

**Draft Minutes of the
WestConnex Community Liaison Forum (WCLF)
held at Leichhardt Service Centre
10:00am-12:30pm, Thursday 2 November 2017**

The meeting commenced at 10.00am

In attendance:

Sharon Laura	Haberfield Resident
Paul Jeffery	No WestConnex Public Transport, WestCONnex Action Group, Save Ashfield Park
Anne Picot	No WestConnex Public Transport, WestCONnex Action Group
Elizabeth Johnstone	WestProtects
Jennifer Aaron	Leichhardt Against WestConnex
Kendall Banfield	Manager WestConnex Unit Inner West Council (IWC)
Felix Liu	Engineer WestConnex Unit IWC
Robyn Meakins	Administration Officer WestConnex Unit IWC
Mike Sharpin	Unit Head Metropolitan Infrastructure Environment Protection Authority (EPA)
Claire Miles	Operations Officer Metropolitan Infrastructure EPA
Rob Sherry	Principal WestConnex Compliance Officer Department of Planning & Environment (DP&E)
Elizabeth Williamson	Compliance Officer DP&E

1. Welcome by Manager WestConnex Unit IWC

The Manager WestConnex Unit welcomed all members to the WCLF meeting.

2. Acknowledgement of Country

3. Apologies

Apologies were accepted for the absence of:

John Warburton	Deputy General Manger Community & Engagement IWC
Christine Allibone-White	WestProtects
Cynthia Moore	Haberfield resident
Jozefa Sobski	Haberfield Association
Lesley Treleaven	Camperdown Residents Against WestConnex (CRAW)

4. Items for consideration by WCLF

Item 1: Minutes from 5 October 2017 meeting & update on actionable items

It was determined that:

1. Minutes of the WCLF meeting held on 5 October 2017 be adopted subject to one minor amendment – that Action item 3 be amend to read: *Council to prepare a submission on licencing condition issues for Stage 1 and 2, and submit this to the EPA.*
2. The update on actionable items be received and noted.

Key points raised during the discussion included:

- Community members asked why there was no scheduled WCLF meeting in December 2017. Council staff explained that attendance by community members at the past three WCLF meetings has been low, although it was acknowledged that this is partly due to fatigue associated with dealing with WestConnex. All agreed to proceed with a meeting in December 2017.
- Council is currently scheduling public meetings at all five Stage 3 construction sites, commencing with two in November 2017. The purpose is to discuss in more detail with residents their issues raised by the Stage 3 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Mayor will introduce these meetings, Council staff will give a presentation and attendees can raise issues and queries in an ‘open-mic’ session.
- A community member asked: Why is it that the WestConnex Stage 3 is proceeding without any approval? Home and business acquisitions have occurred with families given deadlines to get out of their home - all of this without the project being approved.
- *Refer to Actionable Item 1 listed below.*

Item 2: Camdenville Park Masterplan

It was determined that the report be received and noted.

Council’s Parks Capital Works Manager gave a presentation on the Camdenville Park Masterplan. Key points raised during the discussion included:

- Part of Camdenville Park is now being used as a WestConnex construction site - however, the sporting fields are still in use.
- There is limited recreational space available to the community.
- In 2013 the community was consulted on the Masterplan and it was formally adopted by Council in 2014. Consultants were then engaged to develop the plans further. The BMX area was designed and it proceeded to tender in 2015. Tenders were subsequently put on hold when Council first became aware of WestConnex, as Council needed to assess the full extent of impacts on the park from WestConnex before continuing.
- The upgraded features of the Masterplan include: re-orientation of the playing field, a new May Street playground, a new central play space, new paths and seating, removal of mounds and fences (for better visibility and access) and two BMX tracks.

- The 'intention' of WestConnex is to pay for remediation of the basin and construction of the BMX tracks, paths and other planned upgrades within the boundary of the area the project is occupying.
- The new alignment of Bedwin Road will remove a strip of about nine metres of park space. Council is still waiting to see plans that show the final alignment.
- Residents commented they have seen large tanks being placed under Campbell Street, and asked how the stormwater will be managed. Council has been consulted by WestConnex on stormwater issues and has supplied relevant details. A second workshop involving relevant WestConnex and Council staff is planned to be held before the end of 2017.
- The DP&E has advised that approval for works within Camdenville Basin requires the project to consult with Sydney Water and Council.
- It is not known how long WestConnex will occupy part of the park, but Council will seek an answer to this query. The community is concerned that this area will not be handed back when Stage 2 is completed, and that it may be used as a carpark for Stage 3 workers.
- The community seeks ongoing consultation on the Stage 2 Urban Design and Landscape Plan (UDLP).
- A key concern about UDLP designs is whether the surfaces will be porous or not. Daburi Lane (between May and Hutchinson Streets) provides an example of porous paving.
- Council needs to ensure that WestConnex is held to account by enforcing deadlines for handover of residual lands and ensuring conditions of approval are met.
- *Refer to Actionable Items 2 & 3 listed below.*

Item 3: WestConnex update report

It was determined that the report be received and noted.

