

**Draft Minutes of the
WestConnex Community Liaison Forum (WCLF)
held at Leichhardt Service Centre
10:00am-12:30pm, Thursday 4 May 2017**

The meeting commenced at 10:00am

In attendance:

Jennifer Aaron	Leichhardt Against WestConnex (LAW)
Christine Allibone-White	WestProtects
Peter Hehir	Rozelle Against WestConnex (RAW)
Paul Jeffery	No WestConnex Public Transport (NoW PT)
Chris Kerle	Community Organiser NoW PT
Sharon Laura	Haberfield Resident
Cynthia Moore	Haberfield Resident
LJ Loch	WestProtects
Lesley Treleaven	Camperdown Residents Against WestConnex (CRAW)
Tom Zelinka	No WestConnex Annandale
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
Ken Welsh	Transport Planner, IWC
Robyn Meakins	Administration Officer WestConnex Unit, IWC
Helen Tola	Manager Customer Service & Corporate Planning, IWC
Mike Sharpin	Unit Head Metropolitan Infrastructure, Environment Protection Authority (EPA)
Robbert Mels	Operations Officer Metropolitan Infrastructure, EPA
Rob Sherry	Principal WestConnex Compliance Officer, Department of Planning & Environment (DP&E)
Kathleen Withers	WestConnex Compliance Officer, 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:

Rhea Liebmann	WestCONex Action Group
Catherine Gemmell	Leichhardt Against WestConnex (LAW)
Jo Alley	Save Ashfield Park Committee
Richard Archer	NoW PT
Jozefa Sobski	Haberfield resident
Malachy Ward	Haberfield resident

Chris Woods	IWC Local Representation Advisory Committee (LRAC) member
Sarah Wood	WestProtects

4. Items for consideration by WCLF

Item 1: Minutes from 7 April 2017 meeting & update on actionable items

It was determined that:

1. Minutes of the WCLF meeting held on 7 April 2017 be adopted; and
2. The update on actionable items be received and noted.

The main point raised during the discussion was the recent media announcement by WestConnex Minister Stuart Ayres that all residual lands from the project will be allocated to community use.

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:

- It was reported that at the WCRG, LAW representatives had tabled documents obtained via the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA) which showed that negotiations had commenced over acquisition of 7 Darley Road, Leichhardt in late 2016, even though at this time Sydney Motorway Corporation (SMC) was informing the community that two dive-sites were being considered – Darley Road and Derbyshire Road.
- A LAW representative had raised the issue of lack of response to a letter LAW had sent to Roads & Maritime Services (RMS) in December 2016, even though LAW had made several follow-up attempts.
- Concerns were raised about lack of transparency by RMS and SMC regarding the project.
- Concerns were raised about construction sites in Haberfield for Stage 3 and inadequate community consultation on these sites. It was highlighted there should be no overlap between the exhibition of the Stage 3 design plans and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
- A community representative suggested that Council be more proactive in making GIPA applications for information in relation to the proposal.
- A community representative asked if Council was proactively attempting to predict potential traffic rat-runs via traffic modelling and whether Council was in receipt of traffic data from RMS.
- Attendees were advised by Council representatives that RMS is now co-operating with Council to provide traffic data, and this will be supplied when Council has commissioned the traffic modelling consultant(s). Council will also be commissioning consultants to prepare submissions on Council's behalf for the Stage 3 design plans and EIS.

Refer to Actionable Items 1 & 2 listed below.

Item 3: WestConnex Stage 1, 2, & 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 about Haberfield Public School having to hire a bus to transport children to Timbrell Park instead of walking to the park as they used to, which was attributed to construction of the G-Loop. Dobroyd Point and St Joan of Arc primary schools are most likely placed in the same situation.
- In relation to the above point, a query was raised about whether a pedestrian overpass has been advocated to re-establish connectivity between Haberfield and Iron Cove Creek.
- Concerns continue to be raised about air quality impacts from WestConnex and a request was made for EPA to consider further air quality monitoring in the Haberfield area.
- Concerns were raised about idling of project trucks in the area, and a suggestion made that residents use Twitter hashtags to lodge complaints.
- Reference was made to underground tunnelling and the likelihood that tunnelling for Stage 1 would be completed by October 2017.

Refer to Actionable Items 3 to 7 listed below.

Stage 2 update report

Key Points raised during the discussion included:

- Concerns were raised about ongoing impacts from WestConnex construction activities on St Peters residents and inadequate consultation for the New M5 Urban Design and Landscape Plan (UDLP).
- Reference was made to the WestConnex Minister's promise to devote all residual lands to open space and other community uses, including additional open space near Sydney Park.
- A community representative suggested that Council and others highlight in their UDLP submissions that the Campbell Road land bridge is required as part of Stage 2 and should not be deferred to Stage 3. It was noted that Council had raised this issue in its submission.
- Concerns were raised about reports of vibration in the area around Steel Park, Marrickville and Campbell Street, St Peters - assumed to be from New M5 tunnelling.

