

Meeting minutes

Euroa Working Group #7

Date / Time

24 August 2020
6.00pm to 8.00pm AEST

Location

Online

Facilitator

Michelle Croker

Minute taker

Hamish Pink

Distribution

All

Attendees (Show organisation if not ARTC)

- Nola Dudley (independent)
- Tom Maher (independent)
- Des Ryan (independent)
- Shirley Saywell (independent)
- Sarah Treloar (independent)
- Edwina Thompson, DESIGN Euroa
- Bernard Walker (independent)
- Cr. Alistair Thomson, Strathbogie Shire Council
- Emma Kubeil, Strathbogie Shire Council
- Ed Walker, ARTC, General Manager, Victoria Projects
- Dinesh Batra, Project Director T2A, Inland Rail
- David Donnelly, Stakeholder Engagement Lead
- Hamish Pink, Stakeholder Engagement Advisor
- Michelle Croker, Chair. Euroa Working Group

Apologies (Show organisation if not ARTC)

- Michael Tehan
- Justine Collins
- Ann Mahon
- Cr. Mick Williams, Strathbogie Shire Council

Discussions

NO.	ACTIONS
1	<p><i>Open meeting, introductions, check-in</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Michelle opened the meeting and provided introductions, David Donnelly, Stakeholder Engagement Lead and Hamish Pink, Stakeholder Engagement Advisor have replaced Todd Beavis and & Theo Carroll. ➤ Renee Preece, Stakeholder Engagement Manager is going on maternity leave from September 2020, Samantha Smith will be Acting Stakeholder and Communications Manager. ➤ Michelle asked the working group members what they have been hearing and what questions the group are being asked. The group talked about limited interactions with community members due to Covid-19 restrictions, however there is still an interest in the project and acknowledged ARTC's presence in the community associated with North East Rail Line Upgrade works. ➤ Ed informed the group that both North East Rail Line Upgrade and Inland Rail are classed as essential work during Covid-19. The limited passenger services during the pandemic has allowed ARTC accelerate the North East Rail Line Upgrade works. ➤ The issue of noise and vibration is still a concern within the group that they would like to see ARTC address, as some members felt they were unable to answer questions from the community regarding this.

NO.	ACTIONS
2	<p><i>Actions from previous meeting</i> Michelle ran through the actions from the previous meeting.</p> <p>1) Approve publishing ‘Creating a Civic Presence’ document in Euroa Gazette as call to the community for feedback (ARTC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Des confirmed that an article was published in the Euroa Gazette, however was not delivered as intended. Des will work with David to explore further media opportunities. <p>2) Provide further clarity around ARTC commitments on community impacts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ed presented Inland Rail’s principles for managing impacts upon Council infrastructure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shirley and Edwina said they would like to know how this will be applied to Euroa. Michelle acknowledged the comments and advised this will be further discussed during another meeting. <p>3) Provide further clarity on timing for Urban Design contract award.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ed advised an update will be provided later in the meeting.
3	<p><i>T2A delivery strategy</i></p> <p>Ed ran through the delivery strategy for Inland Rail in Victoria.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ARTC’s delivery strategy is Dual Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) which will select a winning contractor from (ECI) to then complete Design & Construct (D&C). Ed advised the group that community consultation will continue through ARTC with the contractor. ➤ All work undertaken to date with the Euroa Working Group will be shared in the ECI process including ‘Creating a Civic Presence’ ➤ The project will be delivered in two tranches, Euroa is placed in second tranche with construction scheduled mid/ late 2023 providing additional time for further consultation and planning.
4	<p><i>Current status: Creating a Civic Presence</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dinesh ran through the Creating a Civic Presence document and addressed the working groups requirements. ➤ Requirement 1: Track Realignment Dinesh advised track realignment is included as an input to be considered during the ECI process. The design will be compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act and access to both platforms will be included in the requirements. Details of this will be worked through during ECI phase of the project as overall design continues to be developed. <p>Alistair questioned whether track realignment was only a consideration rather than a requirement as he thought it may leave open the possibility of an outcome not consistent with the EWG.</p> <p>Ed clarified by confirming the contractor will come up with their own designs, however ARTC have clearly mandated that they need to consider this requirement in their design.</p> <p>Edwina questioned what holds the contractor accountable to follow the requirements, as they will have their own interests e.g. profit.</p> <p>Ed clarified the process and informed the group that ARTC assesses the contractor on a number of criteria, such as meeting ARTC’s requirements which include KPI’s on sustainability, minimise distribution, local engagement and rail safety. They are contractually bound to meet requirements.</p>

