

**Draft Minutes of the
WestConnex Community Liaison Forum (WCLF)
held at Leichhardt Service Centre
6:00pm-8:30pm Thursday 2 March 2017**

The meeting commenced at 6:10pm

In attendance:

Chris Kerle	Community Organiser – No WestConnex Public Transport (NoW PT)
Sharon Laura	Save Ashfield Park Committee
Rhea Liebmann	WestCONex Action Group
Peter Hehir	Rozelle Against WestConnex (RAW)
Christine Allibone-White	WestProtects
Jozefa Sobski	Haberfield resident
Cynthia Moore	Haberfield resident
Peter Boyle	Newtown Residents Against WestConnex (NRAW)
Lesley Treleaven	NRAW
Liz Johnstone	WestProtects
Tom Zelinka	No WestConnex Annandale
Chris Woods	Local Representation Advisory Committee (LRAC)
Richard Pearson	Administrator, Inner West Council (IWC)
John Warburton	Deputy General Manager Community & Engagement, IWC
Kendall Banfield	Manager WestConnex Unit, IWC
Felix Liu	Engineer WestConnex Unit, IWC
Helen Tola	Manager Customer Service & Corporate Planning, IWC
Ken Welsh	Transport Planner, IWC
Rob Sherry	WestConnex Compliance Officer, Department of Planning & Environment (DP&E)

1. Welcome by Administrator

The Administrator welcomed all members to the WCLF meeting.

2. Acknowledgement of Country

3. Apologies

Apologies were accepted for the absence of:

Vincent Crow	Haberfield Association
Rochelle Porteous	RAW
Jo Alley	Save Ashfield Park Committee
Sarah Wood	Resident
LJ Loch	WestProtects

Paul Jeffery	NoW PT
Alana West	NoW PT
Richard Archer	NoW PT

4. Items for consideration by (WCLF)

Item 1 Minutes from 2 February 2017 Meeting & Update on Actionable Items

It was determined that:

1. Minutes of the WestConnex Community Liaison Forum (WCLF) held on 1 December 2016 be adopted, subject to an edit recommended by the DP&E's WestConnex Compliance Officer and endorsed by the Chair, i.e.: deletion of the following words from the current status of Action Item 15: "*The DP&E's Compliance Officer and ..*". This is to indicate that the DP&E's Compliance Officer will not be involved in liaison with unions on WestConnex matters.
2. The update on actionable items be received and noted.

Key Points raised during the discussion of actionable items from the 2 February 2017 WCLF meeting included:

- Actionable Item 4 regarding dilapidation studies was discussed. An update report was requested and concerns were raised around residents not being able to afford structural/dilapidation reports with photos.
- Actionable Item 12 regarding M4 East traffic changes was discussed, specifically in relation to whether there could be community representation on the M4 East Traffic & Transport Liaison Group.
- Actionable Item 13 regarding tree loss was discussed. There was a query about who in Council was responsible for this action and who was taking it up with SMC.
- Actionable Item 19 regarding fig trees on Campbell Street, St Peters was discussed. A request was made for further information about the latest designs for Campbell Street.
- Actionable Item 20 regarding banners was discussed. There was a request that Council investigate the feasibility of erecting a banner at the front of the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre. A further request was made to erect banners across Norton Street, Leichhardt and at Parramatta Road, Ashfield (near Bland Street).
- Concerns were raised in relation to street trees in St Peters being removed which were not authorised to be removed.

Refer to Actionable Items 1 to 6 listed below.

Item 2 Report back from State WestConnex Community Reference Group (WCRG)

It was determined that the report be received and noted.

Key Points raised during the discussion included:

- The Administrator was thanked by WCLF members for the work he had done to establish the State WestConnex Community Reference Group.
- Concerns were raised in relation to the lack of co-ordination between SMC, Roads & Maritime Services (RMS) and utility authorities such as Sydney Water, Jemena and Ausgrid.

Refer to Actionable Item 7 listed below.

