

20240828
12:30pm – 1:50pm
96-98 Great Western Highway,
Medlow Bath

Minutes

Medlow Bath Community Advisory Group

Chair
Attendees

Kate Walsh (KW) – Manager Communications and Engagement

Community Advisory Group Members:

Belinda Shipton (BS)

Deborah Howell (DH)

Debra Brown (DB)

Halina Pochwyt (HP)

Ian Heir (IH)

Jenny Storaker (JS)

Narelle Morrissey (NM)

Transport for NSW:

Andrew McLuckie, Project Manager (AM)

Brittany Aiken, Community Engagement Officer (BA)

Joanna Lesak, Deputy Project Manager (JL)

Kate Walsh, Manager Communications and Engagement (KW)

Matthew Davis, Senior Community and Customer Engagement Officer (MD)

Paul Polansky, Senior Manager Transport Technical Solutions (PP)

Thomas Worley, Associate Community and Safety Partner (TW)

Van Bardzhamian, Project Director (VB)

Rochelle McDonald, Senior Community and Customer Engagement Officer (RM)

Madeline Taylor (MT), Project Officer

Abergeldie:

Brent Knight, Project Manager (BN)

Carla Brookes, Communications Manager (CB)

Brian McGuinness, Construction Manager (BM)

Arengo:

Steven Williams, Project Manager (SW)

Apologies

Alistair Lunn (AL) – TfNSW

Leigh Trevitt (LT) – TfNSW

Sally Thompson (ST) - BMCC

Conflict of Interest

Nil

Declarations

Endorsement of minutes
from previous meeting

Previous meeting minutes were reviewed and endorsed.

Action Item 3: Sediment Basin

- BK advised that contaminated material (hydrocarbons) found around sediment basin has delayed the landscaping works. This material is being removed and the expected completion of the batter is in the coming weeks.

Action Item 7: Railway Parade lighting

- VB to chase up Council regarding lighting in Railway Parade

Items

Item 1:

General landscaping discussion

- HP asked about what is in behind sed blocks. BK advised it is a drainage filter with geofabric.
- VB advised that there will be native grasses right through the project design.
- VB explained that Regal have been engaged to undertake the landscaping works and are waiting on Spring to start. Railway Parade around Sheila Street will be the first place to be landscaped.
- Plating along the retaining wall near the Rail line – VB advised that the retaining wall near the rail line will be planted but is waiting on works and no timeframe can be provided at this time.
- HP asked about what happens to the original stretch of road when/if the next section takes off (referring to the original Katoomba to Blackheath Upgrade). VB identified that the current road would become the eastbound lanes and the new stretch that joins the spur would be the westbound lanes.
- DH asked about planting on the westbound retaining wall. VB identified that there will be substantial bush regen as we have no idea of if the East Project will restart. There will be plantings in this area, but you will notice some of the wall.

ACTION: VB to discuss with LT the possibility to plant climbers from the bottom of the wall to break up the grey.

- BS asked about if decent soil will be used during landscaping to give the trees a decent chance at survival. VB identified that we follow very particular specifications that require a specific sized hole to allow for sufficient fill.
- DB raised a question about the retaining wall along Bellevue side and that it was originally meant to be sandstone. She also mentioned that VB had previously said he has had second thoughts on this, what is the thoughts? VB identified that in consultation with Transport's Urban Designers the small line of sandstone would look out of place without the rest of the wall being constructed and the current plan will be to have the wall finished with a similar finish to the rail corridor and will add greenery to break it up. The final product when/if East restarts will be a sandstone wall.

ACTION: VB to with LT to review plantings that will help to break up the grey and provide a nicer finish.

- KW raised that the original plans for planting in Bellevue have been pushed back as a result of weather and other delays. VB identified that we are still hoping for spring planting.

