

NEWCASTLE INNER CITY BYPASS: RANKIN PARK TO JESMOND (SSI-6888)
ENVIRONMENTAL REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY REPORT
July 2024

Reporting Period: 1 to 31 July 2024.

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).



Photo: Aerial photo looking south

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 2024 Completed Works

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

At House Noise Treatment Works

- Round 1 properties: completed
- Round 2 properties:
 - 88 properties completed
 - 8 additional properties expected to be completed

Main Construction

- Installation and maintenance of ERSER controls including sediment basin dewatering and repairs, sediment basin removal and rehabilitation.
- Traffic and pedestrian pathway realignment and diversions.
- Earthworks including all interchanges along with the mainline.
- Utilities installation works, including drainage.
- Dark Creek culvert temporary crossing and construction.
- Bridge structures including piling, excavation, concrete pours and superstructure.
- Progressive revegetation/ landscaping including shotcreting, batter stabilisation, installation of final landscape design.

OOHW works:

- Northern interchange:
 - Barrier installation, line-marking, pavement (traffic staging/switches).
 - Concrete works.
 - Utilities and drainage
 - Delivery and installation of precast structures.
- Southern interchange:
 - Hauling material between southern interchange and mainline.
 - Utilities.
 - Bridge 1 concrete works.



August 2024 Upcoming Works

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

At House Noise Treatment Work

- Round 1 properties: completed
- Round 2 properties:
 - 8 additional properties expected to be completed

Main Construction

- Installation and maintenance of ERSED controls including in waterways for culvert installation.
- Traffic and pedestrian pathway realignment and diversions.
- Earthworks including all interchanges along with the mainline.
- Utilities installation works, including drainage.
- Dark Creek culvert temporary crossing and construction.
- Bridge structures including piling, excavation, concrete pours and superstructure.
- Progressive revegetation/ landscaping including shotcreting, batter stabilisation, installation of final landscape design.

Scheduled OOHW Works:

- Northern interchange:
 - Barrier installation, line-marking, pavement (traffic staging/switches).
 - Concrete works.
 - Utilities and drainage
 - Delivery and installation of precast structures.
- Southern interchange:
 - Hauling material between southern interchange and mainline.
 - Utilities.
 - Bridge 1 concrete works.

ER Activity:

Reviews/ Approvals/ Advice/ Meetings

- Site Environmental Events : Review
- Traffic and Transport Management Plan (Rev 9): Review and Endorse
- All Sites Progressive ESCPs: Review
- Post Approval Tracking Register – June 2024: Review.
- Monthly Newsletter and Three Month Look Ahead: Review.
- Community Notices / Out of Hours Updates: Review.
- ERG Monthly Inspection and Meeting No.21 – Tuesday 2 July: Agenda and Minutes.
- Fortnightly Environment and Sustainability Team Meeting with FHC, TfNSW and ER.
- Monthly DPHI meeting with TfNSW, FHC and ER.
- Monthly ER Meeting with DPHI (Post Approval and Compliance).



Inspections

- Site inspections were held on:
 - ERG site inspection on Tuesday 2 July.
 - ER and TfNSW inspection on Wednesday 17 July.
- Environmental Inspection Reports were prepared and issued through the TfNSW Ngara system to FHC, TfNSW and forwarded to DPHI.

Environmental Review Group (ERG) Meeting

- The July ERG (No.21) meeting was held on Tuesday 2.
- The next ERG meeting No.22 is scheduled for Tuesday 6 August.

Audits

- No. 1 Independent Environmental Audit was undertaken in May 2023. All matters have been closed out.
- No. 2 Independent Environmental Audit will be undertaken in May 2024 with the site inspection undertaken on Tuesday 21. The audit report conclusions are currently being closed out.

Stop Work Notices

- There were no Stop Work Notices in July.

Incidents (as per MCoA definition)

There were no incidents in July

Non-compliances

- There was one non-compliance in July.

During the 2024 DPHI independent environmental audit for the project it was identified that Fulton Hogan was unable to provide a record of the dilapidation report for Dent Street which is a local road assessed for heavy vehicle use. It was later confirmed that the dilapidation report had not been undertaken, triggering a non-compliance against Condition of Approval E68. This is currently being rectified.

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

- There were two environmental issues in July.

On the 17 July during basin decommissioning works for the Fill 3 south basin, sediment laden water escaped the area and entered a creek line within the project boundary. Pumps, sand bags and a vacuum truck was immediately mobilised to remove the sediment laden water which was successfully completed. The event occurred during dry weather and was well contained.

During regular excavations at the northern interchange on the 31 July, several bottles including beer bottles and a small jar were found. Works were immediately stopped, and the Unexpected

Finds Procedure was implemented. The area was flagged off. Site personal called the project archaeologist to confirm potential heritage impact which is currently underway.

CEMP, CEMPP & Minister's Conditions of Approval

Reports

- MCoA A26(k): Environmental Representative Monthly Report (June 2024): submitted to DPHI (via Portal): 4 July 2024.

