

MEETING MINUTES

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

DATE / TIME

6 August 2025
2:00pm

LOCATION

ARTC Boardroom
20 Station Place, Wagga wagga

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)
- ▶ Cr Pam Halliburton (Junee Shire Council)
- ▶ Mr Lloyd Hart (Junee Shire Council)
- ▶ Mr David Carter (Community Representative)
- ▶ Cr Richard Foley (Wagga Wagga City Council Representative)
- ▶ Ms Sally Manning (Wagga Business Chamber)
- ▶ Cr Jane Hunter (Lockhart Shire Council)
- ▶ Mr Austin Morris (Lockhart Shire Council)
- ▶ Scott Sanbrook (Committee 4 Wagga – Observer)
- ▶ Mr Malcolm Clark (Project Director – A2I / S2P) (MC)
- ▶ Ms Rachael Labruyere (Environment Manager) (RL)
- ▶ Ms Kate Hardy (Stakeholder Engagement Lead – A2I) (KH)
- ▶ Ms Clarissa Farrington (Director, Inland Rail Program Assurance, Commonwealth Infrastructure Projects Division, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts)(CF)
- ▶ Mr John Zannes (Director, Inland Rail, Transport for NSW)

APOLOGIES (SHOW ORGANISATION IF NOT INLAND RAIL)

- ▶ Mr Gavin Rhodes (Lockhart Shire Council)
- ▶ Mr Martin Honner (NSW Farmers – Alternate)
- ▶ Mr Grant Johnson (Stakeholder Management and Communications Manager – A2P (Acting) (GJ)
- ▶ Mr James Kennedy (Delivery Director- A2P)

Discussions

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
1. Welcome & Introductions	The Chair opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country and welcomed all to the meeting.
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 7 May 2025 were approved and uploaded to the project website.
4. Actions from previous meeting	Provide link to Edmondson St Bridge visualisation - completed
5. Proponent's Reports	Mr Malcom Clark (Project Director – A2I/S2P) Program and Project Update Mr Clark provided an update on the adjacent projects: Illabo to Stockinbingal (I2S) Detailed design and consultation are ongoing. Establishment of the Workers Accommodation has commenced at Stockinbingal. Low impact works, Geotech and potholing, fencing and winter bird surveys are ongoing. Stockinbingal to Parkes (S2P) Major construction is nearing completion and earthworks are underway at Darroobalgie and Wyndham to finalise landscaping. Overhead wire relocations are due to start later this year, and the heritage interpretation signage is to be installed at the Forbes station. All works are scheduled to be completed by mid-2025.

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<u>A2I Program Update (A2I)</u> Mr Clark 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). Main activity will commence later in 2025. Specific reference was made to the delay in the Edmondson Street bridge closure as the traffic mitigation plan is still progressing together with consultation with key stakeholders. Currently the main work is being concentrated between Junee and Illabo. A2I is moving from Construction Stage A to Stage B. Enabling works are continuing around Wagga Wagga. Site compound establishment is to occur near the Pearson Street works as well as Bomen and Junee. Works are occurring from Junee to Illabo with major construction to begin in Q3 2025. Work continues with key stakeholders to progress and seek approval for traffic Management plans and to confirm the new bussing routes for Wagga Wagga. Out of hours works and night closure of Edmondson St bridge in wagga Wagga expect to be completed in July. Design Progress shows clearance site are at 98%, Junee to Illabo is 100%, Albury is 94%, Wagga sites are 91% and Junee sites are 91%. Construction Progress is concentrated in the Junee to Illabo section. Wagga Traffic Management Plan The project is currently in a collaborative review with Wagga Wagga City Council and Transport for NSW, once completed the plan will be submitted to DPHI for approval. This is currently anticipated late 2025 and not in advance of the September track shutdown initially targeted. The review is focussing on mitigation strategies to address identified problematic locations and modelling scenarios of proposed detours and mitigations.

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	Under current approvals, work will continue on and around Edmondson St bridge during the September track possession and will remain open to traffic. Engagement with the Wagga Wagga community will occur to inform them when the pre-construction traffic trail will start, when the bridge will close and what temporary traffic mitigation measures will be during these periods. Bus routes are under discussion with local bus operators to finalise alternate bus routes for when the bridge is closed. Summary of Primary Mitigations • Reduce demand on critical routes by encouraging road users to make alternative route choices • Optimise traffic flow through critical corridors • Restrict traffic flow from one part of a road network to another • Manage access, particularly for emergencies • Reduce construction traffic demand on critical routes • Seek to address safety concerns • Provide relevant traveller information • Encourage commuter behaviour changes, and encourage journey pre-planning Junee Connectivity Visualisation of the Kemp St Bridge was shown to the attendees. Pedestrian options during the Kemp St closure are: • Community transport minibus • School bus subsidy • Taxi vouchers Proposed conditions of approval have been received from DPHI for the Kemp St bridge modification. Looking ahead to September 2025 Mr Clark advised Q3 will see: • Edmondson St Bridge – relocation of APA medium pressure gas main and the final cutover of Essential Energy 66kV electrical overheads

