

25 February 2025
9:00am – 11:00am
96-98 Great Western Highway,
Medlow Bath

Minutes

Medlow Bath Community Advisory Group

Chair
Attendees

Kate Walsh – Manager Communications and Engagement

Community Advisory Group Members:

Debra Brown (DB)

Deborah Howell (DH)

Jenny Storaker (JS)

Halina Pochwyt (HP)

Ian Hehir (IH)

Narelle Morrissey (NM)

Transport for NSW:

Holly Davies – Regional Director West (HD)

Kate Walsh, Manager Communications and Engagement (KW)

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

Paul Polanksy, Senior Manager Transport Technical Solutions (PP)

Sarif Ridoy, Senior Project Manager (SR)

Thomas Worley, Associate Community and Safety Partner (TW)

Abergeldie:

Brian McGuinness, Construction Manager (BM)

Carla Brookes, Communications Manager (CB)

Devek Nadu, Project Manager (DN)

Arenco:

Luke Conrith, Communications Manager (LC)

Steven Williams, Construction Manager (SW)

Apologies

Belinda Shipton – Community Representative

Andrew Mcluckie – TfNSW

Ian Allan – TfNSW

Joanna Lesak – TfNSW

Sally Thompson – BMCC

Conflict of Interest

Nil

Declarations

Endorsement of minutes
from previous meeting

- JS: discussed concerns raised from an AirBNB owner in Bellevue Crescent/Delmonte Avenue.
- **ACTION: JS to ask AirBNB owner to reach out to Transport/Abergeldie to discuss impacts to the business.**
- SW: confirmed the median strip is being shortened as raised by the community. This work is currently being priced by Arenco and will rely on Transport to approve the pricing for works to begin. Currently estimated for works to begin in late March.

Items

Item 1:

Bus Mural/Performance Space

- MD: Transport have had discussions with Council regarding the bus stop mural and the fact that it is not structurally sound. Council have advised they are concerned by the integrity of the structure and don't want to have it as a risk.
- MD: Transport and Council have discussed the option of Transport providing funding towards the Medlow Bath Park Performance Space that has been previously suggested by the community. Council would be happy with this in lieu of the bus mural.
- MD: asked the CAG members about if they would also support Transport contributing towards the Performance Space in lieu of the bus mural.
- DB: Community would be supportive of this.
- DH: Agreed that this would be supported.
- HP: Agreed that this would be supported.
- DB: Asked if Transport would be funding the electrical works for the performance space.
- MD: Advised that Transport would agree to fund the whole performance space based on the quote that Council had provided to Transport the week prior to the CAG meeting being held.
- DB: Advised that this generosity by Transport would be heavily supported by the community. Asked if Transport would be completing the works.
- MD: Advised that the funds would be passed on to Council for them to undertake the works themselves. Transport would be unable to undertake the formal works as they fall outside of the Medlow Bath Upgrade Project Footprint
- DN ran through the Abergeldie Program over the next couple of months and identified the critical works areas.

Item 1:

Roadworks look ahead

Item 2:

Pedestrian Bridge look ahead

- SW: discussed upcoming plans for the opening of the pedestrian bridge to take place in early April
- ACTION: HD requested Transport to discuss internally about how community can be incorporated into the opening.
- DH: The trains currently running through Medlow Station don't have carriage 1 (the quiet carriage) stop at the platform and asked if there is anything that can be done.
- SW: not something the project team can discuss
- ACTION: KW to reach out to Sydney Trains to ask about the carriages and ask if the first carriage heading west and the last carriage heading east can stop at the platform.
- DH?: Asked for an update on the waiting room at the Station and wants to know if it will be reopened.

- KW: has reached out to Sydney Trains on this and the issue was in relation to resource availability as they do not have the capacity to maintain cleanliness and safety.
- **ACTION: KW to follow up with Sydney Trains regarding the waiting room for a definitive answer.**
- DB: asked about the current progress on the 65 Arencos street trees and if they were going to be included as part of the work LT is currently doing with Council.
- LT: these are not part of the current landscaping program
- SW: these are an offset planting and are considered separate from the general project landscaping
- MD: Transport have been working closely with Council to develop a new set of landscaping plans that combines comments from both Council and the Community. Advised these plans have not been as simple as previously indicated and there have been a significant number of tweaks required.
- LT: Advised that there have been several areas where the levels are different to what was previously designed for and is waiting on works to finish in some areas so new levels can be taken to provide input to the plans.
- LT: We are currently reviewing the plans in a section-by-section approach, with the western side of the Great Western Highway and Railway Parade being the priority areas to focus on first.
- **ACTION: Transport to meet with Council in the coming weeks to discuss progress on landscaping, including a discussion of the Arencos trees.**
- DB: When do you think some plans will be ready to be seen publicly online?
- LT: Identified that they should be ready in the coming weeks but will need Council endorsement before we can publish online.
- **ACTION: Transport to provide updated plans to the CAG when available and post them online once prepared.**