Monitoring

- Monthly noise monitoring as per NVMP did not exceed NML's.
- Water quality monitoring was undertaken pursuant to the SGWCMP during the month. The laboratory results were not available at the time of reporting. Field monitoring did not present any anomalies.
- Dust gauges were changed on 3 July, the rolling averages are all below the criteria of 4.

Community Consultation and Complaints

Community consultation

There were 38 events recorded in Consultation Manager – interactions with stakeholders.

- 35 x 1800 calls, emails, meetings, and door knocks, including; Night noise, relocation of bus stop; project information, property damage, pot hole, cycleway

Regular interactions

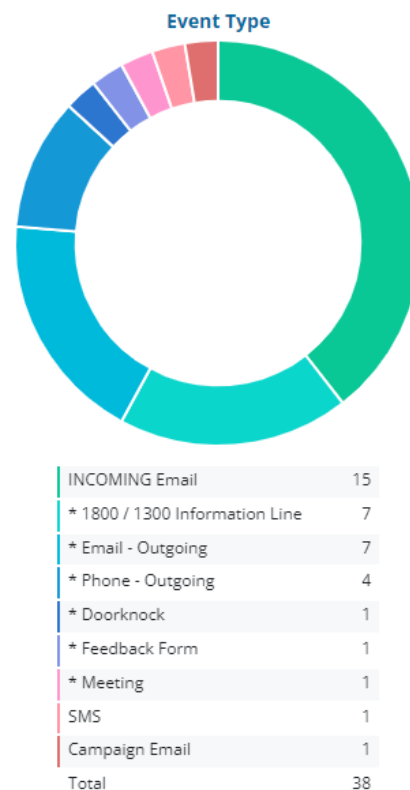
- projects
- Keilos Downer – bus stop relocation to permanent location, signage on Lookout Road
- City of Newcastle – monthly meetings, Blackbutts Reserve access – no right hand turn removed north bound, detour Shared User Path Jesmond, Robert Street temp closure onto ICB
- John Hunter Hospital and NSW Health Services – monthly meeting with FH and TfNSW
- Weekly FH and TfNSW meetings.

Collateral

- Slip note – Robert Street temp closure
- Slip note – OOHW Drainage works – ICB near Robert St, and Newcastle Road

Notification

- Combined 3 month look ahead (July to Sept) and OOHW North/South interchange notification



**Complaints (x 2)**

- 1 x night noise
- 1 x speed limit signage missing

Positive Interactions (x3)

- Check in five nights
- Use of car park on Lookout Road
- providing photos to stakeholder

Trends

- Temporary detour of Newcastle Road east/northbound for asphalt works
- Lookout Road right hand turn into Blackbutts Reserve closed
- Upcoming relocation of Bus Stop on Newcastle Road
- Detour for SUP in Jesmond

Summary of Issues and Events

- Closure of right hand turn land into Blackbutts Reserve north bound
- New slip lane northbound onto ICB now completed
- Traffic realigned under Bridge at Jesmond roundabout

Upcoming Engagements

- Hunter School of Performing Arts to attend for site tour and presentation – August 2024



Closing Remarks

The focus for the construction teams this month has been earthworks, traffic diversions and road works, bridge works including pilling and pouring bridge footings and installation of bridge girders, permanent landscaping, shotcreting batters, progressive ErSed control design and installation, and residential property noise treatment works.

The dryer weather has continued which has allowed the site team to clean out and dewater basins and return them to full capacity. This is a somewhat ongoing process due to the historical wet weather. The removal of southern sediment basin at Fill 2 / Creek 3 on the eastern side of the main line works is complete and final landform and rehabilitation of this area is underway.

Other ongoing matters include traffic controls and diversions and managing and communicating OOHWs with stakeholders. Hauling material during night works has temporarily stopped while the focus has been placed on the structures team and traffic realignment at the Northern Interchange.

The project appears to be putting together consistent months of workflow. There has been a number of minor events this month, hence it is important for the site environmental team to remain on top of environmental management at the site. The team continues to show commitment to sound environmental management practises and again it is recommended to use this dry period to focus on repairs and maintenance of site controls and protocols.

RP2J Environmental Representative (as per MCoA A22)

Simon Williams
Principal Environmental Planner
Director
GeoLINK

Attachment: Site Images – July 2024



Site Images – July 2024



Image 1: Northern Interchange, photo is taken from the northeast corner (Robert Street) looking west across to the Newcastle Road roundabout and the new bridge girders.



Image 2: Northern Interchange, photo is taken from the northeast corner (Robert Street) looking south across to the Newcastle Road and down the mainline.



Image 3: Northern Interchange, photo is taken from the northeast corner (Robert Street) looking south across to Newcastle Road and the mainline.



Image 4: Hollywood sediment basin at the northern end of the main showing damage that has occurred to the inlets. Work was being undertaken throughout the site to repair basins following rainfall events.



Image 5: View of the JHH traffic interchange from the mainline looking northeast towards the entry/exit.



Image 6: View of JHH boundary in the distance and from mainline looking southwest.



Image 7: View looking west from the mainline at the rehabilitation of the Fill 2 / Creek 3 sediment basin.



Image 8: View of the southern end of the mainline works looking north across to the eastern boundary. Excavators have been cleaning out sediment basins however constant rain has made access challenging.