

**Minutes of the  
WestConnex Community Liaison Forum (WCLF)  
held at the Ashfield Service Centre  
10:00am-12:30pm, Thursday 4 October 2018**

The meeting commenced at 10:00am

**In attendance:**

Sharon Laura	Haberfield Resident
Cynthia Moore	Haberfield Resident
Anne Picot	No WestConnex Public Transport (NoWPT) & WestCONNex Action Group (WAG)
Jennifer Aaron	Leichhardt Against WestConnex (LAW)
Peter Hehir	Rozelle Against WestConnex (RAW)
Rachel Davies	Ashfield Resident
Jozefa Sobski	Haberfield Association
Malachy Ward	Haberfield Association
David Birds	Group Manager Strategic Planning Inner West Council (IWC)
Kendall Banfield	Manager WestConnex Unit, IWC
Maree Laing	Community Organiser, WestConnex Unit, IWC
Robyn Meakins	Administration Officer, WestConnex Unit, IWC
Rob Sherry	Principal WestConnex Compliance Officer, Department of Planning & Environment (DP&E)
Clair Miles	Acting Unit Head Metropolitan Infrastructure Environment Protection Authority (EPA)
Stuart Clark	Senior Operations Officer, Metropolitan Section, EPA

**1. Welcome by Group Manager Strategic Planning IWC**

The Group Manager welcomed all members to the WCLF meeting.

**2. Acknowledgement of Country**

**3. Apologies**

Apologies were accepted for the absence of:

Tom Zelinka	No WestConnex Annandale
Graeme McKay	Haberfield Resident
Christine Allibone-White	WestProtects
Elizabeth Johnstone	WestProtects
Michael Zarnado	Haberfield Resident
Paul Jeffrey	NoWPT & WAG
LJ Loch	WestProtects

Mike Sharpin	Unit Head Metropolitan Infrastructure Environment Protection Authority (EPA)
Jacinta Hanemann	Head of Infrastructure, EPA

#### 4. Items for consideration by WCLF

##### **Item 1: Minutes from 6 September 2018 meeting & update on actionable items**

It was determined that:

- Minutes of the 6 September 2018 WCLF be adopted subject to the following amendments:
  - that point 2, item 1 be amended to read: *Forum members stated senior Council officers would be better equipped to speak instead of the Mayor;*
  - that point 1, item 2 be amended to read: *The cabinet installed in Waratah Street completely obstructs clear passage for pedestrians particularly those with prams or mobility aids. Anyone walking past the cabinet must move onto the verge to get around it.;* and
  - that point 3, item 2 be amended to read: *Sydney Motorway Corporation (SMC) should be replacing like with like, instead there is now a 2.9 m minimum from kerb to property line instead of 4 m which there was previously.*
- The update on actionable items be received and noted.

Key points raised during the discussion were:

- Forum members object to the Mayor speaking at the WestConnex Inquiry and want this statement recorded in the minutes.
- RAW representative questioned why advocacy group expenses were not reimbursed when the Mayor reportedly spend \$8 000 on the 26 May 2018 public meeting on WestConnex Stage 3 and Western Harbour Tunnel held at the Balmain Town Hall.
- The RAW representative also raised action item 4 from the 2 August 2018 WCLF *Council to investigate the issue of restricting truck access in south-west Rozelle* and further requested all roads leading onto and from Lilyfield Road be considered in this review. This action item has been referred to council's traffic services team. Council did advise that the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) does identify truck routes and more details will become available in the Traffic Management Plan which is put together by the contractor as part of the conditions of approval (CoA). All Stage 3 route approvals are on state or regional roads. Darley Road and Lilyfield Road are not identified as haulage routes. Campbell Street in St Peters is a regional road. There is concern local roads will still be used as workers do ignore routes. It is assumed trucks will prefer to use the new tunnels although the current framework does not guarantee compliance. DP&E advised that Stage 3 GPS tracking will be in place and as such real-time monitoring of trucks locations is available. This should be included in the newsletter to the community.
- Council was asked for an update on action item 2 from the 2 August 2018 WCLF meeting *Council to investigate the feasibility of establishing a register of properties damaged by WestConnex*. The matter is currently being reviewed by the dilapidation team within council. It was further suggested that council consider mapping the properties, all of which

would assist residents who wish to take class action in the future. Council needs to notify the community that they can register their complaint with council. Council's rates newsletter was suggested as a communication tool for this, even front page. Or a separate dedicated WestConnex newsletter distributed throughout the local government area was suggested. It could highlight the impacts, truck routes and other information the wider community needs to know about this project.

