

**Minutes of the
WestConnex Community Liaison Forum (WCLF)
held at Leichhardt Service Centre, Level 2
10:00am-12:45pm, Thursday 6 December 2018**

The meeting commenced at 10:00am

In attendance:

Anne Picot	No WestConnex Public Transport (NoWPT) & WestCONnex Action Group (WAG)
Cynthia Moore	Haberfield resident
Sharon Laura	Haberfield resident
Peter Hehir	Rozelle Against WestConnex (RAW)
Jozefa Sobski	Haberfield Association
Graeme McKay	Haberfield resident
Christine Allibone-White	WestProtects
Liz Johnstone	WestProtects
David Birds	Group Manager Strategic Planning Inner West Council (IWC)
Kendall Banfield	Manager WestConnex Unit, IWC
Maree Laing	Community Organiser, WestConnex Unit, IWC
Brian Chadwell	Administration Officer, WestConnex Unit, IWC
Rob Sherry	Principal WestConnex Compliance Officer, Department of Planning & Environment (DP&E)
Maria Divis	Senior Compliance Officer, DP&E
Jacinta Haneman	Manager Regional Operations – Metropolitan Infrastructure, EPA

1. **Welcome by Group Manager Strategic Planning IWC**
2. **Acknowledgement of Country**
3. **Apologies**

LJ Loch	WestProtects
Malachy Ward	Haberfield Association
Paul Jeffery	No WestConnex
Rachel Davies	Ashfield resident
Michael Zanardo	Haberfield resident
Tom Zelinka	No WestConnex Annandale

4. Items for consideration by WCLF

Item 1: Minutes from 1 November 2018 meeting

The previous meeting's minutes were approved subject to the following amendments:

1. Page 5, second dot point regarding EPA's response to a WestConnex air quality issue raised. Members want it to be noted that this response does not adequately reflect the community's concerns about local air quality;
2. Include the erroneously-omitted *Action Item*; request EPA provide to the WCLF a description of issues considered at the Geneva Air Quality Conference;
3. Remove references to WestConnex Stage 3 creating construction traffic issues, as construction has only just begun;
4. Number points and sub-points in Agenda and Minutes rather than using dot points (the minute-taker supports this).

Item 2: WestConnex update reports

Stage 1 report

Key points of discussion were:

1. Discussing day and night work continuing on Bland Street up until March 2019. Surface works reportedly to last up to six weeks post-opening in March.
2. Note that the left westbound lane on Parramatta Road near the Woolworths site is a 'flood lane', not a regular traffic lane.
3. Would like to know what the mechanism is for action from SafeWork over a fence falling on a footpath? The DP&E representative advised contacting EPA.
4. Council's WestConnex Unit traffic engineer and a Haberfield resident had examined WestConnex-related traffic issues around Haberfield Primary School.
5. Residents are asking for mature trees to be retained on the Muirs sites and on the Woolworth's development site/
6. Council and the community should be particularly interested in how the pedestrian and general traffic issues will be addressed in relation to driveways to/from this site.

See Action Item 1 below

Stage 2 report

Key points of discussion were:

1. A community member stated that along Campbell Street near May Street at St Peters, footpaths are broken, uneven and only partially filled with bitumen.
2. There are no traffic controllers on Campbell Street in the area where footpaths are damaged as project staff are currently working at the other end of Campbell Street.
3. There is significant stormwater runoff from worksites during the heavy rains in spite of the detention tanks that have been installed by the project to capture rainwater. There was flooding in the area recently, and State Emergency Services (SES) staff were directing traffic into streets that were also inundated. A DP&E representative confirmed that the detention tanks are not yet in operation.

4. There is a need for traffic calming in Brown Street, as traffic is using this street. This is because currently there is no right turn from Unwins Bridge onto Campbell Street.
5. Residents are concerned about the median AMENDED *strip* that is now being constructed in the middle of Campbell Street. The median will prevent floodwater from running off the road, making flooding worse. The project should include holes or breaks in median to allow the water to flow.
6. A resident reported that the lid to a sewage pipe had popped on Brown Street. The EPA representative stated that this is a 'safety-valve' measure to ensure that sewage never flows back into people's homes.