Stage 1 update report

Key points raised during the discussion included:

- A community member explained that three Department of Housing residents in Haberfield have applied to move due to the intolerable conditions forced on them by WestConnex construction. One resident has already moved out. There has been no resolution over noise abatement - the new residents will move in and will encounter the same issues. Noise mitigation is required now in the Department of Housing development even though this development was not identified as needing mitigation during construction.
- Community members stated that out-of-hours construction noise is at unacceptable levels. The EPA representative explained that the project's licencing conditions regulated out-of-hours works, but the community has little understanding of the complexities around licencing. Council will be assisting WCLF members to prepare a submission to EPA on issues around the current licence conditions for Stage 1 and Stage 2.
- A community member expressed concern about residents between Ramsay and Waratah Streets not receiving noise walls according to the *M4 East UDLP Updated*

Appendix F: Noise Barrier Location and Design Sub-plan. Some form of noise abatement for these residents needs to be fast-tracked, as residents experiencing excessive construction noise.

- Whilst pedestrian and vehicle detour signage in and around Haberfield has improved, it is still not adequate. The left-turn from Wattle Street into Parramatta is particularly dangerous.
- Community members questioned the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) definition of 'safety', as the term seems to be often used to justify a range of actions that have negative impacts – such as removal of street trees and proposed installation large traffic on Dalhousie and Waratah Streets.
- A query was raised by community members about featuring WestConnex on the home page of Council's website, as finding information on WestConnex on this site is too difficult.

Refer to Actionable Items 4 & 5 listed below.

Stage 2 update report

- A community member stated that St Peters residents feel like utilities works are constantly being undertaken, and the notification process is not adequately informing residents about these works. Utilities providers are not governed by the project's conditions of approval.
- It was noted that residents' complaints must be having an effect, as currently night works are planned for every second night - not consecutively.
- Concerns were raised by a community member over *Modification Request: Administrative Modification to Conditions E3, E14 and E44 SSI 6788 (Mod 2)* being approved without any input from Council or residents. Council did investigate this with the DP&E and was advised that notification is not required for administrative modifications.
- *Refer to Actionable Item 6.*

Stage 3 update report

- A community member asked if the DP&E had given any indication of the timing of the Stage 3 M4-M5 Link EIS determination. No indication has been provided, currently submissions are being sorted and key issues identified for review. Members asked why the project can't be stopped until the determination.
- Council confirmed as part of a Council resolution from the 12 October meeting: "*That Council commits to writing to all members of State Parliament seeking their support for a full inquiry into WestConnex and that the EIS for Stage 3 not proceed until the inquiry is concluded*", letters have been sent to approximately 130 members of State Parliament.
- A member raised the issues around the proposed construction sites in Haberfield, noting it was 'promised' when Stage 1 was approved that there would be no future above ground construction sites in Haberfield due to what had already been built for the M4 East.
- Suggested Sydney Motorway Corporation (SMC) want hybrid option for Haberfield as it allows them to change staging and start earlier. Calls to stop this on the consistency ruling. Can Council obtain legal advice on stopping the project, particularly as there are very real concerns the Rozelle Interchange may be unbuildable. At the 12 October Council meeting the following resolution was passed: "*Produce a report, for*

consideration by Councillors, exploring all legal avenues available to Council to challenge the compulsory acquisition and approval processes for the WestConnex project. This should include a summary of all previously procured legal advice". This is currently being reviewed by Council's legal staff.

- Regarding the expected Stage 1 M4 East will handover to Stage 3 M4-M5 Link, serious consideration needs to be given to how this affects UDLP implementation and residual/legacy land handovers. If Stage 3 proceeds, a clearer understanding of the cross-over between the two projects is required.
- A *Protecting Local Streets from WestConnex* drop-in information session to be held at the Jimmy Little Centre, 19 Cecily Street Lilyfield on 9 November 2017 from 5pm to 7pm. Five construction site meetings are to be held, starting with Rozelle/Lilyfield on Wednesday 22 November 2017 and Darley Road, Leichhardt on Tuesday 28 November 2017. St Peters, Haberfield and Camperdown will follow in early 2018.

Refer to Actionable Items 7 & 8 listed below.

