



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

Reporting Period: 1 to 31 July 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.



July 2023 Completed Works

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

At House Noise Treatment Works

- Round 1 properties – 8 properties finished physical works in July.
- Round 2 properties – Contract awarded for round 2 sub-contractor, 79 of 100 deeds signed.

Main Construction

- Installation of ERSED controls and sediment basin.
- Traffic and pedestrian pathway realignment.
- Earthworks including all interchanges along with the mainline.
- Utilities installation works.
- Culvert construction.
- Removal of recycled logs to LLS.
- Mulch removal.
- Piling.
- Mine Grouting.

OOHW works:

- Utilities installation – TCS and sewer.
- Northern Interchange barrier install, line-marking and removal and asphalting.
- Southern interchange – hauling from cut 1 to fill 2.

August 2023 Upcoming Works

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

At House Noise Treatment Work

- Round 1 properties – the remaining 5 properties set to finish physical works
- Round 2 properties – property treatments to begin for remaining 100 properties.

Main Construction

- Installation of ERSED controls and sediment basin.
- Traffic and pedestrian pathway realignment.
- Earthworks including all interchanges along with the mainline.
- Utilities installation works.
- Culvert construction.
- Mulch removal.
- Piling.
- Mine Grouting.
- Progressive Revegetation / Landscaping



Scheduled OOHW Works:

- Utilities installation – TCS, Ausgrid and sewer.
- Northern Interchange barrier install, line-marking and removal and asphaltting (traffic staging works).
- Southern Interchange – hauling from cut 1 to fill 2.

ER Activity:

Reviews/ Approvals/ Advice/ Meetings

- Upcoming OOHW Notifications: Review
- Independent Environmental Audit report (July 2023): Review
- Post Approval Tracking Register: Review
- Surface and Groundwater Quality Monitoring Program minor update: Advice
- ERG Monthly Inspection and Meeting No.10: Tuesday 4 July - Minutes and Agenda.
- Fortnightly ER Construction Inspection and Report (ER, TfNSW and FHC) Wednesday 19 July 2023.
- Monthly Environmental Representative and Department of Planning Environment, Project Team Meeting.

Inspections

- Site inspections were held on:
 - Tuesday 4 July as part of the Environmental Review Group meeting; and
 - Wednesday 19 July for the Fortnightly ER and TfNSW inspection.
- Environmental Inspection Reports were prepared and issued to FHC, TfNSW and DPE. Several matters were included with accompanying images.

Environmental Review Group (ERG) Meeting

- ERG Meeting No. 10 was held on Tuesday 4 July 2023 attended by TfNSW, FHC, ER, EPA and DPE.
- The next ERG meeting (No. 11) is scheduled for Tuesday 1 August 2023.

Audits

- There were no ER audits held in July.
- Pursuant to MCoA A35, The Independent Environmental Audit report was undertaken in May and the report was issued in July.

Stop Work Notices

- There were no Stop Work Notices in July.



Incidents (as per MCoA definition)

- There were no incidents in July.
- The EPA environmental issue (Ref: 3505204) previously notified as a potential environmental incident under MCoA A37 and A38 has been issued. EPA issued a Show Cause Notice which has been responded to by FHC. EPA have confirmed no further action regarding this matter.

Non-compliances

- There were no non-compliances in July.

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

- There were no environmental issues in July.

CEMP, CEMPP & Minister's Conditions of Approval

Reports

- MCoA A26(k): Environmental Representative Monthly Report (June 2023): submitted to DPE (via Portal): 6 July 2023.

Monitoring

- Monthly noise monitoring as per NVMP did not exceed NML's.
- Water quality was undertaken during the month, the lab results are not yet available however field measurements did not indicate any issues. 3 locations were dry.
- Dust gauges were changed on July 3, 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

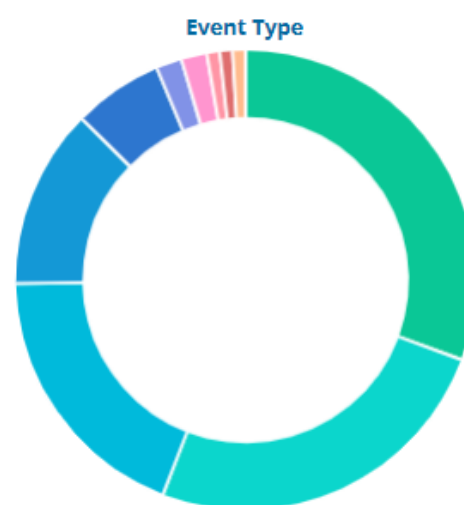
Community consultation

There were 111 events recorded in Consultation Manager during the reporting period which included:

- Community enquiries and follow up: 21 x 1800 calls in (Noise, dust, dirt on the road, Property adjustments - fencing Lookout Road, trucks using air brakes, rock off truck hit vehicle),
- Emails incoming: 23 x Incoming Community emails (noise, dust, dirt on road, request to be removed off survey, McCaffrey Drive design, Emailing list, Noise abatement program, heavy vehicle movements).



- Regular interactions with City of Newcastle incl. discussions: Hugo Reserve Community Clean-up day – CoN has turned down request, temporary bus stop relocation – Newcastle Road)
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- John Hunter Hospital and NSW Health Services – monthly meeting with FH and TfNSW
- Keolis Downer and CDC buses – temporary relocation of bus stops McCaffrey Drive and Newcastle Road
- 2 x Property Adjustment meetings – and letters signed
- Monthly - three month look ahead – July to October 2023.