Item 3 Future of WestConnex Community Liaison Forum (WCLF)

It was determined that:

1. The report be received and noted; and
2. The frequency of WCLF meetings be deferred for consideration at a future meeting - and until such time, that WCLF meetings continue in their current format with the same monthly meeting schedule.

Key Points raised during the discussion included:

- The frequency of WCLF meetings to be reconsidered at a meeting later in 2017.
- A request was made for WestConnex Weekly Update Reports to be provided to WCLF members at the same time as LRAC members.

Refer to Actionable Items 8 and 9 listed below.

Item 4 WestConnex Stage 1, 2, & Stage 3 Update Report

It was determined that the report be received and noted.

Stage 1 Update Report

Key Points raised during the discussion included:

- Concerns were raised in relation to out-of-hours works, and Council was asked to take on a more active role in alerting residents of the best avenues for complaints, e.g. via a 'postcard'.
- Concerns were raised about very loud construction noises being averaged out over 15 minutes, which was considered by NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to be acceptable when complaints were made. The DP&E's WestConnex Compliance Officer advised that EPA officers were conducting ongoing noise monitoring.
- Concerns were raised in relation to the trucks parked near houses, with engines and lights running. When approached by residents, workers turn off engines, but they should not be running in the first place. Questions were also asked about why trucks arrive at around 10.30pm to remove major pieces of plant (disturbing residents), when this kind of activity could occur during the day.

- Concerns were raised in relation to the impacts on Haberfield businesses due to the Ramsay Street closure. It was asked if there is anything that Council can do to assist the Haberfield Chamber of Commerce and individual businesses. The offer from the Joint Venture to install 'fairy lights' and paintings in the Haberfield commercial centre has not been considered adequate or acceptable by business operators.
- Concerns were raised about the construction and operational health impacts of WestConnex across all three stages.
- Concerns were raised about the mid-tunnel construction dive site proposed in the area between Parramatta Road, Pyrmont Bridge Road and Mallet Street at Annandale/Camperdown, and the threat this poses in terms of noise and fumes from the high number of truck movements generated.

Refer to Actionable Items 10 to 16 listed below.

Stage 2 Update Report

Key points raised during the discussion included:

- Concerns were raised about use of part of Camdenville Park for WestConnex Stage 2 construction.
- Chris Woods tabled a letter from the DP&E's Deputy Secretary dated 13 February 2017. This letter relates to the DP&E Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the proposed M4-M5 Link and how this relates to the deletion of the Camperdown traffic portals from the design.
- A request was made for Tim Robertson SC to challenge WestConnex on procedures rather than on merits. It should investigate the impact of each stage on Stage 2 Consent Condition B43, which requires the project to improve (and not adversely impact on) the performance of the road network for all road users, and on existing access arrangements and services for all road users.

Refer to Actionable Items 17 and 18 listed below.

Stage 3 Update Report

Key Points raised during the discussion included:

- Concerns were raised in relation to construction sites between Haberfield and Rozelle, specifically to the Northcote Street tunnel area, tunnel stubs in Haberfield and over Bland Street.
- Concerns were raised about Stage 3 dive sites, and that decisions about mid-tunnel sites would affect the extent of tunnelling works at the end portals at Haberfield and Rozelle.
- Concerns were raised that no community consultation was being undertaken in relation to dive sites, and there were calls for Council to undertake a letterbox drop about dive sites once Stage 3 design plans were placed on public exhibition.

- Concerns were raised about the incomplete distribution of Council's WestConnex flyer. A number of streets/areas were named as having not received the flyer. A suggestion was made that Council consider distribution of WestConnex and other flyers electronically using community email lists held by Council.
- Concerns were raised about a recent UrbanGrowth NSW media release about future development at the Bays Precinct and the traffic/transport needs that will be generated from this development.
- The RAW representative requested a \$3,300 contribution from Council toward production of a newspaper that would include articles relevant to WestConnex - including tolls, problems with compulsory acquisition, pollution, health concerns, rat running, maintenance, choke points, and lack of consultation.

