

Meeting minutes

Benalla Working Group #9

Date / Time

9 November 2021
4.30pm AEST

Location

Benalla Bowls Club

Facilitator

Cath Botta

Minute taker

Jacinta Piazza

Distribution

All

Attendees

- ▶ Cr. Gail O'Brien (Benalla Rural City Council)
- ▶ Philip Rees (Better Benalla Rail)
- ▶ David Blore (Independent)
- ▶ Graeme Paul (Independent)
- ▶ Pamela O'Connor (Independent)
- ▶ Bill Parris (Independent)
- ▶ John Dennis (Independent)
- ▶ Margaret Richards (Independent)
- ▶ Susan Pearce (Better Benalla Rail)
- ▶ Janette Anderson (Independent)
- ▶ Marissa Feher, ARTC, Environmental Manager
- ▶ Samantha Smith, ARTC, Stakeholder Engagement Manager
- ▶ Brodie Akacich, ARTC, Stakeholder Engagement Lead
- ▶ Jacinta Piazza, ARTC, Community Relations Officer

Apologies

- ▶ Rowan McEwan (Independent)
- ▶ Cr. Justin King (Benalla Rural City Council)

Discussions

NO.	ACTIONS
1	<p>Opening and welcome</p> <p>Cath formally welcomed those in attendance including Working Group members and representatives from ARTC outlined the format for the evening's meeting. Apologies were received and noted from: Cr. Justin King Rowan McEwan (Independent)</p> <p>Agenda</p> <p>Cath opened the meeting. Environment Report – Marissa Feedback from the consultation process – themes etc that have emerged. For discussion. Consensus Doc to be completed and kept short as possible. Brodie – housekeeping expectations from Benalla Bowls Club.</p>
2	<p>Endorsement of minutes from the previous meeting</p> <p>No changes to the minutes were requested. The minutes were endorsed as a fair and accurate representation of the meeting.</p> <p>Moved: David Blore</p> <p>Action: ARTC to ensure the minutes are disseminated within an appropriate timeframe.</p>

<p>3</p>	<p>Actions arising from the previous & current meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ ARTC make amendments and publish on the ARTC website under the Benalla Working Group (in progress/completed). ▶ ARTC to circulate the detailed timeline factsheet to the Working Group Members (pending). Jacinta to follow up. ▶ ARTC to schedule presentations on Flood Modelling, Social Impacts and Environmental Management Framework for future BWG meetings (outstanding) Marisa to present this meeting. ▶ ARTC to provide modelling on pedestrian underpass usage (outstanding – not yet completed). ▶ ARTC to develop indicative budget estimates for the track realignment option with and without the second platform to be presented at the next meeting as part of the design options presentation (outstanding – to remain open as estimates are not yet available). ▶ ARTC make best endeavours to circulate draft minutes to the members of the BWG within 10 working days of the meeting. BWG members submit any requests for changes to the minutes to the Chair five (5) prior to the meeting (ongoing). ▶ ARTC to advise on what will happen to the Oaklands line. ▶ DOT/ARTC/VICTRACK – BWG waiting on confirmation regarding the need for second platform (ongoing). ▶ ARTC to supply a more detailed timeline fact sheet.
<p>4</p>	<p>Environment Report Presentation</p> <p>Marissa presented the Environment Report and took the group through the journey and process and what it entails. It is a bilateral agreement by the federal and state governments. 18 months to complete the report. Involves many investigations, studies.</p> <p>Notification of the Environment Report exhibit has been advertised in the local papers as well as national papers. These will be running in the coming weeks for a second run in all papers. Submission to DELWP can be done from the 1 November to 28 November. Normally only runs for 14 days however this will be exhibited for 28 days. Marissa took the group through how to access online.</p> <p>Marissa touched on contaminated land and noted that around the Benalla project area there is little to none but none to note as being an issue. As the area is classed as industrial there are levels that are deemed acceptable.</p> <p>Flooding modelling has been done and is at acceptable level. Noise and vibration – only one site has been identified as affected. ARTC are working closely with stakeholder. These considerations are to be taken in the design process.</p> <p>Members were able to take a USB stick of the report for review. The group was informed that ARTC will have a copy of this report in all shopfronts.</p> <p>Action: email presentation.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Engagement summary</p> <p>Brodie provided an overview of the comprehensive community consultation commenced on Monday 27 September 2021 and continued through to 30 October 2021. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ A mail out was completed to everyone in the 3672 post code with a reply-paid envelope and feedback form along with copies of the designs being displayed currently in the shopfront ▶ Letterbox drop of residents ~200m from station (~40 responses from 130 households) ▶ Advertorial in Benalla Ensign

- ▶ Geotargeted Facebook post
- ▶ Interactive map at inlandrail.com.au/benalla-map-marker
- ▶ Utilisation of YouTube to share visualisation
- ▶ Directly contacting community groups.

ARTC is currently analysing the data from the feedback of the reference designs. Some themes that have stood out are Connectivity, Visual Appeal, Safety, Functionality, Heritage and Access. Currently no new themes other than those that have been heard previously are coming through.

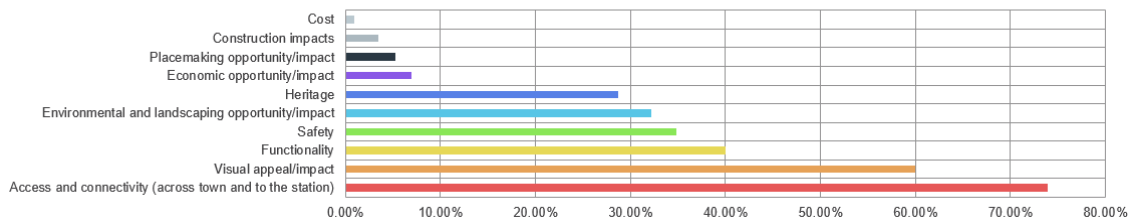
A consultation report will be developed, and this is also submitted to the Minister of Planning.

ARTC will display further detail designs as they become available in the future and community feedback will be sort.

How Useful was the information received?



Q: Overall, what design aspects of the project to enable double-stacked freight trains to travel through Benalla are of most interest to you?



6 General Business

The following items were submitted for General Business:

Consensus Statement

The Working Group took the time to recognise it is now 12 months since it was initially formed. It was agreed that a consensus document be developed to capture the key recommendations, actions and achievement made by the group over that time.

Cath to draft a sentence or two around the consensus of the group, noting – connectivity to the north side; consideration in the design phase of noise and vibration, flooding, contamination; overpass to be able to extend to the Hannah Street side; position on under or over.

Action: Chair to circulate the consensus document for feedback from group members

Where to next?

Brodie acknowledged and thanked the group for the work that has been done and moved to close this forum out at the next meeting in January/February. Some members of the BWG would like to be involved ongoing.

7 Next meeting:

The next Benalla Working Group meeting will be scheduled after Christmas and will be the final one for the group. Details to be confirmed.

Closing comments from the group included:

- ▶ Appreciated being able to be part of this process.
- ▶ Getting the right outcome for the whole precinct.
- ▶ The group thanked Cath for all her hard work.

Meeting closed at 7.15pm.

Next meeting

TBC