* Email - Outgoing	34
INCOMING Email	28
* 1800 / 1300 Information Line	21
* Phone - Outgoing	14
* Meeting	7
* Briefing	2
SMS	2
Complaint - Email	1
General Inquiry	1
Campaign Email	1
Total	111

Complaints

There were 16 complaints in July:

- Requests to be added to the project email list continue following distribution of notifications.
- Complaints x 16 – note that 5 complaints are the same complainant.
 - 2 x noise from night works
 - 1 x light spill
 - 1 x speed limit of 60km/h too high on Newcastle Road
 - 1 x trucks blocking driveway (day works)
 - 4 x dirt/dust on roadway – Victory Parade and McCaffrey Drive
 - 2 x Noise – trucks on McCaffrey Drive (day works)
 - 2 x Shared User path – Jesmond Park
 - 1 x Blue Wren Creek dry
 - 1 x rock off truck hit passing car McCaffrey Drive – 1800 call request for damage claim in writing – emailed stakeholder with email address – no response to date

Positive

- Moving of fruit trees in property adjustment stakeholders residence
- MP's Visit
- Request to be added to emailing list
- Traffic Switch
- Request to be excluded from phone survey



Trends

- Increased questions about design, noise walls, and landscaping inquiries – usually during door knocks.
- Requests to be added to the project email list continue following distribution of notifications
- Emails and 1800 numbers as a result of the survey phone calls by TfNSW about the communications on the project to approximately 300 stakeholders, the survey will go live on the portal for any users to access in August 2023.

Summary of Issues and Events

- Bunya tree from Jesmond Roundabout being made into guitars – Newcastle Herald
- RP2J portal is now live.
- Return and Earn – the funds raised will be donated to a worthy cause (yet to be determined). \$40 raised to date.
- Minister for Roads – John Graham, Minister for Regional Roads – Jenny Aitchinson and member for Wallsend Sonia Horney attended site for an update
- Member for Wallsend – Sonia Horney attended site for a tour – posted on Social Media about RP2J
- David Newham from Indymarra Cultural Programs, attended site to collect final wood and bark. He has been salvaging timber from RP2J site, to be recycled to produce important cultural weapons and tools to ensure the "continuation" of cultural practices (not "preservation") to enable indigenous "old ways" are still taught and shared across their community.
- Fire and Rescue NSW attended RP2J and travelled through the alignment with Safety and Superintendent to understand the layout of the project alignment, if at any time they need to attend site.

Upcoming Engagements

- University of Newcastle attending for site tour – August 2023
- Hunter Central Coast branch of the Institute of Public Works Engineers Australia attending for site tour – August 2023
- Project Pop-ups – John Hunter Hospital and Jesmond Shopping Centre
- Future School engagements at schools.



Closing Remarks

Clearing is now complete and main construction works are underway including earthworks, creek diversions, utility relocations, Dark Creek culvert works, traffic diversions, pilling and pouring bridge footings, installation of permanent drainage and continual updating and installation of ERSED controls and requirements. During the two monthly inspections only minor matters being flagged which have predominantly been low risk items. Residential property noise treatment works are also ongoing.

The site environmental team continue to show a genuine and committed effort to ensuring construction environmental impacts are being managed appropriately and should be commended for this. Following the site experiencing a reasonably wet weather period, it appears the region is now moving towards a dryer phase and hence it will be important to manage the issues that arise from this weather pattern, for instance dust.

RP2J Environmental Representative (as per MCoA A22)

Simon Williams
Principal Environmental Planner
Director
GeoLINK

Attachment: Site Images – July 2023



Site Images – July 2023



Image 1: Works around the old Hungry Jacks site, at the northern interchange, Jesmond Park. View to the west.



Image 2: Dark Creek culvert works including diversion, northern interchange, Jesmond Park, view to the east.

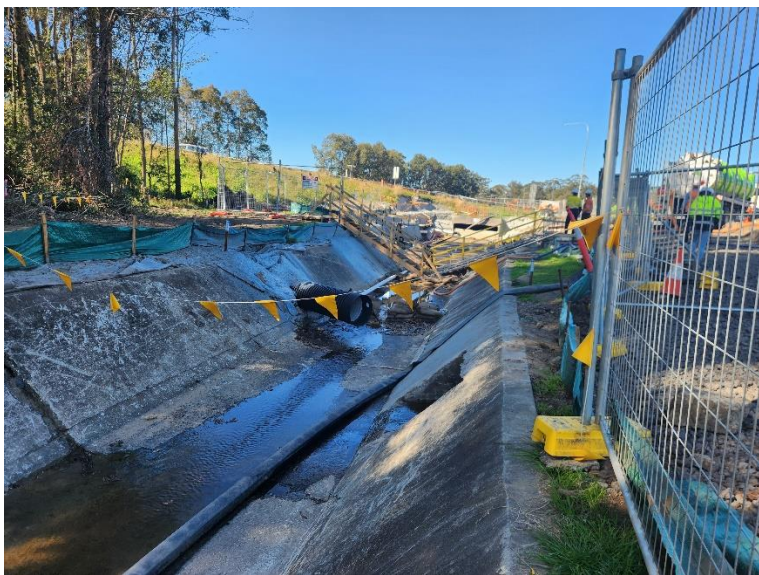


Image 3: Dark Creek culvert works, northern interchange, Jesmond Park, view to the east.



Image 4: Main line, view to the west.



Image 5: Main line, east to west clean water creek diversion – general view of earthworks. View is to the southeast.



Image 6: Main line, east to west clean water creek diversion, view to the western side at outlet.



Image 7: Southern works at the cnr of McCaffery Drive and Lookout Road. All earthworks. View is to the north.



Image 8: Southern works at the cnr of McCaffery Drive and Lookout Road. All earthworks. View is looking north along Lookout Road.