

MEETING MINUTES

Inland Rail - Albury to Illabo (A2I) Community Consultative Committee Wagga Wagga Sub-Committee

DATE / TIME

13 February 2025
2:00pm

LOCATION

Wagga Wagga City Council

FACILITATOR

Mr Garry West

MINUTE TAKER

Mr Garry West

DISTRIBUTION

Albury to Illabo CCC

ATTENDEES (SHOW ORGANISATION IF NOT INLAND RAIL)

- ▶ Mr Garry West (Independent Chair)(GW)
- ▶ Mr David Carter (Community Representative)
- ▶ Cr Pam Halliburton (Junee Shire Council)
- ▶ Mr Lloyd Hart (Junee Shire Council)
- ▶ Mr John Zannes (Project Manager, Inland Rail, Transport for NSW)
- ▶ Cr Richard Foley (Wagga Wagga City Council)
- ▶ Mr Austin Morris (Lockhart Shire Council)
- ▶ Mr Malcolm Clark (Project Director – A2I / S2P)(MC)
- ▶ Mr Grant Johnson (Stakeholder Management and Communications Manager – A2P (Acting) (GJ)
- ▶ Ms Rachael Labruyere (Environment Manager) (RL)
- ▶ Mrs Kate Hardy (Stakeholder Engagement Lead – A2I) (KH)

APOLOGIES (SHOW ORGANISATION IF NOT INLAND RAIL)

- ▶ Mr Gavin Rhodes (Lockhart Shire Council)
- ▶ Mr James Kennedy (Delivery Director- A2P)
- ▶ Ms Sally Manning (Wagga Business Chamber)
- ▶ Cr Jane Hunter (Lockhart Shire Council)
- ▶ Ms Clarissa Farrington (Director, Inland Rail Program Assurance, Commonwealth Infrastructure Projects Division, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts)

GUESTS (SHOW ORGANISATION IF NOT INLAND RAIL)