Refer to Actionable Items 19 to 23 listed below.

Item 5 Compliance Update

The DP&E's WestConnex Compliance Officer provided a compliance update.

It was determined that the report be received and noted.

Key Points raised during the discussion included:

- Concerns raised in relation to iron roofing material from recently demolished houses being blown by the wind onto the Campbell Road footpath, and it was asked if this had resulted in any corrective action.
- Questions were asked about matters of non-compliance being recorded for Stage 1.
- Concerns were raised in relation to the parking plans and sub plans, and whether there has been a public transport management plan established for workers, specifically to reduce employee parking demand in the area of Martin Street and Cove Street, Haberfield.
- A suggestion was made that Council provide large-scale maps at WCLF meetings showing each stage of WestConnex.
- Concerns were raised in relation to a child being hit by a car on Bland Street, Haberfield and the fact that the school zones in this area are more dangerous because of the WestConnex-related traffic detours in place. It was requested that Council investigate actions it can undertake to increase safety and surveillance around all schools in the Haberfield area.

Refer to Actionable Items 24 to 26 listed below.

Summary of Actionable Items

The following actionable items were an outcome of the discussions at the meeting of above items.

General Actions

1. Investigate the bookings for the banner location at Norton Street, Leichhardt and report back to the WCLF on whether or when this can be booked for a *No WestConnex* banner.

Current situation: The Council banner across Norton Street is available for bookings from July to September 2017, while the banner at the Leichhardt Town Hall is available from April to September 2017, subject to availability. Bookings can be made online at <http://www.leichhardt.nsw.gov.au/About-Council/Bookings/Banners/Book-Banners> Council has two banners ordered for its use that state: "Protecting our communities Against WestConnex."

2. Council to discuss with SMC allocation of liability in relation to cracking and other property damage related to WestConnex construction, including tunnelling.

Current situation: Council staff have forwarded this request in writing to SMC, and SMC's written response will be reported to the May 2017 WCLF meeting.

3. Council to request that community representation on the M4 East Traffic & Transport Liaison Group be considered, particularly in relation to the impact on the community of road closures and detours.

Current situation: Council staff have forwarded this request in writing to SMC, and SMC's written response will be reported to the May 2017 WCLF meeting.

4. Council to advise if/when the latest designs for Campbell Street, St Peters will be available to WCLF members and the public.

Current situation: Council staff have forwarded this request in writing to SMC, and SMC's written response will be reported to the May 2017 WCLF meeting. Council staff have recently discussed Campbell Street designs at a New M5 project meeting, details of which were reported in Council's 24 March 2017 WestConnex Weekly Update Report. A SMC/Council staff workshop on Campbell Street designs is planned for 5 April 2017. Council has recently been informed by SMC that Campbell Street designs will be available for public comment in early-mid April 2017.

5. Council to consider erecting a banner at the front of the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre which states "WestConnex traffic chaos starts here".

Current situation: As Newtown Neighbourhood Centre is not on Council's schedule of banner locations, council staff are making enquiries to the manager of the banners at this location, and will report progress to the May 2017 WCLF meeting.

6. Council to investigate the issue of removal of street trees at St Peters, which appear to have been removed without authority.

Current situation: Council staff have forwarded this request in writing to SMC, and SMC's written response will be reported to the May 2017 WCLF meeting. Council staff had raised this issue verbally with SMC staff at a New M5 project meeting, and were advised that SMC is not aware of any street trees being removed without authority, and all street trees have been removed according to approved plans. Council's tree management staff have also advised that they have had no reports of trees being removed without authority.