See Action Items 2 & 3 below.

Stage 3 report

Key points of discussion were:

1. Sydney Water and Council staff are currently in discussions over the Iron Cove Creek naturalisation project.
2. Council staff should check the background to the prior redevelopment of the Muirs site, where a heritage house was demolished, but a requirement made to retain the Norfolk Island Pine. It is important that this tree be retained by the project. Residents and Council staff have requested this.
3. It is estimated that 4,500 homes along the Stage 3 route will qualify for a dilapidation report. How is Council going to afford to provide a dilapidation reporting service to this many residents?
4. Beneath houses on Crown Street at St Peters is clay, and there is no shale until a much greater depth. Under Crown Street, excavation will be at 14m depth. Residents are worried about subsidence and subsequently damage to their properties.
5. There is further concern about subsidence in locations where the Sydney Metro (rail) tunnels pass near WestConnex tunnels.
6. A resident representative noted that Peter Jones has left the WestConnex project and Terry Chapman has been appointed as the Stage 3A Director. He was formerly the Stage 1 director.
7. The Stage 3 modification request is still at the assessment phase. St Peters and Haberfield-Ashfield residents can still write to the DP&E to raise issues as the modification is being assessed. Haberfield-Ashfield residents are encouraged to seek from DP&E alternative parking arrangements in Haberfield-Ashfield (e.g. no traffic entry/exit onto Bland Street) and a control to make construction trucks use the tunnels, not surface roads.
8. There are concerns that the 50m qualification zone for dilapidation reporting is fluid - because it appears that definition of the route is fluid. The DP&E representative pointed out that for Stage 3, a peer-review panel has been appointed by RMS to hear disputes.

See Action Item 4 below

General project report

Key points of discussion were:

1. Who is responsible for maintenance of landscaping around the motorway? A Council representative advised that these responsibilities are now being defined.

2. According to a discussion at a recent WestConnex Community Reference Group (WCRG) meeting, the construction contractor is responsible for the maintenance of landscaping until the project is completed. After that, responsibilities for different areas will be assumed by the motorway operations and maintenance contractor, RMS and Council.
3. The DP&E representative explained that if the project has been shown to be the cause of property damage and the contractor isn't taking action, then DP&E steps in to ensure appropriate action is taken.
4. If the post-construction property condition report says there is damage, but it wasn't attributed to the project, the resident can ask the matter to be put to the RMS independent peer-review panel to assess and mediate.
5. DP&E cannot intervene unless the project doesn't fulfil its obligations.
6. Property damage claims are included in weekly complaints register that DP&E receives from the project.
7. Note that stubs for the Western Harbour Tunnel (WHT) will be built as part of WestConnex Stage 3..

See Action Items 5 to 8 below.

Item 3: EPA update

EPA's Acting Unit Head Metropolitan Infrastructure provided a verbal compliance report. Key points were:

1. Former EPA representative on the WCLF Mike Sharpin has left EPA and his job is currently being advertised.
2. EPA has a staff member looking at WestConnex Stage 1 & 2 and another staff member looking after Stage 3 (full-time).
3. There been a lot of activity in October to November 2018 in relation to WestConnex. Most of the issues encountered in that period are now under investigation. The WCLF will be informed of outcomes of these investigations when known.
4. EPA continues to audit the project's noise monitoring and carries out its own noise monitoring of WestConnex construction sites.
5. On the matter of offers of alternative accommodation for residents of Brown Street, St Peters, EPA has ordered documents in relation to the project's decisions and on noise modelling procedures.
6. EPA will forward a web-link to WCLF members that details the court case over offensive odours at the St Peters Interchange (SPI) site.
7. A community representative to send information to WCLF members about RMS's opinion about air pollution around the St Peters and Haberfield primary schools.
8. NSW Health has indicated that staff will discuss air quality issues with St Peters and Haberfield P&C members. P&C members are currently exploring options for citizen air quality monitoring/
9. ~~AMENDED EPA staff attended an international air quality conference Geneva. Staff did not attend, but were asked to report on this conference; will do at future WCLF meeting.~~

See Action Items 9 to 11 below.

