



# THE TRIASSIC TRAIL

**A UNIQUE COASTAL WALK  
FROM MANLY TO PALM BEACH**

Prepared by

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# BIG IDEA

The Manly to Palm Beach walk presents an exceptional opportunity for a Big Idea. An idea of National and International scale. An opportunity to present a unique and extraordinarily beautiful part of the natural environment to the world in the context of its creative communities. This walk encompasses some of the oldest geology in the world today. A rare example of the Triassic Period dating back 250 million years.

The Northern Beaches have the best examples of Triassic rock formations to be found anywhere, a rich Aboriginal history and one of the largest concentration of Artists to be found anywhere in Australia.

It will:

- 1 Establish a walk that enhances, develops and displays the unique features of the Coast, its Creative Communities and Aboriginal heritage.
- 2 Create a brand, e.g. – The Triassic Trail – that will become a byword, for visitors both Interstate and International, for its exceptional coastline, lifestyle, flora, fauna and ocean life.
- 3 Provide the visual hook to develop a strategy which attracts more business to this unique coastal region developing more local employment opportunities.
- 4 Become the spine of a network for all of the Arts & Cultural activities within each of the coastal communities along the Northern Beaches to share and develop their work.
- 5 Create a link to both the natural environment and the history of first people of the area.
- 6 Build links with education and science programs in schools that relate to and support curricula key stages. Link with the broader cultural and research sector (such as the Australian Museum, CSIRO). Support the initiative for the STEM to STEAM program.
- 7 Create links to information on local Bush Trails.
- 8 Establish a strong link for Community Engagement, Placemaking and ownership.

## PLANNING THE NEXT STEPS

A long term plan and strategy should be put in place to identify the opportunities over time that can be established and further developed to enliven and illuminate the walk.

- 1 Create a planning map that identifies the areas along the route that can be resting points to stop and look, or to interact with a local artwork or activity.
- 2 Provide infrastructure to enable power and water for the first locations that are to be activated and for those sites identified as opportunities to be developed over time as more funds become available.
- 3 Create a design approach and language for the provision of seating, lighting, bubblers, handrails, steps and platforms that engages the talents of local artists
- 4 Establish a website to promote the walk and the creative communities. This will be a two platform site. Firstly one which promotes the area, events and organisations to visitors and offers advertising to related businesses. Secondly a platform that creates an intranet for the use of members. Encompassing the variety of artists groups from writers through visual and performing artists and design technologies in order to connect and share ideas and information and develop projects.
- 5 Provide a history of the first people's coastal occupation through to contemporary residential development and occupation. Incorporate information on the species of animals, birdlife, the rock platforms, headlands and lagoons.
- 6 Identify points of interest with scan links to the website for detailed information and where appropriate information boards and objects. The steps above should be workshopped with the local communities to ensure a comprehensive coverage of the scheme's objectives and to secure community engagement and ownership.

## LOCAL IMAGES along the Trail