Discussions

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
1.Welcome & Introductions	<p>The Chair opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country and welcomed all to the meeting. Mr West also noted the passing of Wagga Wagga based, Wiradjuri Elder, Uncle James Ingram. Uncle James was a well-respected Elder, a Wiradjuri knowledge keeper whose family have been Custodians of the Murrumbidgee River for many thousands of years. Uncle James has worked closely with the Inland Rail project as a key stakeholder and was a Registered Aboriginal Party for I2S.</p> <p>The Chair sought agreement for him to record the meeting for the purpose of preparing minutes. No objections.</p> <p>The Chair introduced Rachael Labruyere, the Environment Manager. GW also noted that Casey Bootsma is on maternity leave and Grant Johnson will be acting in her role.</p> <p>.</p>
2. Apologies	As Above
3.Declarations of Interest	No new declarations
4.Minutes of Previous Meeting	It was noted and agreed that the minutes of 6 November 2024 were approved and uploaded to the project website.
4. Actions from previous meeting	NIL
5.Proponent's Reports	<p>Mr Malcolm Clark (Project Director – A2I/S2P) Program & Project Update.</p> <p>Increased mobilisation of the Inland Railteam has commenced and there will be more visibility of Inland Rail on sites and in</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>towns conducting a range of activities from site inspections to door knocks and community events.</p> <p>Mobilisation of the Contractor (Martinus) has also commenced. Martinus will be on sites along the alignment completing early enabling works and consulting with the community. In the second half of 2025 construction will commence across many sites.</p> <p>The community may also see an increased presence from John Holland, the delivery contractor for the Illabo to Stockinbingal (I2S) section of the project.</p> <p>Illabo to Stockinbingal (I2S)</p> <p>Ongoing investigations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity investigations • Geotechnical investigations • Utility investigations • Heritage investigations <p>Detailed design is progressing, and preparation has commenced for the March possession (22-24 March). Works include survey works, correlation of signalling assets, services locating, and Geotech investigations.</p> <p>Laydown compounds establishment has commenced.</p> <p>Stockinbingal to Parkes (S2P)</p> <p>Completed works include: Quandialla Water Pipe removal; Milvale Water tank modification; Bribbaree and Caragabal track slews; and, Forbes Station awning trimming and track works. Work is about 6 months ahead of schedule.</p> <p>Works are ongoing at: Wyndham Avenue track lowering; Daroobalgie Loop and level crossing activation; Lachlan River Bridge modification; and Wurrinya track slew.</p> <p>All the above works are to be completed by mid-2025.</p> <p>A2I Program</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>MC provided an overview of the A2I program detailing the works to be undertaken as part of the program and the timeframes for each activity with all works scheduled to be completed by Q2 2027. (see presentation)</p> <p>Frequently Asked Questions</p> <p>What changes are happening at Edmondson St?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the A2I project, Edmondson Street bridge is being replaced to allow for the double stacked trains to pass underneath • The new bridge will be built 2.8m higher than the existing bridge • Pedestrian access will be separated from the road on both sides with fenced footpaths • Disability access will be added to the east (station) side of the bridge <p>What mitigating measures will be in place for noise?</p> <p>During the construction phase, noise will be the responsibility of the delivery contractor (Martinus).</p> <p>Once complete, operational noise and vibration is the responsibility of Inland Rail.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessments for properties impacted by operational noise and vibration will commence in late 2025 • Mitigations may include, locomotive treatments, noise walls or at-property treatments. If noise walls are required, the development will include community consultation. <p>A2I Project Update</p> <p>The A2I/S2P Construction Contractor, Martinus, is working through Secondary Environmental Approvals and detailed design. The NSW State Design review Panel (SDRP) is reviewing the designs. The 5th SDRP session was held on 12 December 2024 and the IR team are continuing to work with them. The detailed design phase is progressing with 20 design and 13 signalling packages across the A2I alignment.</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>Enabling works near Edmondson Street Bridge is scheduled to commence in Q1 2025, and includes electricity pole relocations and gas relocations.</p> <p>Major construction to begin in Q3 2025</p> <p>Mr Carter asked if Edmondson St bridge would still be able to be used up to August/September? MC confirmed that there is an 18 month outage for the bridge once works commence and advised the Stage A plans have gone to council and are also with TfNSW. Precinct plans have also gone to council for comment.</p> <p>The meeting saw and discussed visualisations of the Cassidy footbridge, Edmondson Street bridge, Mother's Footbridge and Kemp Street Bridge. (see presentation) During construction any two of the three footbridges in Wagga will be maintained for access.</p> <p>Cr Foley indicated there are community questions about whether a lift is to be included at Edmondson St bridge. MC advised it was considered but the project is proceeding with the ramp option.</p> <p>Mr Hart indicated there may be concerns about visibility of traffic coming down Kemp St. MC advised that the next stage of design should address that question.</p> <p>Lookahead to June 2025</p> <p>Quarter 1 2025 activities include site establishment works in Wagga Wagga along with enabling utility works in the Pearson Street Bridge precinct, the Edmondson Street Bridge precinct incorporating Mothers and Cassidy Pedestrian Bridge precincts.</p> <p>The March Possession sites being considered include yard clearances at Table Top, Henty, Yerong Creek, The Rock, Harefield and Junee, the Olympic Highway underbridge and the Junee to Illabo clearances.</p> <p>Quarter 2 2025 will see the launch of construction and the continuation of enabling works.</p> <p>Cr Foley asked if the Viaduct in wagga will be able to handle the IR trains. MC advised it has adequate capacity.</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>Ms Rachael Labruyere (Environment Manager A2P) Ms Labruyere provided an overview of activities following the Project approval with conditions of consent in October 2024 including low impact works, development of Stage A Environmental Management Plan, development of mitigation measures and biodiversity offsetting.