- DH asked about the plan for tree planting in Bellevue, will they be at road level. VB advised that they would be and that planting will occur on both sides to recreate the avenue of cherry trees.
- BS raised a point about previously being notified that the cherry trees would be 100L, but community has been made aware that the order is 40L trees. VB explained that we ordered 40L trees 6 months ago to propagate them and we are expecting them to be 100L by the time they go in.
- JS asked about the small patch of dirt on Railway Parade along the pedestrian path and if it will be planted. VB advised that it would be. DB suggested low growing grevilleas. KW asked for the community to send suggestions through, and we can take them to Council for input and approval.

ACTION: CAG members to send through a list of suggested plantings to be reviewed by Transport and Council.

Item 2:

Mural update

- BK identified we have some drawings that have been made but not at a point to be provided to community yet. They are working with structural consultants currently to confirm that the plans will meet today's structural standards.
- BK also looking at either the bus shelter or doing the deconstructed murals in the park that allow for a bit of a 'history of Medlow Bath' story.
- VB would like to take the concept offline and work with Comms to provide some ideas to the community for consultation.
- BM asked if there would be something of more benefit to the community than a mural, like some additional benches or some playground swings or something along these lines. Suggested that we provide a few different options for the community to consider, one including the deconstructed mural, one could be more of a park, one could be a new shelter. DB suggested we could do a display at Coffee and Chat and maybe a weekend one at Potbelly to give people a chance to look at options.

ACTION: TfNSW to review multiple ideas and prepare a mini "have your say" about preferences

Item 3:

Roadworks including 3 month lookahead (Abergeldie)

- BK advised the first traffic switch to take place in early September, moving vehicles to the Eastbound lanes allowing us to work on the Westbound lanes. We will also be working on the permanent pedestrian footpath during this time (3m footpath).
- Work in Bellevue Crescent will also take place while the traffic switch is in place.
- Soil nail wall on track to be completed in September.
- Landscaping looking into the backend of spring around November for Bellevue Crescent.
- Railway Parade landscaping planning to start in September.

- Bus Stop will shift to align with the pedestrian crossing.
- Batter against the retaining wall will also take place over the coming months.
- HP asked about when are we planning on reopening the slip lane into Station Street. BK identified it should be reopened before Christmas.
- IH advised he has noticed increased vibrations. BK identified it is the result of the construction of retaining wall J. VB explained this is close to completion and these vibrations will stop. BM identified completion is about 4 weeks away.
- BK advised that with the road construction happening there will be increased roller work that will increase vibration and has asked if you do find it difficult to please reach out to Abergeldie and they will investigate ways they can help on a case by case basis.
- DH asked about a person who was undertaking some vibration monitoring in Railway Pde near St Albans Road and asked if there is vibration monitoring across the project. BM explained that vibration monitoring occurs across the project and is completed by Abergeldie, independent third parties and the EPA.
- BS asked if the traffic shift will allow there to be less nightworks. BM advised that they should indeed allow us to complete more works safely during the day and lead to reduced nightworks.
- DH asked about how alternative accommodation offers are determined. CB advised that it is based on a specific distance from work that is provided by the Environment Team and a map is produced to show CB where offers need to be provided.
- DB asked about why the Abergeldie maps still show the u-turn bay and if the roundabout still going ahead. BM explained that the roundabout is happening, and they will update the maps for future. The reason why works on the roundabout are taking so long is related to the utilities that exist in Bellevue. BM explained that we are having issues with asset owners to get the utilities done so we can then do the road.

ACTION: CB to use updated maps for future CAG meetings.

- BS asked about what is happening with access in and out of Bellevue Crescent when the traffic switch happens. BM explained that the movements will be the same as the movements currently in place and traffic assessments have shown that all sightlines will adhere to requirements.
- BM further explained that when we do a traffic switch we also work with an independent traffic consultant to ensure all vehicle movements adhere to requirements.
- DH asked about the u-turns happening at the Railway Parade intersection and noted she appreciates the work

with the chem flix but they are getting damaged quickly. BK advised that he has replaced the chem flix several times and has now gone to transport for a permanent solution.

