

**Minutes of the
WestConnex Community Liaison Forum (WCLF)
held at St Peters Town Hall
10:00am-12:30pm, Thursday 3 May 2018**

The meeting commenced at 10:00am

In attendance:

Cynthia Moore	Haberfield Resident
Sharon Laura	Haberfield Resident
Paul Jeffrey	NoWPT, WestCONnex Action Group
Christine Allibone-White	WestProtects
Peter Hehir	Rozelle Against WestConnex (RAW)
Graeme McKay	Haberfield Resident
Michael Zarnado	Haberfield Resident
Jennifer Aaron	Leichhardt Against WestConnex (LAW)
Rachel Davies	Ashfield Resident
Malachy Ward	Haberfield Association
David Birds	Group Manager Strategic Planning Inner West Council (IWC)
Kendall Banfield	Manager WestConnex Unit IWC
Felix Liu	Engineer WestConnex Unit IWC
Robyn Meakins	Administration Officer WestConnex Unit IWC
Rob Sherry	Principal WestConnex Compliance Officer Department of Planning & Environment (DP&E)
Maria Divis	Compliance Officer DP&E
Mike Sharpin	Unit Head Metropolitan Infrastructure Environment Protection Authority (EPA)
Jacinta Hanemann	Head of Infrastructure EPA

1. **Welcome by Group Manager Strategic Planning IWC**
The Group Manager Strategic Planning welcomed all members to the WCLF meeting.
2. **Acknowledgement of Country**
3. **Apologies**

Apologies were accepted for the absence of:

Anne Picot	NoWPT, WestCONnex Action Group
Lesley Treleaven	Camperdown Residents Against WestConnex
LJ Loch	WestProtects
Elizabeth Johnstone	WestProtects
Tom Zelinka	No WestConnex Annandale

4. Items for consideration by WCLF

Item 1: Minutes from 6 April 2018 meeting & update on actionable items

It was determined that:

1. Minutes of the WCLF meeting held on 6 April 2018 be adopted; and
2. The update on actionable items be received and noted.

Item 2: WestConnex update report

It was determined that the report be received and noted.

Stage 1 update report

Key points raised during the discussion included:

- The Haberfield resident parking scheme is currently on exhibition and will close on 15 May 2018. There are mixed opinions and feelings in the community about it. There is some disagreement with the scheme only being implemented on one side of streets. Council staff's response is that this that implementation on one side of the street is in line with former Ashfield and Marrickville Councils' programs and follows a 'sharing the road' philosophy. Members felt the policy should be reviewed now the councils have amalgamated.
- Sydney Motorway Corporation (SMC) provides some policing of contractor parking but there is no accountability. The community feels the resident parking scheme will not achieve what it was designed to do. M4 East project staff have said they are trying to obtain access to the Muirs site immediately so Stage 1 workers can use it for parking.
- There was a call for Council to replace missing heavy vehicle restriction signs in Bland Street as there is a constant stream of trucks using Bland Street. The project requires a cabin registration number to verify if any truck is related to the project. Trailers can have independent registration numbers so it can be difficult to correctly identify trucks and enforce truck route restrictions.
- It was reported that at the WestConnex Community Reference Group (WRCG) in November 2017 a SMC staff member advised that there would be treatments at street level which are being funded by the M4 East Legacy Project. Why would Legacy Project funds be used for road works? SMC also advised Council that Roads & Maritime Services (RMS) has approved this. Council confirmed it had not seen these Legacy Project plans.
- It was reported that Canada Bay Council has engaged external architects to work on M4 East Legacy Project designs with SMC in its council area. Time is running out for consultation on the Legacy Project as construction related to this project is to commence in June 2018 in Haberfield.
- Council staff advised that a meeting with key Ashfield and Haberfield WCLF members about M4 East Legacy Project matters was held on 2 May 2018. This is as per Action Item 5 from the 1 March 2018 WCLF meeting. A number of actions were identified from this meeting, including development of a site-specific development control plan for 202 Parramatta Road Ashfield (Woolworth's site), and for Council to ensure WCLF is fully informed of the community engagement process for the consultation on SMC's offer of

\$2.5 million in Legacy Project funding. Action items from the 2 May meeting are to be included in the minutes of the 3 May 2018 WCLF meeting.

- Concerns were raised over RMS plans to make Liverpool Road through the Ashfield commercial centre a clearway. Council confirmed its position of opposition and is working to prevent this clearway being expanded.
- It was reported that Haberfield residents recently experienced a dust storm, which was made worse by dust coming from M4 East construction sites.
- It was reported that M4 East project staff had advised some residents of Out of Hours Works (OOHW) being undertaken by a gas utility company on the day the works were to occur. This is not adequate notice. A resident contacted the company directly, and these works were delayed and the notification area expanded.
- Concerns continue to be expressed by residents about air quality around construction sites. EPA staff were asked if they could work with Haberfield Primary School to refer their concerns on this matter to NSW Health.
- It was noted that the Haberfield ventilation facility will have three chimneys – two for M4 East and one for M4-M5 Link.
- *Refer to Actionable Items 1 - 7 listed below.*

