

EUROA WORKING GROUP – MEETING #4

Minutes

DATE / TIME

16 September 2019
6:00pm to 8:00pm

LOCATION

Temple Kitchen
10-12 Tarcombe St, Euroa

CHAIR

Michell Croker

MINUTE TAKER

Theo Carroll

ATTENDEES

- | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|---|
| ▶ Cr. Alistair Thomson | Strathbogrie Shire Council | ▶ Todd Beavis | ARTC, Stakeholder Engagement Lead, Inland Rail |
| ▶ Nola Dudley | | ▶ Theo Carroll | ARTC, Stakeholder Engagement Advisor, Inland Rail |
| ▶ Tom Maher | | | |
| ▶ Ann Mahon | | | |
| ▶ Des Ryan | | | |
| ▶ Shirley Saywell | | | |
| ▶ Sarah Treloar | | | |
| ▶ Bernard Walker | | | |

APOLOGIES

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| ▶ Justine Collins | |
| ▶ Cr. Mick Williams | Strathbogrie Shire Council |
| ▶ Edwina Thompson | DESIGN Euroa |
| ▶ Michael Tehan | |
| ▶ Renee Preece | ARTC, Stakeholder Engagement Manager |
| ▶ Ed Walker | ARTC, General Manager Victoria Projects |

Discussions

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
1	<p>Open meeting</p> <p>Todd opened the meeting and welcomed the group. He began by explaining personnel changes that had occurred at ARTC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renee Preece is now Acting Manager Stakeholder Engagement, Victoria Projects • Todd Beavis has been appointed interim Stakeholder Lead, North East Victoria • Theo Carroll has been appointed interim Stakeholder Adviser, North East Victoria, replacing Mark Blackman who has left ARTC • Dinesh Batra has been ap Acting Project Director, Inland Rail - Tottenham to Albury <p>Todd passed on apologies from Renee and Ed who were unable to attend the meeting. Apologies were also acknowledged for Justine Collins, Edwina Thompson, Michael Tehan and Mick Williams.</p> <p>The focus of the meeting was discussed. Todd explained that following discussions with the working group members and Michelle, that the focus of the meeting would be to further explore the requirements of the Euroa community. ARTC’s high level understanding of the requirements were discussed at the last meeting and tonight was an opportunity to work through the requirements in greater detail.</p> <p>Todd updated the group on the recent engagement activities. On Friday 13 September, a meeting was held with DESIGNEuroa, and the team held a Community Conversation on Binney Street. ARTC talked to approximately 50 people, providing an update on the status of the project and the project’s understanding of community requirements. This was supported by two fact sheets which were shared with the group.</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>Todd handed over to Michelle Croker.</p> <p>Michelle introduces herself as the Chair and discussed her approach to working with communities. She advised that her role is not to provide subject-matter expertise, but rather to facilitate the Working Group process and make sure all views in the room are being represented. As a facilitator, Michelle’s focus is working with inclusive processes and she shared some of her experience working with citizen juries around climate change - an experience that demonstrated citizens have a lot of expertise.</p> <p>Michelle reiterated that this meeting will move away from talking about design options and a presentation format, to focus on working through the community’s requirements and what ARTC should consider from a local’s perspective.</p> <p>Michelle asked the Group whether the meeting time should be changed from 8pm to 8:30pm considering the challenges we have faced in getting through the agenda in two hours. The Group resolved to aim for an 8pm finish, however if it looks like the meetings would run over a decision would be made on the night.</p>
2	<p>Actions from last meeting</p>
	<p>The Group agreed to hold actions from Meeting #3 (largely design focussed) over to the next meeting (#5), given the focus of the meeting on requirements.</p> <p>Actions to be held-over for Meeting #5:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Further review of the bridge replacement options and examples of urban design options to address concerns about the earthen embankment. 2. Consideration of option presented at the meeting, along with any others sent through 3. Provide further information about the impact of a bridge solution on Anderson Street. 4. Consider virtual modelling of the existing environment around station precinct. 5. Provide peak levels of baseline noise studies. 6. Provide VicRoads response to Road Under Rail
3	<p>Adoption of minutes</p>
	<p>No changes from last meeting. Minutes adopted.</p>
4	<p>Working group check-in</p>
	<p>With the Working Group one third of the way through the initial commitment to 12 months, Michelle asked the Group to consider how they thought the process was going. Working in three small groups, the members were asked to discuss and capture what’s working, what could be improved and any questions they have about the process.</p> <p>Each table reported back, and Michelle captured the key points raised as follows:</p> <p>What’s working</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a view that the working group process had been working well to date. • Members acknowledged that ARTC has been open and transparent with the group. <p>What could be improved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Group raised that there is a lot of expertise locally and that it would be good to bring their perspectives into the discussion. • They also requested that other stakeholders, such as Strathbogie Shire Council and VicRoads, be brought into the process. • The group requested to be briefed on the key milestones for the project and the Working Group process. • Concerns were raised about the lack of clarity around how the Working Group process aligned with the Euroa Structure Plan. • Some were frustrated that many in the community do not recognise this project represents what they think is a ‘once in a lifetime opportunity for Euroa’.