</p> <p>Currently Stage A construction has commenced along with monitoring & reporting as well Stage B Environmental Management Plans.</p> <p><u>Operational Noise</u></p> <p>An operational rail noise and vibration review currently being undertaken involving taking the design and predicting the operational rail and road noise predications. Cumulative noise will be taken into account where necessary. The model will then predict noise levels at nearby properties. Mitigation strategies will then be developed, and a report is produced. The report will be provided to DPHI for approval. Once mitigation measures are implemented monitoring is then carried out. Mitigation measures are considered at source, what physical barriers may be required and then individual property treatment is considered at affected properties.</p> <p>Operational noise mitigation measures are under development to be followed by community consultation commencing mid 2025, including identification of sensitive land uses, stakeholder preferences and type and timing of implementation.</p> <p><u>Operational Noise Monitoring</u></p> <p>Noise and vibration monitoring is carried out to refine the operational noise model and has been carried out adjacent to the Wagga Viaduct. Monitoring has also occurred at various distances from the track across Wagga and Junee and the data from locomotive noise outputs at various speeds has been incorporated into the noise model.</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>Wagga Traffic Management</p> <p>Construction Traffic Management Plans have been produced and are under review. A specific Wagga Precinct Plan has been produced for Stage A works and is currently under review. The Junee Precinct Plan is still under development. Current work involve utility investigations and relocations and short-term traffic management will be implemented to support these works.</p> <p>Cr Foley indicated he had received community inquiries about the extent of double glazing of properties that may be considered. RL explained at the moment they are running the model to see which properties will be impacted and what mitigation measures may be applied. Consultation will then occur.</p> <p>Mr Hart asked when will the Junee traffic Precinct plan be available? RL advised it is hoped soon after the end of March 2025.</p> <p>Ms Kate Hardy (Stakeholder Engagement Lead A2I) - Community Update.</p> <p>The engagement team continue to work with Councils and Key stakeholders along the alignment. Monthly monitoring meetings are now occurring with Martinus and Councils. Door knocking activities around Edmondson St precinct advising of early enabling and site establishment works commenced in Wagga from January 2025. Works notifications were distributed through door knocking, letter box drops, social media posts, email and newspaper advertisements.</p> <p>Joint meetings have been held with Martinus and directly impacted stakeholders around the Edmondson St bridge area including schools and community organisations.</p> <p>Door knocking activities around Edmondson, Erin, Railway, McLeay, Little Best and Donnelly Streets will continue through Q1 together with neighbourhood drop-in information sessions.</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>Martinus is planning ‘Meet the Contractor’ events in Wagga on 10 April and Albury on 8 May.</p> <p>IRPL First Nation Partnerships</p> <p>IRPL partnered with the Clontarf and Stars Foundations during 2024 and plan to continue into 2025 creating a legacy by offering a number of IR Skills Academy initiatives. Engagement is planned by participating in events through the year.</p> <p>Works notifications are prepared by the construction contractor, Martinus to share information about planned works with those directly impacted and the wider community. These will also be made available on the project website and through socials and print media. Typically works notification will be delivered monthly, sometimes more often during busy times. All notifications will have the 1800 contact number and Inland Rail enquiry email address.</p> <p>Community Grants – Round 23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voices of Women Incorporated – Women of the Riverina stories was performed in a live show at the Wagga Wagga Art Gallery in December 2024 and a podcast of the stories, including a short film are available up until March 2025 to celebrate the regions women across cultures and generations. • Carevan Wagga – To improve warehouse security, three security cameras have been installed together with a hard drive to monitor the wellbeing of volunteers who cook in excess of 2000 meals each month. • Rural Outreach Counselling (ROC) – IRPL is hosting a free community outdoor movie event in Wagga to use the event as a platform to distribute information about mental health resources and services provided by the ROC. <p>Mr Hart asked if it is possible to have a link to the community grants section of IRPL?</p> <p>Action: Link to be provided in the minutes.</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inland Rail Community Grants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <u>Opportunities: Community Grants - Inland Rail</u> ➤ 4 rounds per year: Round 1 open 1 February to 30 April; Round 2 open 1 May to 31 July; Round 3 open 1 August to 31 October; Round 4 open 1 November to 31 January ➤ Funding offered between \$1000 and \$4000 for individuals and organisations in eligible regional communities ➤ Funding available for short-term projects and activities that contribute to local and regional prosperity, wellbeing and sustainability
6.General Business	<p>Cr Foley asked if there is an estimated cost of all the proposed works in Wagga. MC advised the overall contract with Martinus was over \$400m, A2I is about 2/3rd of that amount and Edmondson St bridge is almost 1/3rd of that A2I amount. So roughly \$100m in Wagga.</p> <p>Mr Carter asked if the Social Impact Study has been approved and if they are available? RL explained they are with DPHI and would be published on the Inland Rail website when finalised</p> <p>Action: Provide link in the minutes to the appropriate DPHI website</p> <p>Mr Carter also asked about availability of the update of the Bushfire Management Plan. MC not able to provide update and will take as an action</p> <p>Mr Carter asked about works on the Illabo level crossing. MC advised it won't be in the March possession.</p> <p>Cr Halliburton asked if the level crossing will be available while the upgrade works are being carried out. MC advised they that will be advised in the Stage B Plans and will show what diversions are considered. It will then be communicated to council for review in possibly March/April.</p>
7. Conclusion	The CCC will be holding meetings on a quarterly basis.

Meeting Closed at 3pm

Actions

NO.	ACTIONS	ACTION BY	DUE DATE
1	Provide Links in minutes	GW	With Minutes

Next Meeting

2025 – 7 May 2025 TBC