NO.	ACTIONS
	<p><i>Post meeting note: ARTC are confident that a track realignment will be confirmed in the ECI process. This would deliver a new station platform, connecting underpass and a more accessible train station for the community associated with that change.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Requirement 2: Open span bridge / Hinton St connection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dinesh confirmed no pedestrian pathways on the bridge and no land acquisition identified in the project area. ○ Dinesh explained that there is still an opportunity for the contractor to include road connectivity between Railway St and Hinton, this will be further investigated by ECI process. ○ He also clarified that open span is not ARTC's preferred solution due to ongoing lifecycle costs. ➤ Requirement 3: Verging / Merging Traffic Dinesh acknowledged requirement and advised that the contractors will look at how they can manage traffic management through ECI process to best meet these requirements. ➤ Requirement 4: DDA Compliance – Ped & Cycle Access Dinesh confirmed an underpass will be compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act and accessible for cyclists. Bernie said that he doesn't want it looking like the Seymour station underpass and Nola still had concerns about the length of the underpass. Ed explained that there are similarities between the proposed underpass in Wangaratta and Euroa. We have a visualisation for Wangaratta that we will share to provide an understanding of what a modern underpass can look like. ➤ Requirement 5: Restoration & Clean Up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Full restoration and clean-up is included and required. ➤ Des asked if ARTC will address the more specific points in the 'Creating A Civic Presence' document. ➤ Ed confirmed that that ARTC has taken onboard all the points in the Civic Presence Document except the point of open span due to lifecycle costs, all others have been included. He also noted that the Civic Presence Document has been invaluable for our requirements, noting more consultation is required with EWG and community through further design development. ➤ Des notes that the Civic Presence Document is not the full community view. The working group members arrived at this document after other design options were unable to be progressed. The group believes the document is Euroa Working Groups best possible outcome with the current options. ➤ Michelle summarised the discussion, the Civic Presence Document is a starting point, not an end point.
5	<p><i>Approval pathways</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ed advised that ARTC submitted an Environmental Effects Statement (EES) Referral for Beveridge to Albury on 29 April 2020 to the Minister for Planning. Ed explained the process and status of Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) and Planning Scheme Amendment (PSA). <p>Urban Design Framework</p>

NO.	ACTIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ed acknowledged the Urban Design Framework is a very important part of the Euroa Working Group in the future and explained that ARTC is not in a position to go into detail today: ➤ ARTC has engaged AECOM to support delivery of the framework and experts will be brought into EWG meeting in the future to discuss the framework in detail. ➤ The community will be notified of upcoming opportunities for input ➤ ARTC will meet with the EWG to discuss urban design later this year.
6	<p><i>Community consultation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ David provided an update on community consultation, acknowledging limitations due to Covid-19 restrictions, however engagement has not stopped. ARTC is adapting during Covid-19, replacing door knocks with letter drops and shifting to online engagement introducing a social pinpoint map and zoom meetings. ➤ Following the easing of restrictions, we plan to have a regular presence in Euroa monthly, and continue to hold information sessions and attend community events.
7	<p><i>Next steps and closing</i></p> <p>Michelle asked the group what they believe is a priority to address in upcoming meetings. Topics included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Noise and vibration ➤ Frequency of trains, length of trains, time of day of running of double stacked trains ➤ Will Dukes Crescent be reinstated (directed at Council) ➤ Who is responsible for what, where the boundaries finish – ARTC, Council, VicTrack and VicRoads. <p>Following comments around noise and vibration, David advised the group that for ARTC to have a successful approvals pathway, we need to be transparent with what we are building and communicating to ensure all issues are known.</p> <p>Michelle encouraged the working group members to communicate with David between meetings, continue to provide feedback.</p> <p>Next Meeting</p> <p>David suggested late October early November at this stage to discuss urban design, no objections. Alistair noted that councillors won't be available until late November due to council elections. David noted for future meeting planning.</p>
8	Conclusion

Actions

NO.	ACTIONS	ACTION BY	DUE DATE
1	Develop a high-level information sheet – explaining delivery strategy, providing clarity on how 'creating a civic presence' requirements used in ECI process.	ARTC	
2	Share the visual for Wangaratta to show what a modern underpass can look like.	ARTC	

Next meeting

TBA