerous for all. Not only will there be the cost of ongoing maintenance, but from inevitable storm damage as well.

The second major threat facing the dunes at present is the State government project known as Adelaide's Living Beaches: a strategy for 2005-2025.

The Coast Protection Branch has submitted an application for this project to the Development Assessment Commission (DAC). Below are some comments in response to that. The CEPG response can be accessed by clicking the relevant "Tiles, maps of sections of the dunes with a line representing the pipeline added, can be viewed in the media section of this website.

In principle the concept is imaginative and at present there is certainly a need to manage sand, however the implementation is of great concern.

Also, it is disappointing to see millions of dollars being proposed to be spent fixing the symptoms of a disease rather than curing the disease itself, which is primarily the loss of sea grass in the gulf and the causes thereof.

“An engineering solution to an ecological problem.” More.....

Currently CEPG is:

- Lobbying to have the dunes around Estcourt House re-classified to a category that will offer protection from destruction and development.
- Supporting local events and other like-minded groups e.g. Tennyson Dunes Group and Open Days.
- Appealing to City of Charles Sturt (CCS) to rescind the “Active Living: Plan to Cycle Policy proposed development along the coast.
- To remove inaccuracies and in particular, lines on maps that are misleading.
- Monitoring CCS and State government (SAG) activities and proposals.
- Participating and submitting proposals regarding the possible new sand pumping pipeline.
- To advise our members about the many levels of government that affect us and how we can input into the decision-making.
- Produce a Newsletter when needed.
- Represent the community where necessary.
- Actively work on the website [www.cepg.org.au](http://www.cepg.org.au).