



NEWCASTLE INNER CITY BYPASS: RANKIN PARK TO JESMOND (SSI-6888)  
ENVIRONMENTAL REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY REPORT  
April 2023

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*Reporting Period: 1 to 30 April 2023*

This Environmental Representative (ER) Monthly Report is prepared in accordance with the Minister's Condition of Approval A26(k) for the Newcastle Inner City Bypass: Rankin Park to Jesmond (SSI-6888) and is consistent with the Environmental Representative Protocol (October 2018).

**PROJECT SUMMARY**

Delivery of a 3.4km section of the Newcastle Inner City Bypass (NICB) which will be built between Rankin Park to Jesmond (RP2J) and to the west of the John Hunter Hospital.

The Rankin Park to Jesmond project is the fifth section of the NICB, which forms part of the Transport for NSW long term strategy to connect the Pacific Highway between Bennetts Green and Sandgate.

The project has been broken into four stages:

- Stage 1: Detailed design investigations (geotechnical and utility investigations) and low impact works (house demolition, heritage investigations, at-house noise treatment works, access, installation of environmental controls).
- Stage 2: Shared Path Bridge.
- Stage 3: Southern Interchange Utilities relocation works.
- Stage 4: Main RP2J road construction.

**PROJECT WORKS SUMMARY**

- Stage 1: Low Impact Works including, House Demolition which was completed June 2021.
- Stage 2: Shared Path Bridge was completed March 2021.
- Stage 3: Southern Interchange Utility Relocation works were completed in August 2022.
- Stage 4: Main construction works underway (commenced March 2023). Consultation and implementation of At House Noise Treatment (AHNT) commenced March 2022 and is ongoing.



### **April 2023 Completed Works**

The following is a summary of the works broken down into sub projects.

#### ***At House Noise Treatment Works***

- Round 1 properties – physical works continue for the first 50 properties
- Round 2 properties – closure of EOIs, completion of scope of works reports and tender assessments ongoing for potential sub-contractors

#### ***Main Construction***

- Pre-clearing surveys and ongoing vegetation clearing
- Installation of ERSED controls and sediment basins
- Traffic and pedestrian pathway realignment
- Earthworks including Northern interchange, Cut1/fill1 and Cut 4/5 fill 5
- Utilities installation

#### ***OOHW works:***

- Asphaltting surrounding roads
- Southern interchange staging set up and clearing
- Jesmond Stage 2 clearing
- Sewer diversion works
- Jesmond Access and Set Up

### **May 2023 Upcoming Works**

The following is a summary of the works broken down into sub projects.

#### ***At House Noise Treatment Works***

- Round 1 properties – physical works continue with final sign off of some properties to occur
- Round 2 properties – finalisation of tender assessments

#### ***Main Construction***

- Pre-clearing surveys and ongoing vegetation clearing
- Installation of ERSED controls and sediment basins
- Traffic and pedestrian pathway realignment
- Earthworks including Northern interchange, Cut1/fill1 and Cut 4/5 fill 5.
- Utilities installation.

#### ***Scheduled OOHW Works:***

- Southern interchange staging set up and clearing
- Northern interchange staging set up and clearing
- Utilities Investigations and installation
- Northern Interchange concrete works



## **ER Activity:**

### ***Reviews / Approvals / Advice / Meetings***

- Community Involvement Plan: Review
- Sustainability Strategy: Review
- ERG Monthly Inspection and Meeting No.7: Tuesday 4 April - Minutes and Agenda
- Fortnightly ER Construction Inspection and Report (ER, TfNSW and FHC) Wednesday 19 April 2023
- Monthly Environmental Representative and Department of Planning, Project Team Meeting

### ***Inspections***

- Site inspections were held on Tuesday 4 April 2023 (ERG) and on Wednesday 19 April. Environmental Inspection Reports were prepared and issued to FHC and TfNSW. Images included from the inspection.

### ***Environmental Review Group (ERG) Meeting***

- ERG Meeting No. 7 was held on Tuesday 4 April 2023 attended by TfSW, FHC, ER and DPE.
- The next ERG meeting (No. 8) is scheduled for Tuesday 2 May 2023.

### ***Audits***

- There were no ER audits held in April.

### ***Stop Work Notices***

- There were no Stop Work Notices in April.

### ***Incidents (as per MCoA definition)***

- The environmental issue (as detailed below) was notified as a potential environmental incident under MCoA A37 and A38 due to the investigation still being underway.

### ***Non-compliances***

- There were no non-compliances in April.

### ***Environmental Issues (i.e.: not classified as Incidents as per MCoA)***

- There was one environmental issue in April. A summary is provided below.



### ***Prevention Notice – 14 April 2023***

On Friday 14 April 2023 a prevention notice (Ref: 3505204) was received from the EPA relating to sediment laden water in the vicinity of McCaffery Drive. Immediate remedial steps were undertaken including, inter alia, site inspection, downstream water sampling and installation of additional erosion and sediment controls as required by the notice. A response has been provided to the EPA.

On 20 April 2023, a follow up inspection occurred by the EPA during a 28 mm rainfall event, the EPA raised no concerns.