*Refer to Action Items 1 - 2 below.*

## **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 were:

- Community disappointment and disgust continues over Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) street furniture placement throughout Haberfield and Ashfield. This includes over-height detectors, visual messaging signs, utility cabinets and associated poles and pits. The manager of the WestConnex Unit attended a meeting on Friday 21 September 2018 with RMS Motorways Director, Project Director M4 East and representatives from Sydney Motorway Corporation (SMC) where the relocation of green cabinets that are obstructing pedestrian passage was discussed. A final outcome from the investigations into the relocations has not been advised to council.
- Haberfield and Ashfield forum members have investigated whether verges in front of these cabinets have utility services (as this was the excuse provided by SMC as to why the cabinets were unable to be located in the verges) and have found that they don't.
- The potential contamination resulting from geotechnical investigations at the Muirs site was raised. Council has requested information on this from RMS.
- Council was requested to write letters to relevant ministers and the Premier to force the contractor for Stage 3a mainline tunnels to reveal to the community exactly what they are planning for the Ashfield Muirs site.
- Council was requested to arrange a meeting with the Roads Minister on the status of the revised Urban Design and Landscape Plans (UDLP). It was advised that the Residual Plan is being managed by RMS. Should these lands be sold, any profits should be directed back to the original owners. A meeting has been confirmed between council and SMC to provide an update on the Haberfield Gardens plans
- Part of the Stage 3a modification requires the extension of the lease of a portion of the Reg Coady Reserve. Council would have to agree to this to enable the truck route to operate. Need to negotiate strongly for benefits from this extension back to the Haberfield.
- It was asked that, in the future, when council receives draft management plans for comment that if they are not commercial in confidence they be released to the community for review. Council responded the main issue with community consultation is time, council is generally given two weeks to provide a submission. At the very least, members said the documents could be reviewed at a WCLF meeting. DPE confirmed that the CoA do not require community consultation, main impacts have already been identified in the EIS.
- Representatives of the Haberfield Association advised the forum that they are discussing at their meetings the possible locations of heritage markers. Once decisions have been made, council will be consulted on the locations. Not a matter for the forum.

- The condition of Bland Street Ashfield is extremely challenging for cyclists. Forum member has been liaising with SMC on the matter of footpaths around Parramatta Road and Bland Street and will send information to DPE for review.
- There are obvious problems with the project accessing the Muirs sites from Alt Street, Bland Street and Parramatta Road. These roads are used by students attending Haberfield Public School, will the same traffic management used for M4 East be place as it has been inadequate? DPE advised they would raise with the Stage 3a contractor. The use of a shuttle from the Muirs sites to the Northcote tunnel site should minimise traffic on these side streets. This has been raised by DPE with the contractor.
- The footpath on Chandos Street Ashfield has not been rebuilt, no linkage with existing footpath on Parramatta Road.
- Forum member was advised that RMS standards indicate that Parramatta Road is a low use footpath and therefore it does not have to increase the size of what has been newly constructed. If RMS is reviewing the location on 'furniture' in the area, why can't it review the footpaths too? Council confirms that no RMS representatives attend the Stage 1 monthly interface meetings and as previously advised no scaled drawings have ever been provided. This trend has continued in that the Haberfield Gardens drawings have not been to scale.