Item 4: DP&E compliance update

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

1. DP&E's response to key WestConnex concerns from the community includes mandating GPS and 'spotters' to ensure construction trucks adhere to approved routes. DP&E can access the GPS data.
2. The DP&E representative explained that measures and plans are in place for emergencies (fire, evacuation plans etc.) as part of the approval. These plans must be made available to the public.
3. A community member inquired about truck restrictions in the Rozelle area for Stage 3.
4. A community member asked if Council could write to SafeWork to check that there are adequate site-specific work safety measures for all WestConnex sites, e.g. awareness of high-voltage cables.

See Action Item 12 below.

General project report

Key points of discussion were:

1. Council can make meeting venues available at no cost for WestConnex advocacy groups - contact Council's WestConnex Community Organiser. Adequate lead time is needed to allow the booking to be made.
2. A selection of WestConnex inquiry videos are being posted on Council's website.
3. E-mails to EPA should go to jacinta.hanemann@epa.nsw.gov.au
4. IWC to report to a future WCLF meeting on the inter-council meeting on air quality
5. WAG, RAW and NoWPT are establishing a citizens' air quality monitoring network. The cost is \$60 to join. The monitors are from a parent company in Germany, with parts from China, that are assembled in Australia. Around 100 people have applied to join and calibration is complete. Monitors measure PM10 and 2.5.
6. At a WCRG meeting, WestConnex contractors stated that drilling at depth of over 35m will cause very little disturbance. This is a concern, as some areas are at a depth of as little as 15m.

Summary of actionable items**Item 2 actions****Stage 1 actions**

1. *Action:* WestConnex Unit staff to confirm that the following traffic calming suggestions for Haberfield Primary School were forwarded to Council's traffic staff: extending the pickup/drop-off zone; lowering the general speed limit to 40kph; and including more speed humps.
 1. *Current status:* Action has been sent to traffic staff and response will be reported back to a WCLF meeting.

2. Stage 2 actions

2. *Action:* WestConnex Unit staff to inquire about proposed landscaping along Campbell Street between Church and May Streets. The community is uncertain about what is planned for this area.

3. *Current status:* Inquiries have been made and the response will be reported back to a WCLF meeting.

3. *Action:* WestConnex Unit staff to confirm with Stage 2 contractors where traffic signals will be located along Campbell Street and at its intersection with May Street, St Peters.

4. *Current status:* Inquiries have been made and the response will be reported back to a WCLF meeting.

Stage 3 actions

4. *Action:* WestConnex Unit staff to ask if Stage 3 contractors will be doing further in-depth analyses of potentially affected properties based on geo-technical surveying.

5. *Current status:* Inquiries have been made and the response will be reported back to a WCLF meeting.

6. General Project actions

5. *Action:* Community Organiser to email a list of interested residents when the WestConnex Weekly Update is posted on the website.

7. *Current status:* This will be undertaken when future updates are posted.

6. *Action:* WestConnex Unit Administration Officer to ensure links on Weekly Update are in the PDF version of the Weekly Update.

8. *Current status:* This will be undertaken when future updates are posted.

7. *Action:* WestConnex Unit to circulate recent Council letters to the Premier, ministers, local members etc. to WCLF members.

9. *Current status:* This action has been undertaken.

8. *Action:* WestConnex Unit to include information on dilapidation reporting challenge procedure for residents' reference.

10. *Current status:* This action to be undertaken shortly.

11. Item 3 actions

9. *Action:* EPA to forward to WCLF members the link to details about the Stage 2 court proceedings on offensive odours.

12. *Current status:* This action will be undertaken by EPA shortly.

10. *Action:* EPA to report back to a WCLF meeting about the air quality conference in Geneva.

13. *Current status:* A report back will be given by EPA at a future WCLF meeting.

Item 4 actions

11. *Action:* Council staff to request to RMS that they send delegate(s) to WCLF meetings.

Current status: Request has been made and RMS's response to be reported to WCLF when received.



The meeting concluded at 12:46pm

Next meeting: Thursday 7 February 2019, 10:00am to 12:30pm

Ashfield Service Centre
Level 6 Meeting Rooms
260 Liverpool Road, Ashfield