

North-South Corridor Torrens to Darlington Reference Group Notes of Discussion



Subject:	Torrens to Darlington Community Reference Group (Southern Tunnel)
Meeting No:	1
Date:	Wednesday, 3 March 2021
Time:	6:30PM – 8:30PM
Location:	Kenilworth Football Club, St Marys

Attendees	Position
Mark Douglas	Independent Chair
Michael Ahern	Mitcham Plains Action Group
Martin Angus	Local Resident
Phillip Boehm	Local Resident / SRISAG Representative
Tania Firth	Local Resident
Anne Jantzen	Local Resident / SRISAG Representative
Sasha Mason	City of Marion
Donald Palmer	City of Unley
Brandon Reynolds	City of West Torrens
John Sanderson	City of Mitcham
Tegan Stehbens	Local Resident
Yvonne Todd	City of Mitcham
Susan Baker	Presenter; North-South Corridor Program Delivery Office
Tyla Clayson	North-South Corridor Program Delivery Office; Department for Infrastructure and Transport (Note Taker)
Steve Sibonis	North-South Corridor Program Delivery Office; Department for Infrastructure and Transport
Apologies	
Andrea McDougall	Local Resident
Iris Iwanicki	Local Resident

1. Opening Formalities

1.1. Welcome and Apologies

- The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

1.2. Acknowledgement of Country

- The Chair gave an Acknowledgement of Country.

1.3. Introductions

- A high level overview of the format for the reference group session was given.
- Each member was invited to introduce themselves, state who they were representing, the purpose for joining and their expectations of the reference group process.
- Reference group members include local residents, community representatives and Councillors of the local area.

- Members were primarily there to gain a better understanding of the project and represent their local community and neighbourhood.
- Key points of interest raised by members included:
 - Connection to the community - City Shaping
 - Design input/understanding
 - Construction impacts
 - Heritage
 - Environment
 - Traffic and access, including tunnel access points and local access
 - Pedestrian and cycling.
- Expectations of the reference group sessions were discussed and included:
 - Genuine input into raising concerns and understanding reasoning for project decisions.
 - The department will document concerns and issues.
 - Working together to look for solutions, not against each other.
 - To be heard and listened to.
 - Understand the project to inform and educate the local community.
 - Respectful listening and respectful disagreement.
 - Concerns raised community members may be dissatisfied with outcomes despite best efforts of Reference Group members.
 - Group members are to pass on information however not providing any guarantees, lowering community expectations.

1.4. Work Health and Safety

- The Chair highlighted the importance of safety with the department.
- An opportunity was provided for anybody to raise a safety moment to the group to reflect on and build awareness.
- This item will remain on the agenda.
- COVID and ensuring social distance – attendees to raise any concerns around COVID or any other aspects of safety.

1.5. Project Overview

- The department presented a high level overview of the project and works to date using information that is publicly available. This presentation will be made available for general community access on the project web-site.
- The aim is to bring reference group members up to a level of understanding to enable meaningful and insightful discussions to be had around the project.
- The T2D section is a 10.5km stretch, it is one of the most complex infrastructure projects the State has delivered.

- T2D will complete the North-South Corridor which is a 78km corridor running from Noarlunga to Gawler.
- The first section of the corridor began in 2007.
- One of the projects biggest challenges is that the corridor is heavily urbanised along the full 10.5km length.
- The strategic project objectives include:
 - Improving the efficiency, safety and productivity of traffic movement within Metropolitan Adelaide
 - Improving community connectivity
 - Improving urban amenity
 - Identifying and improving key transport movements including Airport, Port and Anzac Highway crossing. Traffic modelling is used to forecast how we are using the network.
- Key stages of the project are:
 - Business Case
 - Early Enabling works – Ground investigations and Utility Service Relocations
 - Reference Design
 - Approvals
 - Procurement.
- The project team are aiming to produce three outputs during 2021:
 - Project Assessment Report
 - Reference Design
 - City Shaping Strategy.
- A high level overview of activities undertaken thus far includes:
 - Established a T2D project website
 - Project announcement
 - Doorknocked approximately 700 properties along South Road
 - Project updates emailed to our mailing list
 - 5 'Join the Conversation' sessions
 - Established reference groups
 - Over 3,800 subscribers have joined the T2D mailing list.
- The first initial concept design of the Hybrid+ option was announced in early November. This option involves:
 - A two-stage approach
 - Two tunnels (southern and northern tunnel)
 - Lowered and surfaced motorway.
- A Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) will be used to bore the tunnels.
- More detail about the TBM depth will be determined throughout the development of the design.

- The Hybrid+ option will look to improve the surface connectivity e.g. East to West
- Input from the reference groups, geotechnical investigations, ground monitoring, traffic network and other data is gathered to inform the design.
- \$5.4 Billion of funding has been confirmed by the state and federal government. There is a genuine commitment to complete the corridor.
- Upon completion of the Final Business Case, Infrastructure SA and Infrastructure Australia will conduct a formal review.
- The project will assess existing utilities, some may need to be relocated prior to construction to minimise disruption and make way for the corridor.
- The Reference Design is currently being developed. The Reference Design can be explained as gradual funnelling of the design process and is continuously being improved and refined.
- The Reference Design will inform the Detailed Design and delivery of the project.
- The Detailed Design will provide further opportunities to improve and refine the design while delivering the intent of the project.
- The department will be in a better position to determine property acquisition when the Reference Design is complete.
- The department's commitment is to make as much information available to the public as possible.

