



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

Reporting Period: 1 to 31 May 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.
At House Noise Treatment (AHNT) consultation and implementation commenced March 2022.



May 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, final inspections completed on 16 properties, 3 property completion reports completed
- Round 2 properties –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, sediment basins and creek diversion
- Traffic and pedestrian pathway realignment
- Earthworks including Northern interchange, Cut 1 / Fill 1 and Cut 3, 4 & 5 / Fill 5
- Utilities installation works
- Removal of recycled logs to LLS
- Mulching and mulch removal

OOHW works:

- Southern interchange staging set up and clearing
- McCaffrey Drive north gate access construction
- Northern interchange staging set up (pinning barriers, line-marking, pavement preparation, asphaltting) and clearing
- Utilities installation - Telstra
- Northern Interchange concrete works

June 2023 Upcoming Works

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

At House Noise Treatment Works

- Round 1 properties – conduct final inspections for all round 1 properties
- Round 2 properties – anticipated contract award for round 2 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 all interchanges along with the mainline.
- Utilities installation works
- Preparation for culvert construction
- Removal of recycled logs to LLS
- Mulching and mulch removal



Scheduled OOHW Works:

- Utilities Investigations and installation – Telstra and sewer
- Northern Interchange set up, barrier install, linemarking and removal and asphaltting
- Southern interchange – hauling from cut 1 to fill 2.

ER Activity:

Reviews / Approvals / Advice / Meetings

- Community Involvement Plan: Review
- Independent Environmental Audit: Provision of information and interview
- Minor Ancillary Facility Checklist: Review
- TfNSW MCoA A38 Report: Review
- ERG Monthly Inspection and Meeting No.8: Tuesday 2 May - Minutes and Agenda
- Fortnightly ER Construction Inspection and Report (ER, TfNSW and FHC) Wednesday 24 May 2023
- Monthly Environmental Representative and Department of Planning Environment, Project Team Meeting

Inspections

- Site inspections were held on:
 - Tuesday 2 May as part of the Environmental Review Group meeting; and
 - Wednesday 24 May for the Fortnightly ER and TfNSW inspection.
- Environmental Inspection Reports were prepared and issued to FHC, TfNSW and DPE. Images were also included from the inspection.

Environmental Review Group (ERG) Meeting

- ERG Meeting No. 8 was held on Tuesday 2 May 2023 attended by TfSW, FHC, ER, EPA and DPE.
- The next ERG meeting (No. 9) is scheduled for Tuesday 6 June 2023.

Audits

- There were no ER audits held in May.
- The Independent Environmental Audit inspection and interviews were held on May 25 May.

Stop Work Notices

- There were no Stop Work Notices in May.



Incidents (as per MCoA definition)

- There were no incidents in May.
- The EPA environmental issue (Ref: 3505204) previously notified as a potential environmental incident under MCoA A37 and A38 has been issued and the investigation still being undertaken. EPA has since issued a Show Cause notice to FHC.

Non-compliances

- There were no non-compliances in May.

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

- There was a minor hydraulic oil spill caused by a ruptured hose during May, this was promptly contained and cleaned up.

CEMP, CEMPP & Minister's Conditions of Approval

Reports

- MCoA A26(k): Environmental Representative Monthly Report (April 2023): submitted to DPE (via Portal): 4 May 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 1 location during the month. Further investigations found that this reading was not attributable to the project.
- Dust gauges were changed on May 5, 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 309 events recorded in the reporting period which included, 191 - doorknocks, 11 – 1800 calls in, 50 – incoming Community emails

- **Community Door Knocks:** Community agreements, environmental requirements for notifications, Tree removal Lookout Road, CWA judges for Cook Off,
- **Community enquiries and follow up - 1800 phone calls/emails:** construction vehicle speed, trucks using Chinchin Road, mulch, pothole Victory Parade, internet slowed down, Shared user path Lookout Road, noise from vegetation removal, trucks on Grandview Parade