7. Council to raise the issue of lack of co-ordination between the SMC, RMS and the utility groups (i.e. Sydney Water, Jemena, Ausgrid etc) at the next WCRG.
Current situation: Council staff have forwarded this request in writing to SMC, and SMC's written response will be reported to the May 2017 WCLF meeting. This issue was raised as part of the general discussion of M4 East construction issues at the 21 March 2017 WestConnex Community Reference Group (CRG) meeting. This issue will be discussed as part of the EPA presentation & DP&E compliance items at the 7 April 2017 WCLF meeting.
8. Consideration of the WCLF frequency be referred to a future meeting of the WCLF.
Current situation: Council staff will place this action item on the agenda of a WCLF meeting later in 2017.
9. Council to ensure that WestConnex Weekly Update Reports be provided to WCLF members at the same time as LRAC members – to ensure WCLF members have this information immediately.
Current situation: WestConnex Weekly Update Reports can be readily accessed on Council's website each Friday afternoon or Monday morning.

Stage 1 Actions

10. Council to inform residents of the best avenues for making complaints about out-of-hours works and to confirm whether residents should direct such complaints to EPA via 131 555.
Current situation: Details on best avenues for making out-of-hours complaints have been included in Council's 31 March 2017 WestConnex Weekly Update Report. EPA is available to take complaints 24/7 on the 131 555 number. After making a complaint, residents should ensure they email the complaint to the project on info@westconnex.com.au so that it is included on the project's complaints register. Residents should cc both Council (westconnex@innerwest.nsw.gov.au) and the DP&E's WestConnex Compliance Officer (compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au).
11. Council to investigate whether residents can seek compensation from SMC in the form of respite accommodation and/or counselling as a result of the impacts from the project.
Current situation: Council staff have forwarded this request in writing to SMC, and SMC's written response will be reported to the May 2017 WCLF meeting.
12. Council to request that an EPA staff member with noise impact expertise attend the next WCLF meeting.
Current situation: Stuart Clark, Acting Unit Head, Metropolitan Infrastructure EPA and colleague will attend the 7 April 2017 WCLF meeting to speak on odour and noise emissions, complaint procedures and other relevant issues raised.
13. Council to seek a response from SMC about moving heavy plant during working hours rather than at night or in the early morning.
Current situation: Council staff have forwarded this request in writing to SMC, and SMC's written response will be reported to the May 2017 WCLF meeting.

14. Council to inform SMC (and other parties as appropriate) of the impacts of all three stages of WestConnex works on local businesses with a view to actions that can mitigate these impacts.

Current situation: Council staff have forwarded this request in writing to SMC, and SMC's written response will be reported to the May 2017 WCLF meeting. Council's economic development staff are also currently working with Haberfield business operators toward initiatives that can help mitigate negative impacts from WestConnex.

15. Council to develop linkages with the Sydney Local Health District about WestConnex-related health issues.

Current situation: Council staff have contacted Sydney Local Health District Public Health Unit and discussions are continuing about the prospect of a representative attending a future WCLF meeting to discuss WestConnex-related health issues.

16. Council to contact the Greater Sydney Commission and UrbanGrowth NSW to ensure it has every opportunity for input in the planning for growth in the Inner West Council area and can raise the community's issues with WestConnex.

Current situation: Council staff have forwarded this request in writing to the Greater Sydney Commission and UrbanGrowth NSW and the response will be reported to the May 2017 WCLF meeting. Council's submission to the draft Central District Plan will also raise WestConnex issues.

Stage 2 Actions

17. Council to seek clarification from SMC about the use of Camdenville Park for WestConnex construction purposes – specifically, how much of the park is to be used, for how long and how it will be used.

Current situation: Council staff have forwarded this request in writing to SMC, and SMC's written response will be reported to the May 2017 WCLF meeting. Council staff recently attended a New M5 project meeting and were advised construction has commenced on the 'Camdenville Basin' compound (fenced detention basin adjacent to Camdenville Park). This temporary compound will remain until late 2019. Further details are in Council's 24 March 2017 WestConnex Weekly Update Report.

18. Council to seek a firm date from Tim Robertson for receipt of legal advice about the legality of Stages 1 and 2 in light of the recent changes to Stage 3.