Stage 2 update report

- As there was no community representative present to report on New M5 issues, Council staff provided an issues update.
- Community enquiries have focused on parking management, pedestrian safety issues, night noise, at-property noise treatments, designs for the proposed land bridge that would connect the St Peters Interchange recreation area to Sydney Park and various Urban Design and Landscape (UDLP) concerns.
- A notice has recently been received by residents near Campbell Street about Council's plans to remove residual parts of Campbell Street road widening reservation from the Local Environmental Plan. In general terms, Council seeks to remove all road widening reservations, particularly when they are not needed.
- *There are no Actionable Items for Stage 2.*

Stage 3 update report

- It was reported that Stage 3 (M4-M5 Link) was approved by the Minister for Planning on 17 April 2018. The Instrument of Approval, Environmental Assessment Report and the Independent Consultant Peer Review are located on the DP&E major projects website. The latter document covers traffic and transport, air quality, urban design and groundwater.
- The approval states that Option A is the preferred construction option for Haberfield. This option would keep construction activities further below the surface within existing Stage 1 sites rather than creating impacts on new sites along Parramatta Road. In fact, a further environmental assessment is required if Option B is pursued.
- If Option A is adopted, it appears project trucks would not need to use the two sensitive truck routes previously proposed to access one of the Parramatta Road construction sites, i.e. the route that includes Liverpool Road and the route that includes Darley Road, Tebbutt Street and surrounding streets. Council has raised concerns about these routes as they include residential streets with schools, as well as the Ashfield commercial centre.

- It appears the DP&E has listened to the community to some degree as there are some new positive elements within the conditions of approval. These include a Utilities Management Strategy, appointment of a Utilities Coordination Manger and establishment of a Utilities Coordination Committee to manage utilities works so that impacts on residents are reduced. It also includes appointment of a Community Complaints Mediator to manage complaint process issues, an Acoustic Advisor to oversee development of a Construction Noise and Vibrations Management Plan and a Noise Insulation Program.
- Council is concerned about the truck route from White Bay to the Pymont Bridge Road dive-site using Johnstone Street. Thought Johnston Street is a State Road, it includes sensitive uses such as houses, schools and a village shopping centre. Two local concrete batching facilities are also proposed to relocate to White Bay, which will add further truck traffic. WCLF members have heard figures of up to a thousand trucks a day using James Craig Drive. Council expects the figure could be as high as 2,000 trucks a day.
- A WCLF member commented that the Stage 3 Environmental Assessment Report approval document does not even mention filtration of vent stacks. Rozelle Against WestConnex (RAW) is working on a response to the approval with bio-scientist Mark Curran and hopes to hold a public meeting on air quality issues later in 2018.
- A WCLF member advised that over a period of eight days, he made repeated calls to SMC's enquiry line and to the M4 East community engagement team on the issue of air quality, but there was no response to these calls. The WCLF member has sent details of this to the DP&E to investigate.
- It was reported that the NSW Supreme Court had handed down its decision on the Desane Group property at 68-72 Lilyfield Road Rozelle, ruling that the NSW Government's acquisition of the property next to the Rozelle Rail Yards (RRY) site for WestConnex was invalid. It was found to be "*motivated by improper purpose*" which calls into question RMS's entire compulsory acquisition process. The acquisition was deemed to be invalid as the land was not actually needed for the motorway, but was to be used as parkland.
- This reduces the size of the construction site. There are three other businesses in the area that have been compulsorily acquired - where does that leave them? Class action may be possible for those affected by compulsory acquisitions for Stage 3.
- Council will be holding two WestConnex-related public meetings in May 2018. The first will be held at the Balmain Town Hall at 2pm on Saturday 26 May 2018 to address impacts from WestConnex and the proposed second Sydney Harbour Tunnel, including the acquisition of the Balmain Leagues Club site. The second will be held at the Annandale Community Centre at 7pm on Wednesday 30 May 2018 to address the impacts of major infrastructure projects on the Annandale community.
- Frustration was expressed at the first WestConnex Community Reference Group (WCRG) meeting being postponed without explanation. It was considered that RMS was behaving like SMC, with total disregard for the reference group.
- A LAW representative raised the issue of local residents in James Street, Hubert Street, Charles Street, Francis and William Streets being affected by construction worker parking. A timeframe was requested for a Council traffic-calming implementation program. Not only do these streets have to deal with forthcoming WestConnex construction, but also an increase in number of unit blocks being approved in the neighbourhood.

- Council staff's response was that Council's Traffic Services staff are investigating various traffic/parking management measures, including a resident parking scheme. This will take time as it must follow Council's design and approvals processes.
- Council staff advised the WestConnex Local Area Improvement Strategy (LAIS) will be reported to the 8 May 2018 Council meeting. Traffic modelling has been undertaken for different stages of WestConnex and affected streets have been identified. Current traffic conditions have been taken into consideration, but this project is about forecasting the impacts of WestConnex. Council plans on writing to RMS seeking funds to implement the strategy.

