

From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Tuesday, 3 May 2022 5:56:09 PM
Attachments: [A Lismore future by Mick Quine.pdf](#)

Your details

Title	Mr
First name	Mick
Last name	Quine
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Submission details

I am making this submission as	A resident in a flood-affected area
Submission type	I am making a personal submission
Consent to make submission public	I give my consent for this submission to be made public

Share your experience or tell your story

Your story	My Name Is Mick Quine, a 67 Yo male and resident of South Lismore at <input type="text"/> Wilson Street since 2000. My background is in film and TV and subsequent training to Bachelor of Media in 2017. My submission is based on a 60 experinece in media, observation and an understanding of the use and effect of media in
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social discourse.

Terms of Reference (optional)

The Inquiry welcomes submissions that address the particular matters identified in its [Terms of Reference](#)

Supporting documents or images

Attach files

- [A Lismore future by Mick Quine.pdf](#)
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I wish to propose a direction for post flood relocation of flood affected areas and CBD and a rebranding of Lismore to reflect it's history and reassert prominence as a tourist destination.

This proposal seeks to find a permanent solution to catastrophic loss of property and lives caused by emerging flood levels due to climate change.

It is based on the belief that the South and North Lismore and CBD are no longer viable for residential habitation.

NORTH LISMORE PLATEAU

The ongoing development for North Lismore Plateau, that has laboured through council for the last 20 years be finalised. For either for current private investment consortium ,or the entire 3,000 home sites be purchased by Council with state and federal govt assistance. I have knowledge of this development and believe the option to buy the entire planned development could be possible.

A precedent for such a move was in Gundagai when the, then Mayor, saw the opportunity to purchase a large holding of plateau land, which was then sold to residents. The outcome was Gundagai was relocated en masse.

I propose flood affected residents be offered to buy a land for a reasonable price and that council then offer to relocate their existing home to this new site at no cost.

As the land is elevated and already clear of any future flood, these houses would not require to be built on raised piers. Any request for an understory be done at residents expense.

This would create instant suburbs stocked with existing heritage and funky homes, of which Lismore holds a great wealth and are an asset to Lismore's identity.

That neighbours and communities be offered the opportunity to relocate as a group, buying adjoining land sites, to retain existing community relationships.

A mass relocation be effected by calling for submissions from existing house moving companies nationwide and finance be offered for them to purchase state of art, computer controlled house moving dollies, which would be paid off by conclusion of Lismore's requirements. This would expedite relocations and offer economy of scale opportunities.

MARKET GARDENS

The existing flood plain areas of North and South Lismore be rezoned into market gardens, similar to areas around Sydney like Windsor. Creating one and five acre plots which would become a 'food bowl' for the region.

These plots can be purchased outright, used as community gardens or used to place and train Lismore's unemployed in horticultural operations.

The plots that are sold to have strict, enforceable building code that all homes must be on wheels and owners must have a vehicle at all times to tow their home if told to do so.

That with each purchase another plot of elevated, flood safe land be allocated to the purchase to move their portable homes in the event of a pending flood. This land would be used for public reserve until such requirement. The existing vacant rail corridor may be suitable for this.

The market garden have an infrastructure of mentoring, training and marketing to assist in development of market garden, utilising latest permaculture, recycling and horticulture techniques.

Engage Southern Cross University to oversee horticultural science aspects to achieve a top quality end product.

Food grown in this endeavour would be marketed for its organic and environmental benefits and for the unique social innovation it represents. With training and good marketing, products could be sold to surrounding retailers and restaurant owners, who again would use the quality and innovation as a selling point.

Lismore's large unemployed population could be offered training to develop council held market plots. This would provide potential for an unemployed person gain skills to grow and sell their own produce, not a job, but a career. Such arrangements may lead to the unemployed buying back their plot if deemed successfully established and income producing.

LISMORE'S HOMELESS

This new areas could also create space temporary 'tiny homes' to address Lismore's large homeless population. A village community that provides care, mentorship and training to participate in the market garden project and reconnect the homeless with a valid future.

RELOCATE LISMORE'S CBD

A new CBD be established along top ridge of North Lismore Plateau development. This would give the new retail center an exciting towering outlook over the flood plain and be a sister retail center to existing Goonellabah, similarly placed on a plateau.

This view would also allow for restaurants to offer exciting views to their patrons and completely abolish any angst for retailers to have to deal with floods ever again.

A new community center / flood evacuation center be built on this North Lismore Plateau development, along with secure SES base.

A heliport be built on North Lismore Plateau to service emergency operations and perhaps provide a commercial transport link via helicopter to Ballina airport and beyond.