Refer to Actionable Item 8 listed below.

Stage 3 update report

Key Points raised during the discussion included:

- Community representatives expressed opposition to any above-ground construction facility proposed for Haberfield, and any construction dive-site for Leichhardt and Annandale/Camperdown.

- Concerns were raised about the ongoing health impacts from WestConnex on the Inner West community.
- Reference was made to the “Civilising WestConnex” exhibition, and whether this could be displayed in an exhibition venue at Pyrmont Bridge Road, Camperdown as a joint venture with the City of Sydney.
- There was a discussion about the repurposing WestConnex for metro rail tunnels, as was proposed by the Civilising WestConnex exhibition.
- Concerns were raised about the dive-site proposed for Annandale/Camperdown, particularly about the closure of one lane in peak periods and the associated impacts on bus services, pedestrians and cyclists. A request was made that Council ensures that Annandale/Camperdown is included in Council’s statements of opposition to Stage 3 dive-sites.
- Attendees were advised of an upcoming public meeting to be held on 21 May 2017, organised by CRAW. A request was made for a Council representative to attend and possibly address the meeting.
- Concerns were raised about increased traffic in William Street, Leichhardt and an increase in the number of buses using William Street rather than Darley Road.
- Concerns continue to be raised about long-term health impacts from fine particle pollution from motor vehicles.
- A community representative advised that RAW is organising a rally outside the Balmain Town Hall on 20 May 2017 outside the RMS community feedback session for the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beach Link.
- Reference was made to the RMS Western Harbour Tunnel & Beaches Link information flyer being available in the Customer Service foyer at the Leichhardt Service Centre and in Balmain Library.
- Concerns were raised about restoration of bore holes and subsidence that has occurred in the eastern end of Alfred Street, Rozelle. This has resulted in a collapse of the road surface in excess of 1 metre, which was rectified temporarily by large steel plates. A query was raised about whether this was a unique occurrence or whether it had occurred in other streets.
- A community member raised a concern about a perceived lack of representation by Council of the St Peters community compared to other areas affected by WestConnex. The Administrator stated that Council will be mindful of this concern and will ensure the St Peters community is adequately represented.

Refer to Actionable Items 9 to 15 listed below.

Item 5: Compliance update

Rob Sherry, the DP&E’s Principal WestConnex Compliance Officer, provided a verbal compliance update.

Mike Sharpin, Unit Head Metropolitan Infrastructure EPA provided a verbal compliance update.

It was determined that the report be received and noted.

Key Points raised during the discussion included:

- Concerns were raised about landfill odour issues from the St Peters Interchange (SPI) site. EPA representatives agreed to provide a definition of 'offensive odour' and suggested the odour should now be under control given current wind direction and time of day.
- Reference was made to the EPA complaints number 131 555 to report odours. EPA representatives made a commitment to forward an 'odour diary' to Council for circulation with WCLF minutes. Community members are encouraged to use this diary if/when making odour complaints to EPA.
- Concerns were raised about noise from the acoustic shed in Cintra Park (outside the Inner West Council area) - specifically blasting which was being conducted at the end of each shift. EPA agreed to investigate this issue, as well as noise from fan extraction at that site.
- Concerns continue to be raised about weekend and night-time work occurring around Wattle Street, Ramsay Street and Walker Avenue at Haberfield.
- Concerns were raised about continual traffic rat-running and excessive speed along Darley Road, Frances Street, William Street, Herbert Street and Charles Street at Leichhardt. Greater enforcement of speeding is sought.

Refer to Actionable Items 16 & 17 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. Council to write to the Minister for WestConnex (cc SMC CEO) regarding Stage 3 consultation, stating there should be no overlap between the exhibition of the design plans and the EIS.

Current situation: The Administrator has written to the Minister for WestConnex (cc SMC CEO) and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.

2. WCLF to also write to the Minister for WestConnex about lack of transparency and lack of genuine communication on the project. WestProtects representative to circulate a draft letter to WCLF members for comment.

Current situation: WestProtects representative to circulate a draft letter to Minister for WestConnex to WCLF members for comment. Minister's response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.

Stage 1 actions

3. Council to investigate and report to a future WCLF meeting whether former Ashfield Council had advocated a pedestrian overpass over Wattle Street, Haberfield in its submission on the M4 East EIS in 2015.

Current situation: Council staff are investigating this matter and will report the findings to a future WCLF meeting.

4. Council to write to RMS to request a pedestrian overpass be constructed over Wattle Street, Haberfield to resolve the issue of lack of a safe surface pedestrian connection across Wattle Street.

