
MINUTES OF MEETING

Liverpool/Campbelltown Community Liaison Group - Meeting 3

DATE: Wednesday 10 September 2008 at 6:15 pm

LOCATION: Liverpool Central Library

Chair: Jim Morris

Minutes: Integrated Analysis Pty Ltd
Rowena Lennings

Community Representatives:
Mike Russell Liverpool

ARTC:
Prue Hodgson Community Liaison Manager
Greg Mullens Senior Project Manager

Matt Hurst Parade Consulting

Seymour Whyte:
Chris Kyriacou

Gartner Rose:
Daniel Rose

Wilkinson Murray:
Rob Bullen

ICLR:
Rowena Lennings Integrated Analysis Pty Ltd

EMR:
Martin Hicks GHD

Council:
Geoff Organ Liverpool Council
Dick Webb Campbelltown Council

Apologies:
Molly Thomas
William Rooney

1. Welcome, introductions, previous meeting record and matters arising - Chair

The Chair welcomed meeting attendees and made introductions.

The meeting record was endorsed.

There were no matters arising from the minutes not otherwise listed on the agenda

2. Constructor Introduction

Mr Daniel Rose from Gartner Rose and Chris Kyriacou from Seymour Whyte introduced themselves and gave a brief rundown of their respective companies' relevant experience and commitment to the project.

The CLG requested a time line of the works, updated monthly and asked if it could also be uploaded onto the website. The Project Director agreed to do this as soon as the key dates were agreed to by the contractors.

3. Noise Assessment and Control – Rob Bullen, Wilkinson Murray

A presentation of the methodology used in the assessment of existing and future noise levels and considerations for noise suppression was delivered by Rob Bullen of Wilkinson Murray. An overview of the current noise levels at various points was discussed and what measures are to be taken where feasible to bring the noise levels into line with DECC goals.

Q: Why is there a different noise goal for Casula Regional Arts Centre (internal rather than external)

A: Some public facilities have more stringent noise requirements such as places of worship, theatres and galleries. The Arts Centre has a theatre.

Q: Will you be putting noise barriers on Casula Flyover?

A: No because the noise impacts on surrounding houses are below the threshold criteria.

Q: Can it be retrofitted with noise barriers if your predictions are wrong and surrounding houses are experiencing increased noise level?

A: Yes it can be.

Q: What if your model is incorrect and the noise levels are different to those predicted? Is there any requirement for ARTC to undertake further actions to reduce the noise level?

A: The Ministers Conditions require ARTC to monitor noise levels at regular periods once the freight rail line begins operation. This is interpreted as requiring ARTC to take remedial action if necessary.

Q: TIDIC has a Review of Environmental Factors on display for the expansion of the eastern line at Glenfield. Will ARTC be taking account of the cumulative noise impacts?

A: No because we are more progressed in the project assessment and approval process it would be up to TIDIC to take cumulative impacts into account.

Q: Will ARTC offer architectural treatment of homes rather than noise barriers.

A: In general this is not preferred because it isn't as effective. It may be applied at places where it is difficult to place a noise barrier. Warwick Farm station area may be considered.

Q: Will you make the trains longer? Longer trains disturb sleep patterns.

A: Yes eventually trains will be 1800m in length but still with the same power to weight ratio.

Q: What are you doing to ensure the operators using the tracks aren't using overly noisy trains?

A: ARTC is trying to introduce noise licenses for operators. At the moment a number of old track access agreements have been inherited from Rail Corp. As these come up for renewal ARTC is increasing requirements and a three strikes and you're out policy. ARTC is also increasing monitoring sites.

Q: Why can't we make a complaint directly to ARTC about noisy trains?

A: At the moment the ARTC boundary is Macarthur.

Comment: A community representative expressed concern that in the case of Buckingham Street Casula the loss of the hill that currently screens the rail track will mean increased noise and requested more noise readings be taken.

Response: Noise consultant Rob Bullen pointed out that more detailed noise assessments are planned for this area.

Comment: A community representative expressed concern that the noise measurement was taken too far away – 130 m from the track.

Response: Noise consultant Rob Bullen pointed out that the readings were generally taken at the distance of where the houses were, in order to provide the best indication of the noise impacts.

Comment: A community representative suggested that a test site should be done to prove the model.

Response: Noise consultant Rob Bullen pointed out that a test site is not necessary because the model is well validated and where houses are close to the track the model predictions are unlikely to be significantly in error. Uncertainties emerge the further away you are from the noise source because of the increasing number of variables with distance.

4. Community Amenity Offset Plan – Prue Hodgson, Community Liaison Manager

The requirements of the federal approval were outlined. The Community Liaison Manager noted that the Community Amenity Offset Plan (CAOP) would be displayed in Council libraries in all the affected Local Government Areas. Prue pointed out that the closing date for submissions in the 10th October 2008. Council representatives noted that because of the council elections this coming weekend it would be difficult to obtain input from the newly elected representatives. They suggested that a submission could be provided by the 10th October with the proviso that further information may be submitted shortly afterwards. ARTC confirmed that as long as any additional information was received within 1-2 weeks after the close of submissions it would be taken into account.

5. General Business

There was no general business.

6. Next Meeting

Wednesday 8th October, 2008 @ 6.15pm