- **Emails incoming:** Request to be added to email distribution list, acoustic treatment, fauna/flora, Footpath Lookout Road, Hugo Reserve, Community agreements, trucks queuing McCaffrey Drive, Robert Street egress, black dust build up, Project portal and design plans on webpage, street sweeper, haulage routes, powerful owl, McCaffrey shoulder removal
- Regular interactions with City of Newcastle incl. discussions: pedestrian/cyclist tunnel through Jesmond Park, Temporary closure of paths to/from Newcastle Road into Jesmond Park, environmental questions about fauna, flora, bypass design.
- We continued to coordinate communication 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, cycle clubs – let them know about the upcoming tunnel.
- Monthly - three month look ahead – May to July 2023
- Signage – temporary path closures – Jesmond Park
- Notification – Southern Interchange – hauling,
- 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), City of Newcastle, bus companies, emergency services and local schools.

Complaints

There were six complaints in May; (from 3 stakeholders – three were from a single stakeholder)

- Black dust – Elizabeth Cook Drive – complaint via Sonia Hornery MP office – property is 1.5km away from project, and 100's of houses in between that road and the works. We believe it is not related to the RP2J – TfNSW replied.
- Vegetation clearing – stakeholder 1.7km away from the tree clearing complained about the noise at night – we believe the noise was not related to our project. Was only one night of works, so no further noise from tree clearing stakeholder updated.
- Stakeholder drove over a rock at Jesmond roundabout, provided the email address to provide written complaint for damage process to proceed. Have not heard from – stakeholder has been called twice and messages left to call 1800 or send email to follow up. No response.
- Vehicles speeding on Victory Parade entering and exiting Jesmond site. 40km/h signs have been erected on Myall, Illoura and Victory Parade. Employees frequently reminded to slow down during pre-starts.
- Noise from Street Sweeper on Victory Parade - complaint that the street sweeper is only pretending to sweep and should not be used. Explained that the Street Sweeper is required to ensure dust is kept off the road.
- Dust on Victory Parade – following complaint a Street Sweeper attended and swept Victory Parade.

Positive

- Shared user path – Lookout Road Stakeholder requested information on the Shared User path near her property. Provided stakeholder with CAD 3D drawing labelling all streets, cyclist lanes, shared user path. Stakeholder provided a positive email response.



- Stakeholder was a University student and asked multiple questions about fauna, flora and design for her assignment.. A number of answers were provided by FH and TfNSW. Stakeholder emailed back: Thank you so much for all your help, Angela. I really appreciate it. Erin.

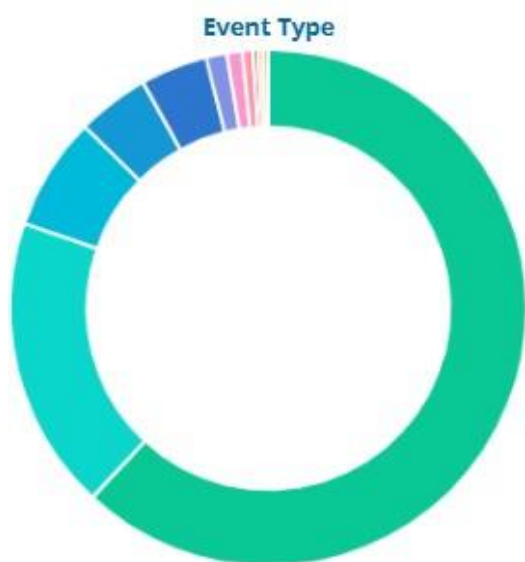
Trends

- Stakeholders requesting that door knocking is not required as they receive the notification via email and this is sufficient. This information is recorded in Consultation Manager.
- Following three door knocks, under the requirement for Community Agreements, the photo of the note attached to the door of one of the stakeholders.

