
MINUTES OF MEETING

Fairfield Community Liaison Group - Meeting 2

DATE: Wednesday 30 July 2008 at 6:15 pm

LOCATION: Cabravale Sports Centre

Chair: Jim Morris

Minutes: John Murray

Community Representatives: Ken Chapman
John Medich
Jan Collie
Krystyna Cyron
Momo Romic
Dereck Corney
Tony Fornasier
Janette Hannaford
Stella Howat

Guests: Angela Cогnetta
Sally Sitou

ARTC: Prue Hodgson, Community Liaison Manager, ARTC
Tarmizi Lutffi, Project Manager, ARTC
Greg Mullens, Project Director, ARTC
Matt Hurst, Consultant, Planning Urban Futures
Carlie Faint, EMR (alternate)
Mel Meredith, Contractor, Arencо
Chris Kyriacou, Contractor, Seymour Whyte

ICLR: Rowena Lennings, Integrated Analysis Pty Ltd

Council: Marzi De Santi, Fairfield City Council

Apologies: Dr Eman Sharobeem
Dr Thomas Diep
Martin Hicks, EMR
Jim Thompson

1. **Welcome, introductions.**

The Chair welcomed meeting attendees and made introductions.

2. **Minutes**

Minutes of previous meeting handed out and read. The correction was accepted that a request had been made for information about background noise monitoring levels and locations.

There is no business arising from previous minutes as no activity has happened as yet.

Matters arising from Minutes: -.

CEMP sub plans to be distributed

Proposal that future minutes to be sent one week before next meeting by either Email or post.

3. Environmental Management Sub Plan – Alternative EMR, Carlie Faint

A presentation was given by the Alternative EMR about the roles and responsibilities of the EMR within the project.

Q: - If a “Stop Work” is issued is it a recommendation or a requirement?

A: - A “Stop Work” is a requirement. Construction can not recommence until appropriate mitigation measures are in place to manage the issue/incident.

Q: - With fortnightly inspections by the EMR in place, how are works monitored that may have a timeline of less than 2 weeks?

A: - A full time EMR is employed by the project. Fortnightly inspections will be carried in accordance with the CoA, however additional inspections may be carried out if needed in response to an incident or complaint.

Q: - Who checks that the project is meeting the requirements of its licence?

A: - This is one of the main functions of the EMR. A hotline is also provided for input by the community. Complaints are reviewed by the ICLR

Q: - Who is the certifying Authority for reporting?

A: - The EMR acts on behalf of the DoP and is required to report to DoP on a number of items as specified in the CoA. Items 18 a to i of the CoA provides the authority of the EMR and their role.

Q: - If there is a representative of the EMR to attend each meeting, how come the first two meetings had no representative?

A: - The combined meeting of all CLGs was a general forum. The first meeting of the Fairfield CLG focused on establishment and overview of issues. The second meeting was intended as the first opportunity for the EMR to give an overview of the EMR role. .

Q: - Who is looking after OH & S

A: - The project is obliged to meet the requirements of the OH & S act. The contractors will engage full time safety officers. The ARTC is obliged to ensure the contractor meets its safety requirements.

Q: - What is the EMR relationship with the Commonwealth. Who would look after Commonwealth requirements?

A: - The EMR has been appointed by the NSW DoP and has no formal relationship with the Commonwealth.

Project Director then provided an explanation of regulatory overlap between State and Federal Authorities in regard to the project. The Commonwealth government will have independent inspections and audits against their own requirements that are less onerous than those of the NSW State Government. This project is monitored by two authorities.

4. Construction overview

An overview of the construction process was demonstrated with maps and drawings. Construction was estimated to be completed within 18 months.

Q: - Has the Commonwealth Government given approval yet? Concern was expressed that the approvals process is being short circuited by the ARTC as contractors already have been engaged and have detailed plans.

A: - None of the approval processes have been short circuited by ARTC. ARTC is at liberty to engage contractors at any stage. It is of benefit to the project that Contractors are fully briefed and developing plans so that they can complete their works as soon as possible once final approvals have been received.

Mel Meredith a representative of Arengo gave an introduction to the company and gave a general description of construction activities planned in this region.

Q: - In regard to sheet piling, the comment was made that vibration impacts had caused several people to be relocated at Kurnell recently.

A: - Differing factors such as the distance between the area where piling is taking place and houses and local ground conditions affect how vibration is experienced. Sheet piling will take place at four locations only and vibration levels will be monitored.

Q: - A request was made for a copy of the report on background noise levels prior to construction that indicated where the readings were taken.

A: - This information is contained in the technical papers of the Environmental Impact Assessment that have been uploaded on the ARTC website. The projects expert noise consultant will attend the next CLG meeting to discuss the noise study and noise issues in detail. A link to the site is: <http://www.ssfl.artc.com.au>

Q: - Has Council been notified of the construction corridor?

A: - The Traffic Management Plan (TMP) has been planned in consultation with Fairfield Council and is still evolving.

