

REG ADDRESS:

WEST BALLINA NSW
2478

POSTAL ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE:

FLOODS BALLINA MARCH 2022

I HAVE BEEN A RESIDENT OF BALLINA FOR OVER 35 YEARS
CURRENT ADDRESS 20 PLUS YEARS.

IN ALL THIS TIME WE HAVE NOT EXPERIENCED ANYTHING
LIKE THIS.

WE HAVE HAD KING TIDES THE SAME LEVEL ALL THESE
YEARS WITH MINOR FLOODING IN CERTAIN STREETS IN THE
CBD BUT NOTHING LIKE THE PAST MONTHS. PART OF THE
PROBLEM IS POOR DRAINAGE WITH PIPES CLOGGED WITH
SILT AND RUBBISH OVER THE YEARS AND LACK OF
MAINTENANCE.

ON MONDAY THE DAY BEFORE THE FLOODS MOST OF THE
MAJOR STREETS AROUND WEST BALLINA / CBD / RIVER STREET /
KEAR STREET WERE WELL UNDER WATER AROUND 9.00 AM.

FLOOD ALERTS SHOULD HAVE BEEN BROADCAST THEN. WITH
RESIDENTS WARNED "PREPARE TO EVACUATE" NOTHING ON
RADIO OR THE NEWS THAT DAY/NIGHT.

PHONE CALL 2:30AM TUESDAY MORNING WARNING. NEXT ONE
APPROXIMATELY 6:30 AM - 30 MINUTES TO EVACUATE

THE SECOND FLOOD NO WARNING GIVEN AT ALL AS IT WAS
NOT A FLOOD BUT A RAIN EVENT. ALL BALLINA WAS CUT OFF
NOWHERE TO GO. EVERYTHING SHUT. RUNWAY BALLINA AIRPORT
UNDER WATER - NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE.

SINCE THE FLOODS LOCAL RESIDENTS IN WEST BALLINA IN STREETS
WESTLAND DRIVE / WESTLAND PLACE / NEWLAND STREET / CLARE CIRCUIT /

SUNSET AVENUE / HORIZON DRIVE / WAL PLACE HAVE ALREADY THE
FLOODING WAS CAUSED BY TWO THINGS;

1 POOR DRAINAGE OVER THE YEARS - LACK OF MAINTENANCE

2 NEW 1000 SEAT HALL BUILT BY EMMANUEL AMERICAN
COLLEGE IN HORIZON DRIVE. THIS HALL IS ABOVE STREET
LEVEL DUE TO LANDFILL USED TO RAISE THE HEIGHT AS
REQUIRED BY COUNCIL WITH NEW DEVELOPMENTS. THIS MEANS
NOW EVERY TIME WE GET HEAVY RAIN RUNOFF FROM THE
HALL NOW OVERFLOWS THE DRAINS IN HORIZON DRIVE AND
WESTLAND DRIVE. THIS NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE HALL WAS BUILT

3 WE HAVE SINCE FOUND OUT THIS HALL HAS BEEN BUILT
ON A FLOOD RETENTION POND. HOW CAN YOU GET
APPROVAL TO BUILD ON A FLOOD RETENTION POND? IT WOULD
APPEAR DUE DILIGENCE WASN'T CARRIED OUT BY AUTHORITIES
CONCERNED BEFOREHAND. SOME RESIDENTS WENT TO A
MEETING PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF BUILDING WITH OTHER
ISSUES - PARKING (LACK OF) NOISE LEVELS, CROWD BEHAVIOUR, TIME
EVENTS FINISHED AT NIGHT. MEMBERS OF BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL
REPRESENTATIVES FROM SYDNEY WERE THERE BUT NOT ONE OF THEM
MENTIONED IT WAS BEING BUILT ON A FLOOD RETENTION POND

4 WE BELIEVE THE SCHOOL KNEW ABOUT THIS AS THEY GOT THE
LAND CHEAP.

RESIDENTS NOW WANT ANSWERS AS WE BELIEVE WE WILL BE
FLOODING AGAIN.

THESE FLOODS HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH CLIMATE CHANGE
JUST POOR MANAGEMENT OVER THE YEARS

CONCERNED RESIDENT

BALLINA NSW

18/4/2022