ACTION: Transport to consider an alternative solution for the Uturn issue at the GWH/Railway Parade intersection.

- JS asked about the island in Railway Parade and if any action is to be taken, as well as if it can be shortened. VB explained he has looked at it with community members and that he has now got road safety involved to review and provide advice. VB identified that the width of the road is 3m which is compliant. IH explained that the visual aspect of it seems to be the biggest concern. VB will have it reviewed and a solution designed if necessary.

ACTION: VB to arrange an assessment of the island in Railway Parade and determine a solution if necessary.

- TW identified that in response to community requests for lower speeds specifically in Railway Parade, he has now begun the speed zone review process for lowering the speed along Railway Parade.
- SW advised that fencing to be completed across the month for Railway Parade.
- A possession weekend will be in place this coming weekend.
- The lift will be installed in the lift shaft over the next quarter.
- Bridge comes in 6 pieces, first 3 pieces will be lifted into place in early September.
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Item 4:
Pedestrian Bridge Update
including 3 month look ahead
(Arengo)

Item 5:
Community Questions

Item 6:
Upcoming events

Other business

- Music in the Park
- **ACTION: TfNSW to provide an updated map of the project and putting up on the website.**

Next meeting

27 November 2024, Medlow Bath site compound

Actions Register

To begin, in progress, ongoing, delayed, completed

Date	Project	Action	Notes	Action status
20240828	Medlow Bath	VB to discuss with LT the possibility to plant climbers from the bottom of the wall to break up the grey.		
20240828	Medlow Bath	VB to with LT to review plantings that will help to break up the grey and provide a nicer finish.		In Progress
20240828	Medlow Bath	CAG members to send through a list of suggested plantings to be reviewed by Transport and Council.		In Progress
20240828	Medlow Bath	TfNSW to review multiple ideas and prepare a mini “have your say” about preferences	Transport Comms team to arrange once designs and options have been prepared.	To begin
20240828	Medlow Bath	CB to use updated maps for future CAG meetings.	Abergeldie will utilise new maps for future CAG meetings.	Ongoing
20240828	Medlow Bath	Transport to consider a more permanent solution for the u-turn issue at the GWH/Railway Parade intersection.		
20240828	Medlow Bath	VB to arrange an assessment of the island in Railway Parade and determine a solution if necessary.		
20240828	Medlow Bath	TfNSW to investigate providing a designed map of the project and putting up on the website.	A new map has now been uploaded to the project website.	Complete
20240529	Medlow Bath	ST to approach Council’s Grants Officer to monitor for opportunities.		In Progress
20240529	Medlow Bath	VB to work with Abergeldie to create an artist’s impression about what we could achieve with the mural.	Currently in progress. Transport to work on creating a “have your say” style of options engagement for possibilities.	In Progress
20240529	Medlow Bath	BK to provide an update on the batter near the sediment basin.	Works have started and should take approximately 6 weeks to complete.	In Progress
20240529	Medlow Bath	VB to consider lighting from the station to the car park and see if any additional provisions need to be/can be made.	VB is speaking with Blue Mountains City Council on this issue. Will provide advice once known.	In Progress
20240228	Medlow Bath	Action: TV will work with Abergeldie and provide information that outlines what is defined as a reportable event and which authorities obtain the reports.		Ongoing
20240228	Medlow Bath	Action: Transport will investigate the contrast of the zebra crossing on Railway Parade and taken any necessary action to ensure the lines are clearly visible.	Transport is working with Abergeldie to identify an alternative option within the pedestrian crossing standards that will ensure the crossing is more visible.	Ongoing