EXISTING CBD

The existing CBD retail precinct see shops split into smaller spaces and available at greatly reduced council rates. These small spaces be occupied by businesses that not require extensive stock or plant requirements.

These small shops would be well suited to business who have an online or market stall presence and would like to develop a street presence. Local crafts, designers, home fashion, artisans, or pop-up restaurants for budding foodie entrepreneurs.

It would be like a permanent 'market space' and create an exciting and ever changing funky style CBD that directly reflects Lismore's alternative and diverse community.

BACK LANES

Use the back lanes to create an 'Old Town Lismore' with working blacksmiths, making gates and garden ornaments, an old style tavern that only serves steaks and cider, served by old timers in period attire, spinners and weavers, wood carvers, period photography, folk buskers etc.

Make the existing CBD and these lost laneways a destination point for visitors. A place to explore, buy the unusual and gain insight into Lismore's past.

REBRAND LISMORE

Rebrand Lismore as a 'Riverport', which was the primary reason for it's development.

For context refer to my seven minute doco on You Tube, "History of shipping in Lismore"
https://youtu.be/D3g_ch7vhL4

Source, purchase and install a 150foot tall ship at rebuilt Fawcett street wharf.

Use the deck space of this ship for tables and seating to create a venue for pop up restaurants.

All cooking and food preparation would be done under market stalls on refurbished wharf and the food waited waited aboard.

This deck space venue be available for all local restaurateurs.

This would see perhaps Italian lunch service one day with Japanese that evening.

It's prominent site would be a visible and central drawcard to passing tourists. Creating an instant tourist attraction.

Selected buildings in Molesworth Street be purchased and demolished to make plaza style access to river front.

Existing car parks, that currently front the river, be repurposed for suitable food and entertainment venues.

A boardwalk be created from Fawcett St bridge to Ballina St bridge.

On the riverfront introduce row boat hire, river cruises and floating music platforms.

Promote vintage boat regattas.

Purchase a paddle steamer to act as a floating function center and venue for music performance along the river.

Re introduce sea/river travel between Lismore and Sydney. A 3 day sea voyage from Sydney to Ballina and a 2 day river voyage to Lismore. This would provide an opportunity to develop existing river villages like Boat Harbour and Coraki, turning them in stopping points in the river voyage leg.

MARKETING LISMORE RIVERPORT

This rebranding be marketed by way of a producing a series of reality TV programs suitable for sale to Netflix for global release. Employ existing global production entities like Beyond Group to oversee and distribute. Netflix and similar are always looking for content and this would have a great and unique challenge and sensational visuals.

Imagine the publicity frenzy when a 150 foot tall ship sailed into Lismore, it would get national media attention. This single marketing device would put Lismore on an global stage, it would be 'self saucing' advertising.

Lismore be 'restaged'. This production and could draw on film production designers and builders currently in Gold Coast studios. For instance they could make a newly built wharf look 100 years old. They could 'set dress' Lismore.

This reality TV would chart the process and challenges of 'flipping a city', follow as we search international ports for a 150 foot tall ship, watch as teams of production designers from Gold Coast studios do a scenic revamp of Lismore's CBD.

Create interactive statues around Lismore that activate when approached by a passing tourist, each statue having a loop of spoken voices. On the corner of Molesworth and Woodlark have a statue of an old timer in braces, rolling a smoke.. as someone approaches a crazy voice says 'Don't think well get any rain today', or a statue of a bullock team that 'snorts' when approached. These are placed strategically to create a tourist trail that lead visitors around Lismore in an exciting and interactive way.

CONCLUSION

North Lismore, South Lismore are no longer viable as residential areas, nor are homes and shops within the CBD. This needs to be realised, accepted and endorsed by council and residents alike.

You cannot lift homes to safety to escape the coming effects of climate changed and it is a nonsense to suggest such.

You cannot live in the vain hope that this last flood was a 'one off'.

All of Lismore's flood mitigation and planning went out the window on Feb 27 this year.

'More of the same' is not an option and to tinker with levees and a misplaced attachment to the existing CBD is fraught with anxiety of the next big flood.

Lismore has been ruined and no amount of resilience. or nuggety pluck will protect the future of Lismore.

The heart of Lismore lies beating on a muddy flood plain, infected with a terror that will live with all of us affected.

However, Lismore can now take an opportunity to reinvent itself and while these are visionary ideas, they are do able.

They offer a chance to see Lismore gain a reputation for innovation, inclusive social development by eliminating homelessness, creating a unique income path for the unemployed and remove for all time any threat to our community of flooding.

We cannot allow this to happen again and if some imagination is all required I hope this serves to excite conversation, raise expectations beyond the miasma of bureaucracy's policies and procedures and ponder a future for Lismore not before dreamt.