Current situation: Advice has been received and will be reported to 7 April WCLF meeting.

Stage 3 Actions

19. Council to seek information from SMC about the location of the Stage 3 construction portal at Haberfield.

Current situation: Council staff have forwarded this request in writing to SMC, and SMC's written response will be reported to the May 2017 WCLF meeting. Council staff have also requested a verbal response, but have not been able obtain information at this stage.

20. Council to request information from SMC and/or RMS about long-term motorway plans beyond Stage 3, including the proposed Western Harbour Crossing.

Current situation: Council staff have forwarded this request in writing to SMC, and SMC's written response will be reported to the May 2017 WCLF meeting. On 16 March 2017 the NSW Minister for Roads announced a preferred route for the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link. This tunnel will connect to the WestConnex M4-M5 Link at the Rozelle Interchange and will cross underneath Sydney Harbour to connect with the Warringah Freeway at North Sydney. The next stage of work, expected to be completed in mid-2018, will include reference design, final project costings, funding strategy (including tolling options and private sector involvement) and construction timelines (including start and completion dates). Further information, including route maps, is available from the 'Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link' page of the RMS website.

21. Council to consider distributing a flyer when the Stage 3 design plans are on exhibition that includes a map showing the proposed Stage 3 route, all dive sites and all construction sites.

Current situation: Council agrees this is important and will implement. Council is also committed to holding a public meeting during the Stage 3 exhibition period.

22. Council to follow up distribution issues with flyer and investigate use of bulk e-mail distribution of flyers to supplement distribution of printed flyers.

Current situation: Regarding flyer distribution, Council's communications staff are currently confirming areas that have or have not received the flyer and the outcome will be reported to the May 2017 WCLF meeting. Regarding bulk e-mailing and database use, Council recently sent out an electronic newsletter dedicated to WestConnex to its central e-news database. This newsletter replicated the information provided in the letterboxed flyer, and pointed readers to the website where further information is available.

23. Council to consider a contribution to Rozelle Against WestConnex (RAW) of \$3,300 toward the production of a newspaper that includes articles about WestConnex impacts and issues.

Current situation: Council staff will discuss with RAW including possible "in kind" printing assistance option.

Compliance Actions

24. The DP&E's WestConnex Compliance Officer to advise when and how often non-compliance reports are prepared and whether they are published on the web.

Current situation: The DP&E's WestConnex Compliance Officer has advised that monthly compliance report for projects across NSW (including WestConnex) is publicly available on the DP&E website. Non-compliance or 'breach' reports are not publicly available documents, but the outcome of breach reports are within the abovementioned monthly compliance report.

25. The DP&E's WestConnex Compliance Officer to advise if there is a public transport management plan for workers, specifically in relation to employee parking demand in the area of Martin Street and Cove Streets, Haberfield.

Current situation: The DP&E's WestConnex Compliance Officer has advised that the M4 East consent conditions do not include requirements for a mandatory public transport plan for employee travel. The condition relevant to Condition D43 states:

“Construction vehicles (including staff vehicles) associated with the SSI must be managed so that: (a) parking or queuing on public roads is minimised; (b) idling and queuing in local residential streets is minimised, where practicable; (c) heavy vehicles adhere to the nominated haulage routes identified in the Construction Traffic & Access Management Plan required under Condition D57(a); and (d) access and egress from construction compounds is undertaken in a safe and lawful manner, with particular regard be given to compounds located in the vicinity of schools and the potential implementation of traffic management or signalisation, in consultation with the relevant council.”

26. Council to request from SMC large laminated maps showing each stage of WestConnex for use at WCLF meetings.

Current situation: Council staff have forwarded this query to SMC with the aim that these maps be available at the next WCLF meeting and future meetings.

The Meeting concluded at 8:30pm

Next Meeting: Friday 7 April 2017, 10:00am-12.30pm
Level 3, Leichhardt Service Centre
Wetherill Street, Leichhardt