SIRA and Northern Beaches Council continue to work positively together regarding major works and maintenance on the Island. The 2016/2017 Capital Improvement Program schedule was completed and 2017/2018 will see further works carried out on drains and pits according to the Management Plan.

In 2016 a draft Traffic Management Plan was introduced by Council, a 20km speed zone Island-wide was introduced and the RMS was recommending to the Minister that conditional registration be made available due to the number of buggies now inhabiting the Island. Presently there seems to be some confusion as to who is to take the next step the Council or the RMS. We are optimistic that this initiative will progress this coming year. To assist progress and demonstrate community commitment to vehicle and pedestrial safety SIRA has facillitated a buggy user group. The group looking at a voluntary code of conduct.

SIRA’s Roads and Drainage Subcommittee has met through the year with David Munday to forward plan capital works in accordane with the Scotland Island Road Reserve and Stormwater Implementation Plan (June, 2011) and provide input into the repairs caused by severe storm damage in 2016.

The major focus of the Implementation Plan continues to be new drainage works that will manage longterm incoming stormwater flows and outputs, keep water off the road surface and flowing into and along the gutters. This has been aided by new pits, extended cement gutters, improve pipes and water bars. Sites were Robertson Road south from Yamba and corner of Pittview and Florence Terrace.

Storm damage repairs are separate to capital works and have been funded as a result of Council’s application to the State Government. Initiatives have included repairs to drainage and in some cases adjacent road surfaces. Initiatives include reinstatement of drainage lines, use of subsurface pipes to maintain drainage, reinstatement of road crossfall and stabilizing surfaces with matting, crushed rock, bitumen or a cement/gravel mix. Repairs included: Cecil Road and Richard Road from Hilda to Harold and Florence Terrace north from Pathilda Reserve

Regular maintenance on drains, pits and potholes has continued. SIRA would like to encourage residents to ‘adopt-a-drain’ to keep leaf litter and sediment from blocking the drains before and after heavy rain. In addition, the notion of ‘adopt-a-verge’ to keep vegetation out of the drainage lines would be extremely useful in maintaining the existing channels. A meeting will be held with Council to confirm the next round of capital works and raise any other issues that need attention. A report will be forthcoming following this meeting to keep residents informed. Sharon Kinnison, Emmie Collins and Cass Gye.