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

5. Council to request EPA to monitor air quality in the Haberfield area, particularly around Wattle Street, Ramsay Street and Martin Street.

Current situation: Council has forward this request to EPA, and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.

6. DP&E compliance officers to discourage the idling of trucks around the Wattle Street and Parramatta Road construction sites at Haberfield, and to investigate if this issue can be addressed through enforcement of M4 East Conditions of Approval.

Current situation: DP&E compliance officers have advised Council that at a recent monthly WestConnex meeting between DP&E and SMC, DP&E had insisted that project drivers limit the idling of trucks on local streets to ensure residential amenity is maintained.

7. WCLF to develop a 'how to use Twitter' instruction page and convene a Twitter workshop for WCLF members immediately prior to or after the next WCLF meeting. Council to publicise the relevant Twitter hashtag.

Current situation: WestProtects representative to draft the Twitter instruction page and convene the Twitter workshop. Council to add the relevant hashtag in its Inner West Council Courier column.

Stage 2 actions

8. Council to advocate that the Stage 2 land bridge should be completed as per the conditions of consent, not deferred to Stage 3.

Current situation: The Administrator has written to the Minister for WestConnex on this matter and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting. This matter was also raised in Council's submission on the Stage 2 UDLP.

Stage 3 actions

9. Council to write to the Minister for WestConnex highlighting local issues associated with mid-tunnel construction dive-site options and suggesting a detailed analysis be undertaken of all options.

Current situation: The Administrator has written to the Minister for WestConnex and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting. A letter has been received from Peter Jones, Director M4-M5 stating "We have previously advised that the Rozelle Rail Yards geography and the light rail interface make it an unsuitable option, however following your request we have decided to undertake further investigation."

10. Council to consider whether staff will attend and speak at the CRAW public meeting being held at 3-5pm on 21 May 2017 at 88 Mallet Street, Camperdown.

Current situation: Council's Manager WestConnex Unit attended the meeting on Council's behalf.

11. Council to investigate what can be done to re-purpose/re-design WestConnex for public transport and transit-oriented development.
Current situation: Council staff are investigating this matter and will report findings to the June LRAC and July WCLF meetings.
12. Investigate whether the arts venue on Pyrmont Bridge Road, Camperdown could be used to exhibit the Civilising WestConnex as a partnership with City of Sydney.
Current situation: Council staff have been advised by City of Sydney staff that arrangements are underway for the exhibition to be displayed at the City of Sydney, Level 2 Town Hall House (same venue as the city model).
13. Council to confirm that RMS undertakes comprehensive notification of residents of Birchgrove and Balmain to ensure they are aware of scheduled investigative works.
Current situation: Council staff have recently met with RMS Western Harbour Tunnel project staff and were advised that residents around investigative work sites will be notified no less than 5 days in advance of work commencing at each site. Initial notification will be via letterbox drop.
14. Council to investigate whether the collapse in the road surface in Alfred Street, Rozelle (as reported and remedied temporarily by road plates) is a unique occurrence or whether this has occurred in other streets.
Current situation: Investigations by Council's Ashfield and Leichhardt staff indicate the use of road plates was due to a stormwater pipe defect. However, feedback has identified areas where the temporary restoration works is failing includes Alt and Ramsay Streets in Haberfield. Council continues to raise identified defects with SMC, with follow through until suitable action is undertaken.
15. Council to investigate whether SMC can arrange a tour of the Rozelle Railyards for WCLF members.
Current situation: SMC have responded "We understand that many people in the community are interested in visiting and viewing the project sites, however we do not permit entry for members of the public onto these sites for supervisory and safety reasons."

Compliance actions

16. Council to circulate the EPA odour diary to WCLF members for use by the community if/when making odour complaints.
Current situation: Council staff have circulated the odour diary to WCLF members and it has also been included in the 12 May 2017 WestConnex Weekly Update Report.
17. EPA to investigate noise from blasting and fan extraction from the acoustic shed in Cintra Park (outside the Inner West Council area).
Current situation: The following response was received from EPA, "The EPA has investigated the noise issues around Cintra Park which started in April 2017. Site visits have been undertaken on both the 13 and 19 April to assess and monitor noise which was compliant. The EPA directed the licensee to undertake attended noise monitoring between the hours of 0400 and 0630. Noise monitoring results showed compliance with the NML. The licensee was reminded to stay vigilant with its operations in the early

hours of the morning. The EPA has not received any complaints to the Environment Line about noise from the Cintra Park site since April.”

The Meeting concluded at 12.33pm

Next Meeting: **Thursday 1 June 2017, 10:00am to 12:30pm**
Level 3 Leichhardt Service Centre
Wetherill Street, Leichhardt