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The group wanted to know what other engagement ARTC would be undertaking. There was a view that pop-ups and community conversations are limited in their reach and that more work is required to communicating and engaging with the broader community. Some members were also keen to understand how good design principles would be incorporated into the ARTC design process. <p>Todd committed to providing key milestones at the next meeting and an update on broader community engagement. He asked the Group to send through any suggestions for briefings to community groups or other activities to Theo.</p> <p>The idea that the Group should go on a walking tour of the station precinct was discussed.</p>
5	<p>ARTC scope</p>
	<p>As requested at the last meeting, the group discussed ARTC's scope for the project.</p> <p>Todd outlined ARTC's understanding that at the highest level the community wanted the project to deliver an enhanced station precinct, addressing concerns with the current bridge and surround created when the infrastructure was built in the early 1960s.</p> <p>He advised that while ARTC acknowledged the broader aspirations of the community, ARTC was not able to meet all the requirements within their scope and budget. He advised that ARTC will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capture the community's requirements for project as a whole Deliver a solution that meets requirements as best we can within scope and budget Design infrastructure to complement Council planning schemes and not preclude opportunities for the future Will support the community's efforts to engage other stakeholders to achieve their objectives. <p>This led to a discussion about ARTC's scope, including how it would allow for good design outcomes, Council's role in the project and trade-offs. It was noted that community requirements would need to be prioritised and that some outcomes may need to be traded off against others.</p> <p>The Working Group expressed that ARTC should provide a solution that offers the same utility the community enjoys today.</p> <p>Alistair asked that ARTC include a commitment that the community would not be worse off as a result of the project. This led to a discussion around net benefit to the community from the project.</p>
6	<p>Conversations with community</p>
	<p>Todd provided an overview of the Community Conversation on Friday 13th September. The team spoke to more than 50 people, with the aim of providing an update on the project and feedback on the requirements. The community has similar concerns to the Working Group and was keen to understand what was happening. Overall the feeling was quite positive and gave ARTC confidence that the requirements reflected the views of the community. There appears to be broad support for a bridge replacement and it is clear we need to do more work with the broader community.</p>
7	<p>Break</p>
8	<p>Exploring requirements</p>
	<p>Working at three tables, the group explored the requirements in greater detail. Michelle captured the following points from the report from each table.</p> <p>Station precinct Currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ugly, dysfunctional and dangerous

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separated from the town centre • Does not provide a welcome access to the town <p>Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good design to enhance the town centre • Provide a welcome entrance point to the town • Design needs to be future-proofed and recognise a potential future we cannot yet conceive. <p>Accessibility and Safety</p> <p>Currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unsafe – slip hazards and uneven surfaces • Access is dark and isolated and • Visibility is poor • Gradient too steep for elderly or disabled people. <p>Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy vehicle drop-off point (this is currently the only access for many users of the station) • Access from one platform to the other platform (considering vehicle access etc.) • Consider how traffic flows into, around and out of the station • Shelter for all weather conditions • Surfaces that minimise risk • Pedestrian access that makes sense and flows properly (current path system is confusing and lacks signage). <p>Connectivity with the town</p> <p>Currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Station cuts the town in half and the way locals think of their town reflects this physical division <p>Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct access to the station via pedestrian, car and bus • Access under and over makes sense and is easy to navigate • Improved connectivity across the precinct • Recognise where pedestrian and vehicle access are necessary to create better access points through the precinct • Consider the need to accommodate the safe movement of agricultural equipment, oversize loads etc • Easy access to both platforms within the design.
9	Where to from here
	<p>The Group was given the opportunity to submit items to the agenda for Meeting #5. Suggestions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement with the Shire and VicRoads • Returning to EWG#3 meeting actions – this would turn Meeting #5 into a design focused meeting <p>The Group was also given the option to send through any suggestions for agenda items to Theo.</p> <p>Alistair asked the Group whether they would like to be involved in a Council meeting to discuss the Structure Plan and the Group said they would. Alistair noted Council will consider and vote on the Structure Plan on 15 October.</p> <p>The issue of inviting a proxy to replace Edwina (while on maternity leave) was raised. It was agreed this would be considered if Edwina confirmed she would be absent from future meetings.</p>
10	Close meeting

Actions

NO.	ACTIONS	ACTION BY	DUE DATE
1	Provide contact details for Todd, Theo and Michelle to Working Group members.	ARTC	4/10
2	Share articles raised during the meeting.	Annie Mahon	4/10
3	Provide key milestones for the project and Working Group process	ARTC	14/10
4	Working Group to provide suggestions on additional community engagement activities	Working Group	14/10
5	Provide an update at next meeting on upcoming communication and engagement activities	ARTC	14/10
6	Update scope slide with commitment to providing the community with similar amenity to what exists today	ARTC	14/10
7	Send any feedback on community conversations to Theo	Working Group	4/10

Next Meeting

Alby Richardson Room, Euroa Library

14 October 2019

6:00pm – 8:00pm