Arengo mentioned they intended to propose a full closure of the Bareena Street Bridge for six weeks because the disruption period would be shorter than a half road closure (10 weeks).

CLG representatives pointed out that they had been told at the previous meeting that ARTC was not proposing a full closure, which they are strongly opposed to. Traffic around the Bareena Bridge can be very bad, especially around 3.00pm.

CLG members noted that the SES needs access to the Bareena Bridge and asked if the SES has been consulted.

A: - ARTC has consulted with the SES.

5. Constructor Introduction

Chris Kyriacou from Seymour Whyte and Mel Meredith from Arengo introduced themselves and gave a brief rundown of their respective companies' achievements and current contracts.

Q: - What kind of ballast is to be used under the rail

A: - 65 mm course aggregate. Pebble is used to adjust track level.

Q: - Will the noise wall be built at the same time as the construction work being done on the line.

A: - Earth works and track laying will need to be completed first. The noise wall will be installed before freight trains begin operating.

Q: - When will we be consulted about the noise wall?

A: - Over the next months. The CLG will be consulted about the treatment of the walls at different locations along with the affected residents. The reasons behind the location of the noise walls will be explained by the Noise expert who will attend the next CLG meeting.

Q: - Will there be a problem with dust?

A: - Construction dust will be monitored regularly. Mitigation measures will include having water carts on site, covering stock piles, spraying grass and wetting down cutting surfaces.

A presentation of the different types of wall being used at other locations was given by the Project Director. This included various options that can be used for aesthetic purposes.

6. Community Involvement Plan

An overview of the proposed Community Information Plan was given by Prue Hodgson to the CLG outlining how information is to be disseminated to the community.

Q: - When will the notices be given for each of the work areas?

A: - Two weeks before construction in the affected area's begins.

Q: - What newspapers will carry the notices?

A: - Taken on notice

Q: - Will work on the corner of Moore and Fraser streets be undertaken while Bareena Bridge construction is happening?

A: - No. Individual action on each bridge will be undertaken separately.

Q: - Will the older noisier diesels that do not comply with current noise standards be operating on the line.

A: - Question taken on notice. This is the wrong authority regarding this issue. They are only being used temporarily at the moment.

7. Urban Design & Landscape Plan (UDLP)

An overview of the UDLP was presented with examples shown of various types of walls and methods of beatification being used at stations in other areas.

Q: - Are the walls being used at the station noise walls?

A: - No. They are not noise walls.

Q: - Will the walls block the CCTV coverage of the station area?

A: - They will not restrict the view

Q: - Where is the deflection wall going to be placed?

A: - Under the stair well.

Q: - How far will people have to walk to the disabled lifts from the station crossing?

A: - About 15 metres.

Q: - Will the stairways correspond to the walkways and will the ramp be compliant for disabled access (1 in 14)?

A: - The walkway is not going to be able to be constructed due to insufficient space. Stairways will be put in place of the ramp. ARTC stressed that the current standards in place dictate the configuration for access at the station. The lift is intended to cater for people with mobility difficulties. The size of the lift to be used will be discussed at the next meeting.

Q: - What happens to the disabled if the lifts stop? CLG members stressed that most people will be unhappy with the steps and dependence on lifts at Cabramatta station. CLG members stressed that a lack of a ramp at Cabramatta station will be a major issue for the community. Lift capacity is critical as the station is very busy in the afternoon especially.

A: - The station will be compliant to standards with stairways and lift. There is not enough footway area to supply a ramp. If the ramp was to be constructed it would compromise the bus stop.

There was contention from members of the CLG that the drawings of the station being displayed at the CLG were not the updated drawings currently in place.

Q: - What is the better soundproofing material for noise walls close to houses?

A: - The precast concrete pattern walls being used are prescribed by standards.

Q: - Is it possible to consult with Council's art expert (Tiffany)

A: - Tiffany has already been consulted at the concept development stage regarding noise walls etc. and can be invited to a future CLG meeting.

Q: - Is the Cabramatta bridge of any heritage value?

A: - Yes, as does the Prospect Bridge.

8. General Business

The Council representative handed to the chair a list of events and activities in the community which will have an impact on work scheduling. He stressed that there needs to be minimal disruption for businesses in the area over the Christmas trading period and other community festivals. He invited other members of the CLG to add to this list.

Q: - Is there any car parking planned for Broomfield Street. There is no parallel parking between Broomfield and Nashfield Streets

A: - There is no room for 90 deg. angle parks on the street.

There followed a discussion with the aid of drawings of the planned car park configuration relating to the Fisher Street exit.

Work sites will be secured by the 4th August 2008

CLG member asked if the meeting could be advised as to timeframes for the Minister for the Environments approvals at the next meeting.

Minutes to be ready the week before the next meeting.

Meeting closed : 8.30pm

9. Next Meeting

When: Wednesday 27th August, 2008 at 6.15pm.