*Refer to Action Items 1 - 2 below.*

### **Stage 2 update report**

- Out-of-hours works (OOHW) continue to be a major issue for St Peters residents as the water mains are relocated around Campbell Street. Residents are regularly without water during the night as this work is conducted. Alternative accommodation has been offered and it is school holidays so some families are away.
- The Stage 3 modification included the relocation of the water treatment plant from Darley Road Leichhardt to the St Peters Interchange (SPI). The St Peters community objects strongly to this. Information contained in the modification was vague and did not provide enough detailed information such as: no mention of the current drainage issues that exist in this area; will there be discharge into the Alexandra Canal; and will the water be clean enough? Concern if approved of the geotechnical and water table impacts. There is no whole picture about what is happening. Council was not aware of the rate of discharge, noise levels and effect on canal. EPA advised all discharges into waterways are required to comply with s120 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* and must comply with the ANZECC guidelines. The ANZECC guideline is a framework for conserving water quality in rivers, lakes, estuaries and marine waters, but they are not statutory guidelines. Should the water treatment plant require an environment protection licence, the trigger levels for particular contaminants would be derived from the ANZECC guidelines to ensure that the quality of the receiving water body is not compromised.
- that an environmental protection licence would need to be in place and ensures any discharge complies with appropriate guidelines.
- The open space at the SPI is considered a joke by the community, who would want to spend time in such a polluted area?
- Comments were made on the general deterioration of local roads due construction and truck usage.

### **Stage 3 update report**

- Dismay that site establishment works have commenced at the Muirs site simultaneous with M4 East construction works still occurring. There needs to be crossing guards around both

establishment sites as well as traffic calming measures. This is too much for a fatigued community. Stage 3a will be completely underway by the Christmas.

- There has been no direct engagement by the Lendlease Samsung Bouygues Joint Venture (LSBJV) despite working in the area. Seems LSBJV are relying on RMS to have contact with the community and this dismissive attitude continues with LSBJV declining to attend the WestConnex Community Reference Groups (WCRG) which are convened by the RMS. Haberfield residents feel there is a need to meet with both contractors to discuss the overlap of construction. DPE confirmed the communication strategy has not been submitted for approval.
- Forum members commented that council's submission on the Stage 3a mainline tunnels modification was thorough and very good. However there needs to be an addendum to ensure all concerns are included. There was no time for the submission to go to a council meeting given the two week consultation period. It was acknowledged with the removal of the Darley Road mid-tunnel site that additional spoil removal will be required from the proposed Northcote site and approved Pyrmont Bridge Road site. It was indicated at the recent WCRG that the mainline tunnel alignment has changed however this has not been confirmed all made publicly available. No compensation will be paid to residents with tunnels beneath their properties.
- Council staff advised Rozelle Interchange early utilities works will commence in quarter 4 of 2018. These works will be carried out by RMS and therefore subject to different approvals which will not occur night works. Members suggested this information could be put into the suggested WestConnex communication.
- The contract for Stage 3b Rozelle Interchange and Iron Cove Link are expected to be signed in December 2018.
- Haberfield members shocked at the additional east bound lane being added to two kilometres of the City West Link. Doubts are raised as to whether spoil trucks can adequately fit into these smaller lanes. This portion of the City West Link is known to regularly flood. Obvious the extra lane is argued as being required to prevent traffic jams occurring back into the tunnel.
- Residents of Rozelle are now participating in the Citizens Base pollution monitoring program. Monitoring units cost approximately ~~\$50~~ AMENDED \$60 and is connected to a network in Germany. So far PM<sub>10</sub> measurements have been ok but PM<sub>2.5</sub> are only ok.
- The intersection of Ramsay Street and Wattle Street is atrocious and needs attention.

*Refer to Action Item 11 below.*

### **Item 3: EPA update**

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

#### *Stage 1 (M4 East)*

- Members asked EPA if they were aware of the Air Quality Audit for M4 East and if they had been consulted. Concern that the appointed contractors Northstar has worked for M4 East previously – so are they truly independent? Council to send EPA information on this matter.

#### *Stage 2 (New M5)*

- Two formal warning have been issue for two separate matters.

- The dust audit has been completed and the recommendations will need to be implemented. EPA will be monitoring this.

