ARTC   INLAND RAIL

Meeting minutes - ENDORSED
Benalla Working Group #2

Date / Time	Location
30 November 2020 6.00pm to 8.15pm AEST	Ella Goose - Benalla

Facilitator	Minute taker	Distribution
Cath Botta	Carrie Donaldson	All

Attendees (Show organisation if not ARTC)

- Cr. Justin King (Benalla Rural City Council)
- Cr. Gail O'Brien (Benalla Rural City Council)
- Philip Rees (Better Benalla Rail)
- Susan Pearce (Better Benalla Rail)
- David Blore (Independent)
- Graeme Paul (Independent)
- Janette Anderson (Independent)
- John Dennis (Independent)
- Pamela O'Connor (Independent)
- Margaret Richards (NEW Independent)

- Dinesh Batra, ARTC, Project Director, Victoria Projects
- Angeline Daniels, ARTC, Stakeholder Engagement Lead
- Marisa Feher, ARTC, Environment Manager
- Kasey Robb, ARTC, Senior Environment Advisor T2A
- Carrie Donaldson, ARTC, Stakeholder Engagement Advisor
- Zac Cvitkovic, AECOM, Associate Director - Urban Design
- Sam Jacob, AECOM, Principal Landscape Architect

Apologies (Show organisation if not ARTC)

- Bill Parris (independent)
- Rowan McEwan (Independent)

Discussions

NO.	ACTIONS
1	***Opening and Welcome*** Angeline Daniels welcomed all working group members and those in attendance to the meeting. She provided an introduction to those in attendance including: Dinesh Batra ARTC Project Director, Victorian Projects and welcomed new working group representatives.
2	***Endorsement of Chair appointment*** Angeline advised the Working Group of the process to select the Chair of the Benalla Working Group advising that Cath Botta had applied and was selected as the independent Chair for a period of 12 months. Angeline congratulated Cath on her appointment which was unanimously endorsed by the Working Group. Angeline then handed over the Cath to Chair the duration of the meeting.

NO.	ACTIONS
3	***Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting.*** Cath called on the endorsement of the minutes of the meeting held on 21st September, 2020. As no exceptions to the minutes were raised, they were accepted as a fair and accurate representation of the meeting. **Action: Approved minutes from the first working group meeting to be published on the ARTC website under the Benalla Working Group**
4	***Actions arising from the previous meeting*** • Code of Conduct • Community and Council Vacancies Cath advised that all existing members had now returned their signed Code of Conduct forms. New members were introduced and welcomed: • Justin King, Councillor • Margaret Richards, Community member • Gail O'Brien, Councillor
5	***Proposed meeting schedule and themes*** Angeline introduced the discussion on the group's meeting schedule and potential topics for inclusion such as; • Identifying community priorities • Key criteria and requirements • Project non negotiables • Project processes, and • Detailed analysis of design options. The discussion highlighted a number of potential topics for future meetings; • What is currently working and not working at the Station and around the station Precinct; and the key priorities for the precinct to be addressed. • A collaborative approach for developing the key criteria to assess the design options • A deep dive into each of the key design options • Community Engagement approach that meaningfully incorporates the community in assessing the design approach for Benalla. • Understanding the project's legacy for Benalla • Clarifying the scope of the project. • Understanding the project funding and costings (at a high level to maintain commercial in confidence) in order to understand the cost implications for each option.