Completed actions

20240529	Medlow Bath	Transport to determine if native grasses can be used as planting on the batter near the sediment basin.	Native grasses will be used across the project, including in this location. Action Closed.	Complete
20240529	Medlow Bath	BK to investigate installing no right turn signage when exiting Bellevue Crescent.	Abergeldie have removed some 'gawk screens' to improve sight distance for oncoming traffic. Abergeldie have also installed a mirror to increase sightlines for vehicles exiting Bellevue Crescent. With traffic switch in place, sightlines should also be improved.	Complete
20240529	Medlow Bath	ST to pass on information about Blackberry bushes in the drainage channel behind the sediment basin to Council's Weed Management Team.	Information has been passed on. Action Closed.	Complete
20231129	Medlow Bath	Investigate water runoff mitigation measures in place	Site inspections undertaken to review Erosion and Sediment Controls that were in place through worksites. Controls were established throughout the site in the form of sediment fence, sumps/sandbags and bales at low points, sandbag checks along water paths and soil binder placed where able. With the potential for more heavy rain, it was decided to place additional protection through ground cover (geofabric on a steep batter area), and additional sandbag checks put in place in the southern section of works between the highway and rail corridor to further slow the flow of water. Action Closed.	Complete
20240529	Medlow Bath	BK to cover the waterboard hole until Sydney Water come out to properly fix the issue.	Sydney Water has been contacted by Abergeldie and the issue has been logged with them, however no timeframe was provided for the fix. Abergeldie were advised they are not to touch a Sydney Water asset as anything done could lead to damage to the asset.	Complete
20240228	Medlow Bath	Action: Abergeldie to investigate whether silt played a role in runoff.	Abergeldie have confirmed that silt did not play a role in the runoff incident in question.	Complete
20240228	Medlow Bath	Action: Abergeldie and Arenco to investigate further measures to restrict workers parking in commuter car park.	Several methods have been tried, including installing signage to make it clear these spaces are not for contractor use. No further complaints have been raised. Will continue to be monitored throughout the project.	Complete
20240228	Medlow Bath	Action: Transport will investigate pre-existing 60km sign and determine how to make speed limit clearer.	Transport working with contractors to install series of signs confirming road work speed limit and resumption of normal speed limit once past scope of works.	Complete
20240228	Medlow Bath	Action: Transport to speak to Blue Mountains City Council to arrange cleaning of the culvert on Railway Parade, safety concerns.	Report has been made to Council for their action.	Complete
20240228	Medlow Bath	Action: Transport to review the trench with Abergeldie to see what interim rectification can be done to reduce noise.	The trench that was causing concerns within the community has been rectified and no longer raising issues.	Complete
20240228	Medlow Bath	Action: Transport to share the link to website where members of public can nominate speed camera locations.	https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/nominate-a-speed-camera-location	Complete

20240228	Medlow Bath	Action: Transport to coordinate removal of additional lines at the Station Street intersection lights.	<p>Lines have been blacked out as an interim measure and will be formally repainted when line marking is completed at end of project.</p> 	Complete
20240228	Medlow Bath	Transport to investigate the sign at this location and confirm if it is a general stop sign or a traffic light blacked out sign.	<p>Signage is attached to lights, indicates a stop required if lights are out. Transport has installed a “left turn permitted” signage to clarify the intersection</p> 	Complete
20231129	Medlow Bath	Presentation to be shared.	Attached to minutes	Complete
20231129	Medlow Bath	Specific planting numbers / planting plans - provide visuals of what retaining walls will look like with landscaping	Presented at conclusion of meeting by Leigh.	Complete
20231129	Medlow Bath	Investigate relocating the Arenco toolbox meeting at 7am be relocated to ensure no commuter parking is taken up by workers.	Arenco continue to reinforce with workers that staff should not park in the commuter car park. Signage has also been installed to remind workers.	Complete
20231129	Medlow Bath	Provide cross section of the retaining walls	See addendum to the minutes from 29 Nov 2023.	Complete

20231129	Medlow Bath	Abergeldie to investigate placement of lighting to ensure they are not shining into people's homes during night work.	Lighting during nightworks is being positioned to minimised impacts on residents.	Complete
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