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	• Mobilise Junee Kemp St compound • Commence construction of the Junee train Driver Changeover Platforms • Establishment of the Pearson St site compound in Wagga • September possession • Construct temporary footbridge access at Cassidy & Wagga Station • Continuation of track works between Junee and Illabo, and • Commence works in Albury precinct at the Albury Station and Billy Hughes Bridge September Possession Wagga Wagga – under current approvals continuing the work on and around Edmondson St bridge and the bridge will remain open to traffic. The Edmondson St bridge is now de-linked from the other Wagga works. Junee – Kemp St bridge closure from end of August with removal occurring during the September possession. The Rock – minor signalling work will occur. Ms Rachael Labruyere (Environment Manager A2P) - Planning and Environment Update Ms Labruyere provided an overview of activities including low impact works, development of the Stage A Environmental Management Plan (EMP), development of mitigation measures and biodiversity offsetting. Currently review Stage B Draft Environmental Management Plans prior to them being submitted to DPHI for approval. Updates are currently occurring around a proposed modification to the Kemp Street Bridge in June and planned that all Stage B EMPs will be approved in time for the September possession which will then move to the State B construction phase. Operational Air Quality Monitoring The Project conditions of approval require air quality monitoring to help plan and ensure environmental standards are met. This will involve gathering data to better understand local air quality

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	during existing train operations particularly those adjacent to idling locations. The monitoring will run for approximately 12 months. Currently developing the background air quality monitoring plan to identify monitoring locations and monitoring will likely commence in 2026. Climate Change Risk Assessment As part of the sustainability program the Inland Rail Project is undertaking a Climate Change Risk Assessment. Two climate models were used to inform the assessment, and 24 risks were identified across two-time horizons: near term 2030 (2020-2040) and long term 2090 (2080-2100). Of the 24 risks identified, 19 are categorised as direct risks, three as indirect risks and two as both indirect and direct. The risk rating and 2090 risks were tabled with proposed key adaptations together with the initial risk rating and the residual risk rating (see presentation). The same assessment is also being conducted for I2S. Ms Kate Hardy (Stakeholder Engagement Lead A2I) - Community Update. The engagement team continue to work with Councils and key stakeholders along the A2I alignment through regular engagement. Monthly monitoring meetings continue to occur with Martinus and Councils. Monthly meetings with key stakeholders, Multicultural Council, Wagga Catholic Diocese, Kildare Catholic College, Erin Earth, South Wagga Public School. STEM workshops have been conducted at Yerong Creek Public School, Holy Trinity Primary School, The Bidgee School, The Rock Central School, Uranquinty Public School, Henschke Catholic Primary School, Ashmont Public School, South Wagga Public School and Red Hill Public School. Community Grants have been made to Albury Preschool Kindergarten, Henty Community Club, Mawang Gaway Elders Group Wagga NAIDOC Ball, NSW Basketball NAIDOC Gala Day, Wagga Wagga Rail Heritage Association, Cycling Without Age Wagga Chapter, Eastern Riverina Landcare and St Joseph's

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	Primary in June. The next Grants program is now open, and members were asked to promote this among their communities. Wagga visualisations were undertaken May 12-14 reaching out to 220 residents, 10 stakeholder meetings and 2 community information sessions with approximately 180 interactions. Community information sessions were held at the Wagga Sturt Mall, May 16, South Wagga Public School, May 22, The Rock and Uranquinty, May 23, Culcairn, May 27, Yerong Creek, May 28, Henty and Albury, May 29 and Wagga Marketplace, June 4. Q3 activities will see continuation of Councillor briefings, as well as planning for the Henty Field days and other local shows along the alignment. Sponsorships have been provided to the June and Wagga Shows. Wagga, Try a Trade Day attendance on August 21 and June visualisation engagement is planned for mid August. IRPL First Nation Partnerships • NAIDOC week Mawang Gaway Ball, 11 July • Clontarf Employment Forum – Inland Rail opportunities, 28 July • Ross Kelly Cup Dinner – Clontarf Awards for Year 9-10 students, 5 August. Ms Hardy provided an overview of the community benefits flowing from the A2I and S2P projects July 2023 – April 2025. (see presentation). Ms Hardy tabled a report of the Inland Rail Skills Academy for the Wagga Wagga LGA. It will be regularly updated (see presentation). Other LGA reports will be undertaken in the future.
6.General Business	Mr David Carter questioned whether the Waterworks Rd crossing was under review? MC advised that it would only be a design review on the Waterworks Rd side of the crossing. No change is planned for the highway side except for formalisation of access onto the highway. No changes to the highway itself.

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	Cr Richard Foley sought clarification on how the traffic light sequencing will work? MC explained how the adaptive cameras across the Sturt Highway would work. Noting that they will be monitored and controlled by TfNSW and that a TfNSW representative will be assigned during the trial closure and as part of the operational group throughout the full closure period. Cr Richard Foley asked if the trial closure of the bridge would be during school term? MC advised the trial is currently being targeted for late term 4 and if the trial is successful this will allow a direct move to have the noisy work over holiday period to mitigate the impact on the schools. Two additional possessions have also been negotiated, 1 in December and another one in week 2 of term 1, 2026. Mr David Carter asked if the driver changeover platform in Junee was being moved back into town. MC noted that it was not and that it was utilising a pre-existing point to the north of town closer to where the Olympic Highway crosses under the rail line.

Meeting Closed at 3pm

Actions

NO.	ACTIONS	ACTION BY	DUE DATE
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Next Meeting

5 November 2025