NO.	ACTIONS
	Action: Further discuss meeting topics and schedule at the next meeting to finalise the program
6	**Break**
7	*Urban Design presentation, discussion and questions* Cath introduced Zac Cvitkovic and Sam Jacob from AECOM to present to the group on the Urban Design Framework (UDF). The presentation included; • An outline on AECOM's role in the development of the UDF and its purpose in the planning approvals and the life of the project. • Background on the UDF, its role in informing the Benalla approach and that it will form part of the overall design vision, scope and process. • Functional aspects – how a big infrastructure project is able to deliver benefits for the community. • An outline of the importance of the UDF, why we have one, interface of project with the community. • The importance of capturing local knowledge • Good urban design principles, learnings from the past 10 years of big infrastructure projects across Victoria. The UDF – allows design teams to understand what's really important and prioritise what's MOST important. Through the UDF, there is an emphasis on exploring and identifying new ideas and approaches and striving for opportunities to do it better. There is also a focus on the design not prohibiting opportunities for future growth in the area. Community values: Zac opened up discussion to group – prompting them to think about: • What's there now? • What's good or bad? • What's important? Feedback from the Group was summarised as follows: ▶ Active and vibrant ▶ Appearance, Bring back to life ▶ Arrival ▶ Compliance, access and drainage ▶ Demographics of the community ▶ Feeling of Pride ▶ Flooding issue. ▶ Heritage Bridge (Broken River Bridge) ▶ Importance of future proofing and integration with work of Council and the desires of the local community. ▶ Importance of Human Life - Risk of the level crossings in Benalla. ▶ Importance of the visual corridor of Carrier Street ▶ Linkages, breaking barriers ▶ Make station an asset of the community/town again. Make the station active again. ▶ Safety ▶ Sense of Arrival, First impression, Project Beauty

NO.	ACTIONS
	▸ Train operational issues ▸ Universal Access ▸ Utilising both sides of the track/precinct/station. Need to address what's currently wrong at the station. Taxi rank, underpass, ▸ View that the current precinct is unattractive, need to bring it back to life – make it more visually appealing. **Next steps:** Zac invited the group to provide additional information/feedback over the coming weeks in the lead up to Christmas. These additional thoughts/information should be submitted via the ARTC Stakeholder Engagement Team; Angeline Daniels – adaniels@artc.com.au Carrie Donaldson – cdonaldson@artc.com.au The team from AECOM will then include in the UDF statement for Benalla which will inform the overall design brief highlighting what is really important. The draft UDF for Benalla will be presented back to the BWG by AECOM in the new year. Cath thanked AECOM on behalf of the BWG and welcomed the next stage of the process and the presentation of the draft. **Action: Working Group members to forward any additional thoughts and feedback on the UDF to Angeline and Carrie from ARTC by the end of December. These may be submitted via email, phone or face to face at the pop-up engagement shopfront at 50 Nunn Street.**
8	*General business* Pamela O'Connor – raised the need to establish a dedicated subgroup of the BWG to work on precinct planning and funding submissions to maximise the impact and legacy of the project. Suzie Pearce – raised request for the OVGA to present to the BWG, however given the thorough presentation from AECOM this evening, Suzie advised that she would like to withdraw this item for now. **Action: Subgroup of the BWG discussion be tabled for inclusion at the next Working Group Meeting**
9	Closing comments from the group included: • Thank you to ARTC and AECOM for the opportunity to learn more about the process • Suggest the next meeting is held at the Station. • Group members are committed to working together collaboratively towards what's in the best interest of Benalla • Hope the feedback of the WG is truly worked into the planning for the project (noted the Advisory only capacity of the group) • the group should continue to meet monthly and make the most of the time we have available.

NO.	ACTIONS
	Next meeting January 18th – 6pm at the Benalla Railway Station.
10	Close meeting: 8:20pm

Actions

NO.	ACTIONS	ACTION BY
1	Approved minutes from the first working group meeting to be published on the ARTC website under the Benalla Working Group.	ARTC
2	Further discuss meeting topics and schedule at the next meeting to finalise the program	All
3	Working Group members to forward any additional thoughts and feedback on the UDF to Angeline and Carrie from ARTC by the end of December. These may be submitted via email, phone or face to face at the pop-up engagement shopfront at 50 Nunn Street.	All
4	Subgroup of the BWG discussion be tabled for inclusion at the next Working Group Meeting.	ARTC

Next meeting

6:00pm Monday 18th January, 2021 to be held at the Benalla Railway Station.