### **CEMP, CEMPP & Minister's Conditions of Approval**

#### ***Reports***

- MCoA A26(k): Environmental Representative Monthly Report (March 2023): submitted to DPE (via Portal): 5 April 2023.
- MCoA A37 / A38 DPE Report on Incident: Review

#### **Monitoring**

- Monthly noise monitoring as per NVMP did not exceed NML's.
- Water quality was undertaken during the month, the results were consistent with the baseline data from the SWGWCMP. It is noted that elevated NTU levels were observed in 2 locations in both the pre-construction and construction rounds of monitoring. Further investigations found that these readings were not attributable to the project.
- Dust gauges were changed on April 4, results are all below the average of 4, noting that there is not sufficient data for the rolling average to be reported accurately.

### **Community Consultation and Complaints**

#### ***Community consultation***

There were 189 events recorded in the reporting period which included, 127 - doorknocks, 5 – 1800 calls in, 24 – incoming Community emails

- Community enquiries and follow up - 1800 phone calls/emails; Speed, stop signs, fauna, condition surveys, property concerns, pink tape on trees near house, machine parked on McCaffery Drive
- Emails incoming – traffic noise impacts on property from bypass, stone hit car, walking tracks reinstatement, add to email list, sustainability questions from JHH, property acquisition, mulch, cycle lanes on Lookout Road
- Regular interactions with City of Newcastle incl. discussions: disabled car park relocation from Newcastle Road, environmental questions about fauna, flora, bypass design; John Hunter Hospital and NSW Health Services – monthly meeting with FH and TfNSW
- 3-month OOHW look-ahead – for April to June 2023 distributed – 3000 letterboxed, 850 emailed



- Key messages regarding fauna, flora and sustainability were prepared and approved. These will be distributed where required
- OOHW Notification for Jesmond sealing works – prepared, approved and distributed
- OOHW Notification for Southern clearing works – prepared, approved and distributed
- Signage for Jesmond Shared user path at Robert Street – prepared, approved and installed
- Signage for Relocation of Disabled car parks – prepared, approved and installed
- Notification for Jesmond sewer work, tree clearing and piling - prepared, approved and distributed
- Notification for subcontractors working (targeted distribution) on Victory Parade, Illoura Road, Jesmond
- We continued to coordinate communications activities and manage community enquiries. Including interactions with our major stakeholders, Transport for NSW, Health Infrastructure - John Hunter Hospital Innovation Precinct (JHHIP), bus companies, emergency services and local schools.

### **Complaints**

There were two complaints in April;

- A stone hit a car from a mulching machine – no damage was reported. FHC spoke to the supervisor who checked the location of the mulcher and the way it was facing.
- A matter was raised regarding the cycle lanes on Lookout Road. FHC met with TfNSW on site and determined the concrete barriers could be removed which would widen the space for cyclists.

There were two positive outcomes in April;

- Contact was made regarding concerns around fauna. A phone meeting was undertaken with the stakeholder, community team and environmental coordinator to discuss the concerns of the stakeholder about Powerful Owls. The mitigation and monitoring measures were talked through, and the stakeholder was happy with information provided.
- A matter was raised regarding noise concerns from Lookout Road following project completion. Project team outlined all mitigation measures that would be in place and provided the CAD section to show the bypass design under McCaffrey Drive. The stakeholder was an architect and was grateful for the drawings to better understand the design and was satisfied with this result.

### **Summary of Issues and Events**

- Met on site with David from the Indymarra Cultural Programs Team and collected bark and tree branches. This program runs cultural training and will produce cultural weapons and tools, including boomerangs, clap sticks, coolamons (wooden dishes) shields, buundhi's (clubs) and possibly didgeridoos, they want to use the timber to ensure the 'continuation' of cultural practices are still taught and shared across community.
- Some stakeholders have asked not to be door knocked, as they receive the emails about the upcoming night works and do not require to be door knocked as well. This is being recorded in consultation manager. Due to Environmental Protection Licence conditions, door knocks are occurring nearly every four to six weeks at properties.
- Door knocking for community agreements commencing in May 2023, for support from the community to undertake five nights a week work.



- Further education engagement activities to be undertaken with local schools.
- Site teams are collecting cans/bottles to be refunded and money donated to local organisation.
- Biggest Morning Tea upcoming on 25 May 2023 with a bake off on site occurring. Judging to occur most likely by be CWA and attending as judges.



**RP2J Environmental Representative** (as per MCoA A22)

Simon Williams  
**Principal Environmental Planner**  
**Director**  
**GeoLINK**

*Attachment: Site Images – April 2023*



Site Images – April 2023



**Image 1: Northern side of Jesmond Roundabout (adjacent to Hungry Jacks)**



**Image 2: Northern side of Jesmond Roundabout (adjacent to Hungry Jacks)**



**Image 3: Southern side of Jesmond Roundabout, Jesmond Park.**



**Image 4: Southern side of Jesmond Roundabout, Jesmond Park.**



**Image 5: Sediment basin located in the main clearing areas between Newcastle road and McCaffery Drive.**



**Image 6: ERSED controls at McCaffery Drive (area of Incident)**



**Image 7: Southern end. Clearing area to be filled showing soil contour banks, bunds and soil binder**



**Image 8: JHH and RP2J project interface.**