Item 4: EPA update

A verbal update was given by EPA's Operations Manager Metropolitan Infrastructure on issues related to the project.

It was determined that the report be received and noted.

The main points raised during the discussion included:

- EPA has issued a formal letter to the proponents of Stage 1 over dust emissions at the Parramatta Road construction site. E-mailed complaints (including videos) have provided the evidence for this action. Members commented there is an obvious layer of dust on Parramatta Road due to the dust coming from the construction sites, and possibly there are not enough trucks spraying water.
- EPA has raised in their Stage 3 M4-M5 Link EIS submission issues of dust, noise, vibration and out-of-hours construction. EPA to forward the submission to Council for distribution to WCLF members.
- EPA has received several complaints on blasting and tunnelling noise from St Peters residents and these are currently under investigation.
- A question was directed to EPA about whether they were aware of the Modification Request: *Administrative Modification to Conditions E3, E14 and E44 SSI 6788 (MOD 2)*.

Refer to Actionable Items 9 & 10 listed below.

Item 5: DP&E compliance update

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

It was determined that the report be received and noted.

The main points raised during the discussion included:

- The DP&E representative pointed out that even if a complaint doesn't result in a breach, all complaints can assist in changing and improving how the project undertakes daily activities.

- Complaint numbers in relation to WestConnex have been reducing in recent months.
- The DP&E confirmed a truck parked outside Haberfield Public School was investigated and this resulted in a fine being issued.
- The DP&E representative confirmed that RMS operates cameras in and around the construction sites. DP&E does not have access to this footage. DP&E would need to make a formal request to obtain the footage.
- The DP&E representative advised that out-of-hours utility works in Florence Street, St Peters resulted in a penalty notice being issued. This was appealed, reviewed and upheld. Further details are in the DP&E's monthly compliance report on the DP&E website.

Refer to Actionable Item 11 listed below.

Summary of actionable items

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

General actions

1. Council acknowledges the community request to hold a WCLF meeting in December 2017.

Current situation: Council has scheduled a WCLF meeting for Thursday 7 December 2017 to be held at the Ashfield Service Centre.

2. Council to investigate how long WestConnex New M5 temporary acquisition of the Camdenville Park will be.

Current situation: Council has been advised by new M5 that the handover of Camdenville Basin back to Council is scheduled for mid-2019.

3. Council to write to the Minister for WestConnex seeking a statement guaranteeing Stage 1 and 2 lands will be handed back as per agreed conditions of approval.

Current situation: Council has written to the Minister on this matter and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.

Stage 1 actions

4. Council to contact Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) seeking a definition of 'safety' in relation to pedestrian and vehicle detours.

Current situation: Council has written to RMS on this matter, and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.

5. Council to investigate the option of featuring WestConnex more prominently on the opening page of Council's website.

Current situation: Councils' current website is an interim site in use until a new website is launched during 2018. With the interim site there is no real opportunity to single out and highlight advocacy work, but Council does feature WestConnex on the home page when media releases are issued, and in the 'What's On' with regard to public meetings.

The new site will be able to display banners for WestConnex, but this is not the case for the interim website.

Stage 2 actions

6. Council to ensure that the Department of Planning & Environment website is monitored.
Current situation: Council staff have implemented a monitoring system to ensure that all modifications are identified whether or not they are notified by DP&E.

Stage 3 actions

7. Council staff to follow up on the Ministerial letters sent seeking their support for a full inquiry into WestConnex and that the EIS for Stage 3 not proceed until the inquiry is concluded.
Current situation: The letters have been sent from the Mayor's Office and the responses will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.
8. Department of Planning and Environment to review Stage 1 and Stage 2 conditions of approval in relation to the handover to Stage 3.
Current situation: Council staff have forwarded this request to Department of Planning & Environment and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.
9. EPA to provide Council with a copy of their Stage 3 M4-M5 Link EIS submission for distribution to WCLF members.
Current situation: EPA have provided the submission and it was emailed to WCLF members on Friday 3 November 2017.
10. EPA to investigate whether they were notified by the DP&E of the New M5 Modification Request: Administrative Modification to Conditions E3, E14 and E44 SSI 6788 (MOD 2).
Current situation: Council staff have forwarded this request to EPA and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.
11. Council to remind the community of the importance of lodging complaints and detail the most effective process to do so.
Current situation: Council included a detailed article in the WestConnex Weekly Update on Friday 3 November 2017 on effective complaint procedure.

The meeting concluded at 12.30pm.

Next meeting: Thursday 7 December 2017, 10:00am to 12:30pm
Level 6 Ashfield Council Chambers, Ashfield Service Centre
260 Liverpool Road, Ashfield