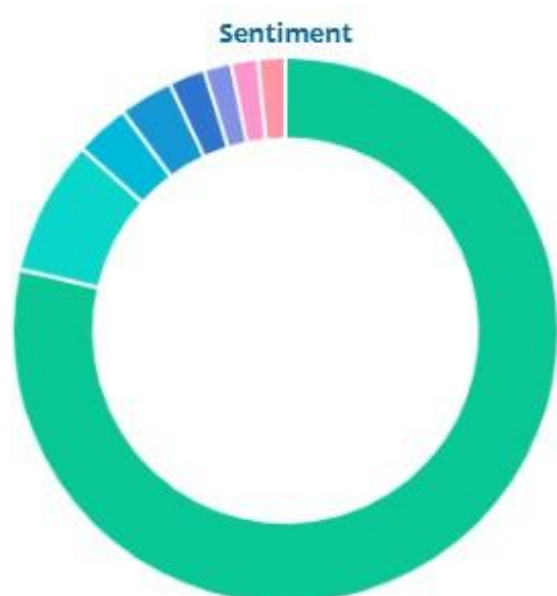


Summary of Issues and Events

- HRH High School - Clontarf students attended site and undertook a tour before speaking to staff about careers in Construction.
- Three female staff attended Cocktail Connections – for women in Engineering at Newcastle University, where job roles and advertised jobs were discussed with students who attended the event.
- Biggest Morning Tea event – with a Cook Off competition held and local impacted stakeholder who also belongs to the Country Women’s Association (CWA) attended (CWA judge is an impacted stakeholder). Subcontractors donated prizes and a raffle and auction was held, with \$5000 being raised for the worthy cause.
- Site office at Jesmond and Mater (Alcatraz) are collecting bottles and cans, and refunding them at Return and Earn – the funds raised will be donated to a worthy cause (yet to be determined). \$21.70 raised to date.
- Contact from a Newcastle Council Councillor – the councillor attended site where they were spoken to by a foreman who directed them to contact the community line the Councillor called the 1800 number. They contacted and stated that they had set a petition in motion for modifications of the bypass to include pillars in two places along the bypass, near the fauna crossings. TfNSW did a media interview with ABC radio.
- Upcoming engagements
 - Hunter School of Performing Arts – STEM students to attend site for a tour and visit in June 2023
 - Hugo Reserve – looking to hold a community clean-up day involving the team and local impacted stakeholders to clean up the reserve to build legacy with local community
 - Further school engagement activities to be undertaken with local schools.



* Doorknock	192
INCOMING Email	57
* Email - Outgoing	22
* 1800 / 1300 Information Line	14
* Phone - Outgoing	13
SMS	4
* Meeting	3
Campaign Email	2
* Notification	1
* SMS	1
COMPLAINT In person	1
Total	310



Neutral	147
Negative	15
Negative - unavoidable	6
Negative - avoidable	6
Complaint - unavoidable	4
Complaint - avoidable	3
Positive	3
None	3
Total	187



Closing Remarks

Main construction works include clearing, installation of ERSED controls (i.e.: sediment basins, lined drains, rock checks, etc), preparing traffic diversions, utility relocations, and earthworks has started in some areas of the main alignment. Residential property noise treatment works are also ongoing. Overall environmental management of the project for the Month of May continues to be good. There is a large amount of area currently exposed due to earthworks, so it is important that the key ERSED control requirements are installed to design and regularly monitored during this high risk ERSED phase.

RP2J Environmental Representative (as per MCoA A22)

Simon Williams
Principal Environmental Planner
Director
GeoLINK

| Attachment: Site Images – May 2023



Site Images – May 2023



Image 1: Looking east across Jesmond Park from the Jesmond Compound Site.



Image 2: Slip Lane entry / exit from the Jesmond site for heavy vehicles (not for public use). Looking west.



Image 3: Creek Diversion, looking west. Waterway WC2 – Unnamed ephemeral tributary of Dark Creek (2016 RP2J EIS p465).



Image 4: Creek Diversion, looking east. Waterway WC2 – Unnamed ephemeral tributary of Dark Creek (2016 RP2J EIS p465).



Image 5: Eastern boundary (JHH) lined clean water perimeter drain.



Image 6: Clean water drain collecting the eastern boundary (JHH) perimeter water and taking it off site to the west.



Image 7: Eastern boundary with JHH. Works above the fence are JHH, works below the fence are RP2J. Note clean water perimeter drain, soil binder and batter protection.



Image 8: View of the southern interchange works, looking north from Lookout Road.