Item 4:

Landscaping Review Update

Item 5:

Community Questions

- MD ran through the list of community questions included as an appendix to these minutes and provided responses where able.
- HD: Transport are reducing the length of the guardrail on the Northern end, allowing people to get off the road and onto the verge quicker when coming from the station to the Potbelly. While this is not a formalised movement, due to the proximity to the intersection, it does accommodate it.
- DB: Asked if there will be a formalised path leading to the Potbelly Café.
- HD: No formal path will be constructed as it is outside of the scope of this project.

- DH: Asked about how you could access your car in the commuter carpark when leaving the Potbelly.
- HD: There is a worn path adjacent to the fenceline that will be maintained instead of the original plan to landscape to the fence. A formal path is outside of the project scope and is something that would need to be investigated by Council, however, Transport will work with Council to access future funding for these works.
- DB: Asked if the path that part of the original GWH Project was that ran along Park Street could be continued to Atlingworth as this would provide safe access to the Potbelly for pedestrians as well.
- ACTION: Transport to investigate the potential of continuing the footpath along Park Street to Atlingworth.
- JS: Asked about the timing of the green arrow when turning into Railway Parade from the Great Western Highway and wanted to know why it was only sometimes there.
- ACTION: TW to investigate the traffic lights at Railway Parade and confirm the reasoning why the green turn arrow is intermittent.
- DH: Asked what will be happening at that intersection where the Chemflex has been used to prevent the dangerous U-turns.
- ACTION: Transport to confirm what will happen in place of the Chemflex when the project comes to an end.

Next meeting



28 May 2025, Medlow Bath site compound

Actions Register

To begin, ongoing, delayed, completed

Date	Project	Action	Notes	Action status
20250225	Medlow Bath	KW to follow up with Sydney Trains regarding the waiting room for a definitive answer.	<p>The Medlow Bath project team has received advice from Sydney Trains.</p> <p>Medlow Bath is an unattended station. A station master does not attend the station at 5:30am, however a Customer Service Attendant attends once a day from Blackheath to change bins and spot clean. This is normally completed after morning peaks and takes around one hour.</p> <p>Medlow Bath is the only fully unattended station between Lapstone and Mt Victoria. 47 trains stop at Medlow heading to either Sydney or Mount Victoria and as an example, Opal data for Medlow Bath for week ending 10 November 2024 shows 370 taps on/off at the station compared to 2228 at Blackheath and 14,500 at Katoomba for the same time.</p> <p>Although having an open waiting area for intending passengers may be a good outcome, the current Sydney Trains staffing and rosters mean they are unable to provide a safe and comfortable area, and monitor for rubbish, security or vandalism that may arise from opening this room.</p> <p>Sydney Trains would need to conduct a full review of station coverage, facilities and a possible upgrade of the area. An increase in patronage once the station becomes fully accessible may support a discussion about such an upgrade.</p> <p>Transport will monitor usage at the Station to see if such an increase occurs.</p>	Ongoing
20250225	Medlow Bath	Transport to meet with Council in the coming weeks to discuss progress on landscaping, including a discussion of the Arenco trees.	Transport is working closely with Blue Mountains City Council to finalise landscape plans. These are currently under discussion between the organisations, and we will provide updated designs as soon as they are available.	Ongoing
20250225	Medlow Bath	Transport to provide updated plans to the CAG when available and post them online once prepared.	Once landscape plans are approved by Council, a new set will be developed and posted online.	Ongoing
20250225	Medlow Bath	TW to investigate the traffic lights at Railway Parade and confirm the reasoning why the green turn arrow is intermittent.	Awaiting response from relevant team.	Ongoing
20250225	Medlow Bath	Transport to confirm what will happen in place of the Chemflex currently in place at the intersection of GWH and Railway Parade when the project comes to an end.	Transport is currently investigating options at this location	Ongoing
20250225	Medlow Bath	JS to ask AirBNB owner to reach out to Transport/Abergeldie to discuss impacts to the business in Bellevue Crescent.	<p>No contact has been made from the AirBNB owner at this time.</p> <p>JS to advise whether she has encouraged them to speak with Transport.</p>	Ongoing
20250225	Medlow Bath	HD requested Transport to discuss internally about how community can be incorporated into the opening of the pedestrian bridge.	Transport worked alongside Media and the Minister's Office and were able to invite the CAG members and members of the Pedestrian Bridge Working Group to attend the opening of the pedestrian bridge.	Complete
20250225	Medlow Bath	TW to reach out to Sydney Trains to ask about the carriages and ask if the first carriage heading west and the last carriage heading east can stop at the platform.	TW has reached out to Sydney Trains, and they have confirmed that NSW Trainlink procedures have been developed and approved by the regulator as the safest way to operate rolling stock into and out of Medlow Bath. In the future these may be reviewed, however at this stage they are the endorsed method. Sydney Trains also advise that the first, last, and two middle carriages of eight-car trains are designated quiet carriages, which allows three of four quiet carriages to be fully on the platform.	Complete
20240529	Medlow Bath	Transport to consider lighting from the station to the car park and see if any additional provisions need to be/can be made.	Transport to conduct walkshop in 2025 to gain community feedback that can inform future improvements to the station precinct by all relevant authorities.	Ongoing