Refer to Actionable Items 8 – 9 listed below.

Item 4: EPA update

EPA's Unit Head Metropolitan Infrastructure provided a verbal compliance report.

Stage 1 (M4 East)

- EPA is continuing to undertake a number of inspections for dust on hot and windy days. The best source of information is from the community when complaints are made that contain images of the dust leaving the construction sites.
- With regard to air quality monitoring; six monitoring facilities have been installed along the M4 East project, with two in Haberfield as per the conditions of approval. The one located at the Haberfield Public School is operational. Baseline recording commences twelve months prior to the motorway opening. Monitoring units record regional air quality as well as local air quality. The Office of Environment & Heritage operates a number of air quality monitoring units throughout Sydney, the closest being located at Earlwood. Data is available live from these units. A WCLF member thought it would be beneficial to compare Earlwood's results to Haberfield.
- It appears that the data contained in the air quality monitoring reports on the SMC website are not adjusted for anomalies.
- There are daily goals associated with air quality monitoring. There will be spikes in readings, however there is a need to assess averages and not single anomalies. For example in the period 1 February 2018 to 1 March 2018, spikes were explained by various bushfires around Sydney.

Stage 2 (New M5)

- Dust continues to be a problem along Campbell Street and Campbell Road in St Peters. EPA is now undertaking inspections on high risk days.
- EPA has commenced prosecution proceedings in the Land & Environment Court against CPB Contractors Pty Ltd for allegedly causing offensive odours from the WestConnex St Peters Interchange site on four occasions in 2017.
- St Peters Public School has an air quality monitoring station. Results from this will be available online in the December-January 2018-19 period. EPA has requested the unit be activated earlier than this.

Item 5: DP&E compliance update

The DP&E's Principal WestConnex Compliance Officer provided a verbal compliance update, as follows:

- DP&E compliance staff are undertaking proactive and reactive inspections for both WestConnex projects.

Stage 1 (M4 East)

- Air quality monitoring for the M4 East is not a reportable requirement prior to operation.

Stage 2 (New M5)

- There are continuing issues about at-property noise treatments that have been elevated to RMS. Issue relate to the noise attenuation identified in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) not being implemented.
- New M5 has been issued with an official caution for failure to comply with conditions associated with notification.
- Project does have construction parking plans and is able to occupy parking spots for periods between two and ten days.

Item 6: Other Business

No other business was raised.

Summary of actionable items

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

Stage 1 actions

1. Council to investigate and if necessary replace heavy vehicle signage on Bland Street Haberfield.

Current situation: Request has been sent to relevant Council staff and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.

2. Ensure WCLF members are informed of any submissions or lodgements for 202 Parramatta Road Ashfield by Fabcot Pty Ltd (Woolworths).

Current situation: Request has been sent to relevant Council staff and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.

3. Council's Community Services & Culture team to ensure WCLF members are consulted in the engagement process undertaken to determine project identification for the SMC proposal for delivering community facilities in Haberfield.

Current situation: Request has been sent to relevant Council staff and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.

4. Council to produce site-specific development control plan guidelines for properties along the south side of Parramatta Road between Bland Street and Orpington Street affected by WestConnex to ensure that adequate community outcomes are achieved regarding public domain, footpaths and cycle ways, safe pedestrian movements to schools and connectivity between places.

Current situation: Request has been sent to relevant Council staff and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.

5. Council to contact SMC seeking urgent consultation on the Legacy Plans in Haberfield.

Current situation: Council staff met with staff from SMC and SMC's consultants on Wednesday 16 May 2018 to discuss: identification of the legacy project area; a review landscaping around the ventilation facility; the landscaped open space area adjacent to Walker Avenue; and Waratah Street pedestrian crossing improvements. SMC's consultants will review current designs in line with Council staff's comments made at the meeting.

6. Council to contact the RMS to express concern with the lack of appropriate treatment of the following areas: crossing from Haberfield to Five Dock; crossing from Waratah Street to Timbrell Park; Bland Street intersection; the crossing of Parramatta Road at Bunnings; and the Robson Park crossing. Note the project affect this latter crossing even though it is outside the project footprint.

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

7. EPA to provide WCLF with information on Office of Environment & Heritage Sydney air quality monitoring stations.

Current situation: EPA has provided this information and it was communicated via email to WCLF members on 4 May 2018.

Stage 2 actions

There are no Stage 2 actions items for this meeting.

Stage 3 actions

8. Council to make initial assessment of the Stage 3 approval available on the Council website.

Current situation: Council has placed the assessment review onto Council's website.

9. Council's legal team to review the Desane Property Group decision handed down by the Supreme Court and advise if there is an opportunity for affected property owners to challenge the compulsory acquisition of properties.

Current situation: Council's legal team advised it is unable to provide legal advice to private property owners.

The meeting concluded at 12:40pm.

Next meeting: Thursday 5 July 2018, 10:00am to 12:30pm
Level 6, Ashfield Service Centre
260 Liverpool Road, Ashfield