#### Stage 2 (M4-M5 Link)

- The EPA has lodged a submission on the Stage 3a modification with the main concerns being the impacts of consecutive projects on community (nine years) and queries around at property noise attenuation treatments. EPA is aware that co-ordination is required during the overlap of the projects – otherwise opportunity for two projects to undertake continuous night works.
- The St Peters water treatment plant will require an environmental protection licence. Sydney Water and New M5 will be involved in the decisions around discharge into the Alexandra Canal.

#### **Item 5: DP&E compliance update**

The DP&E's Principal WestConnex Compliance Officer provided a verbal compliance update. The main points were:

- Air Quality Community Consultative Committee (AQCCC) appointment an auditor, DPE can review in consultation with the EPA. DPE Secretary has AMENDED *Not Yet* approved the appointment, and evidence of due process *will have* to be included in the documentation. *DP&E is still in consultation with EPA on this matter.*
- DP&E continues to engage with LSBJV with a view to particular concerns the community has such as worker parking.
- A Leichhardt forum member asked DPE how much influence and credibility they actually have? Given the 11 000 submissions to the EIS that the DPE could not have been reviewed properly. The role of the DPE is to ensure that the CoA are followed and to make suggestions to improve plan approval.
- Regulator meetings are occurring monthly and have been for the past two years. NSW Health also attends.
- The question was raised what resources does EPA & DPE have to monitor and ensure compliance? Improved CoA and resources are improving compliance.

#### **Item 6: Other Business**

- No matters were raised.

#### **Summary of actionable items**

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

##### **General**

1. Council to investigate either the production of a dedicated WestConnex community newsletter highlighting impacts and advising residents of areas of assistance offered by council or including information in the rates newsletter.

*Current situation: Council staff to investigate options and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.*

2. Council staff to include in the WestConnex report to the 30 October 2018 council meeting the claim for reimbursement of advocacy group expenses.

*Current situation: Council staff will include this and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.*

### **Stage 1 & Stage 3 actions**

3. Council staff to include in the WestConnex report to the 30 October 2018 council meeting the need for all RMS furniture in Haberfield and Ashfield that is obstructing pedestrian passage to be relocated specifically Waratah Street, Dalhousie Street and Parramatta Road.

*Current situation: Council staff will include this and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.*

4. Council staff to include in the WestConnex report to the 30 October 2018 council meeting a request for letters to be written to relevant ministers and the Premier requesting the contractor for Stage 3a mainline tunnels disclose to the community what they are planning for the Ashfield Muirs site.

*Current situation: Council staff will include this and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.*

5. Council staff to include in the WestConnex report to the 30 October 2018 council meeting a request for senior council staff to meet with the Minister of Roads on the matter of the Residual Lands Management Plan with specific reference to residual lands in Ashfield.

*Current situation: Council staff will include this and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.*

6. Council staff to inform councillors of the requirement of the extension of the lease of a portion of Reg Coady Reserve as part of the Stage 3a modification.

*Current situation: Council staff will include this in the WestConnex Report to the 30 October 2018 council meeting and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.*

7. Council staff to make future draft management plans available for discussion at WCLF meetings if not marked *commercial in confidence*.

*Current situation: Council staff have noted this request.*

8. Council staff to raise with M4 East why the footpath on Chandos Street Ashfield has not been rebuilt and as such provides no linkage to Parramatta Road.

*Current situation: Council staff to contact M4 East and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.*

9. Council staff to request RMS conduct a review of footpath widths along Parramatta Road Ashfield.

*Current situation: Council staff to contact the RMS and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.*

10. Council staff to investigate who determines low use footpaths and what is the criteria.

*Current situation: Council staff to investigate and the response will be reported to a future WCLF meeting.*

11. EPA to advise if they have been consulted on the Air Quality Audit for M4 East.

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

The meeting concluded at 12:55pm.

**Next meeting:**            **Thursday 1 November 2018, 10:00am to 12:30pm**  
Level 1, Waranara Room  
Building A, Inner West Council St Peters Depot  
15-17 Unwins Bridge Road, St Peters