20240228	Medlow Bath	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 to discuss with BMCC on project inspection walk towards project completion.	Ongoing
20241128	Medlow Bath	SW to investigate options for the median strip on Railway Parade, opposite the PotBelly Café, including softening and/or shortening.	Arengo have reviewed the median strip and provided Transport with a quote for approval to shorten the length of the median strip by approximately 3m, eliminating the concerns that have been identified by community. Once this is approved by Transport the work will be undertaken.	Complete
20240529	Medlow Bath	VB to work with Abergeldie to create an artist's impression about what we could achieve with the mural.	Transport and Council have come to an agreement for Transport to provide funding towards the Medlow Park Performance Space lieu of the mural.	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.	ST passed along information to Council's Weed Management Team	Complete
20241128	Medlow Bath	Action: Abergeldie and Transport to discuss potential solutions to complex traffic interactions at Bellevue Crescent, better alternative to prolonged detours required by no right in / no right out arrangements.	Status: no right turn arrangements removed 17 Dec and will be maintained.	Complete
20241128	Medlow Bath	Action: CB will refer to Transport re whether information about door knock on Bellevue Crescent and Delmonte Avenue with regards to the Bellevue Crescent temporary relocation can be shared.	Status: CB provided the list of doorknocks and follow up calls to Transport. Transport advises that all addresses doorknocked and approximately 30 residents spoken with. Follow up phone calls made to those not at home if phone numbers available to Transport. Records taken to the extent of whether contact was made and whether residents understood the upcoming traffic changes. Records of interactions with stakeholders are not for distribution to parties not involved.	Complete
20241128	Medlow Bath	Action: Abergeldie to investigate sight lines from the stop sign at the temporary Bellevue Crescent intersection, and potentially relocate VMS.	Status: Temporary intersection has passed traffic/safety audit, accepted by Transport and no further changes to occur. Next change will occur on 17 December when another adjustment will be made on the temporary intersection.	Complete
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.	BM to provide link to legislation that outlines requirements: https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/reporting-and-incidents/incident-management/duty-to-notify-pollution-incidents	Complete
20241128	Medlow Bath	Planting selections Kate to check HP's suggestions with Leigh Trevitt. Set meeting between CAG members and Leigh, preferably prior to Christmas.	20241128: HP requested to send through suggestion 20241209: Meeting held, Transport to organise follow up meeting with BMCC.	Complete
20240529	Medlow Bath	ST to approach Council's Grants Officer to monitor for opportunities.	Council to continue monitoring for opportunities.	Complete
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.	Complete
20240529	Medlow Bath	Transport to determine if native grasses can be used as planting on the batter near the sediment basin.	Update to minutes following discussion 28 November 2024: Advise Council expressed preference for turf, for ease of maintenance. However native grasses to be provided around the basin itself. Acknowledge original minutes stated that native grasses would be provided at this location.	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	Complete

			sandbag checks put in place in the southern section of works between the highway and rail corridor to further slow the flow of water.	
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. If problem persists, Transport and Abergeldie to work together towards installing signage. Closing the items as a result of significant changes to Bellevue Crescent in the interim.	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.	Lines have been blacked out as an interim measure and will be formally repainted when line marking is completed at end of project. 	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.	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 	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 Arengo toolbox meeting at 7am be relocated to ensure no commuter parking is taken up by workers.	Arengo 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