2. Items for Discussion

2.1. How are we going to work together

- Intent of the reference group is to contribute on behalf of organisations and others to build and shape the design and social impact, economic and business impact.
- The group discussed their expectations from the reference group and the behaviours expected of members: These included:
 - Honesty, courtesy and respect towards each other.
 - Understand that there may be disagreements, different priorities and perspectives, it is important to be respectful.
 - Focus on the outcome required for the community, not how it will be achieved (as that is the responsibility of the department).
 - Minutes provided to the group members regarding the records of discussion and knowing that you have been heard.
 - Providing questions and requests for information in advance so DIT can come prepared with answers to the next meeting.
 - Outside the meeting, members agreed they would not share information that could be attributed to other members, other than in general, non-identifying way. This ensures that frank and open conversations could be held during the meeting in a trusting environment.

2.2 Administration

- Group members were asked to provide consent to have their names placed on to the website so that the wider community can view the membership of each group to facilitate information sharing.
- Group members were asked to provide consent for photos taken at reference group sessions to be used publicly by the department e.g. social media, website etc. Those members who did not consent to be photographed could be omitted or blurred in any photos taken.

2.3 The Project – Community feedback

- Group members were given the opportunity to raise key issues and concerns. The following key themes were commonly raised, with the bullet points reflecting specifically stated concerns:
- Network and traffic movements
 - Impact to local roads and how public transport services will be integrated.
 - Access during construction and post construction particularly the Tonsley area.
 - Discussion around where the tunnel access points will be and avoiding impact to the tram line.
 - The motorway will divert some heavy traffic off South Road which should provide an opportunity to reduce surface road traffic for local people.
 - Crossing South Road at surface level; concerns with the removal of right hand turns and how this will affect business access for trucks and customers.
 - Major concerns around local access and east-west connectivity rather than the access through the area by use of the tunnels (north-south).
 - Concerns around trucks not being able to do U-turns along South Road.
 - Concern expressed about B-Doubles travelling along this route. Access and egress concerns within Anzac/Cross Roads, particularly underground.
 - Emerson Crossing/Cross Road intersection: is it included in the scope of works?; importance of access to the tunnels; were informed at information sessions that a study on the train line will be conducted; will there be any impact to the existing train line if a tunnel is constructed at the Cross Road/South Road intersection.
 - Excited for the tunnels and to travel through the area.
 - Support for project completion to improve traffic flow.
- Environmental Impacts
 - Short and long term community health and wellbeing for those residing near the highway.
 - Pollution from exhaust fumes, discussion around the location of ventilation outlets which will be informed by the Reference Design.
 - Noise on the surface roads will hopefully subside and be of benefit to local streets.
 - Noise barriers and walls are strongly desirable.

- Discussion around vegetation and if gum trees will be impacted (Black Forest PS).
- Project to be aware of contaminated soil, increased green spaces, noise, and water table.
- City Shaping (Urban Design)
 - Opportunity to bring communities together and improve landscaping and amenity.
 - Integrate landscaping as part of noise and acoustic walls.
 - Opportunity to increase amenity for pedestrians and cyclist including paths and linkages.
 - Integrate existing bike paths into the project e.g. Greenway and across South Road to continue connection.
 - Mention of the bike path Council is constructing opposite Tonsley (eastern side of South Road).
- Land Acquisition
 - Concern that open space within the area might be acquired which will reduce recreational space and how this may be offset during the project.
 - Ensure timely and appropriate communication around land acquisition.
 - Community are awaiting to undertake home improvements but want to understand if they are impacted or not.
- Local Community Considerations
 - Timeline for residents about when things are happening and when they will know.
 - Pedestrian crossing at Black Forest to increase safety for crossing children.
 - Access to schools, public transport and other side of South Road may become impacted (e.g. Beckman Street and East Terrace).
 - Concerns around implications caused for neighbourhoods near tunnel on and off access points.
 - Concerns around increased rat running to avoid road works.
 - Discussion around the upgrading of surface level roads and what impact this will cause to local roads during the upgrade.
 - Concern regarding transition between stage 1 and 2 of the project and how this translates for those in the middle of the project.
 - Improved communication for Ground Investigation works.

2.4 Terms of Reference (ToR)

- Members to review the ToR and provide comment to the project team.
- Draft ToR should not be circulated outside the reference group, until the final is endorsed at the next meeting and published on-line.
- Anything of substantial nature, please share via email prior to the meeting.

ACTION: Review the ToR prior to the next meeting for comment.

2.5 Any Other Matters

- Utilise the website for further information and follow project status.
- Concerns around the website not being user friendly.
- Possibility to rotate meeting locations.
- What happens as part of the discussion points and where does that go?
 - Concerns will be fed to the appropriate areas depending what the items are and what is raised.
- How is the feedback received as part of the reference group?
 - Notes of Discussion will be provided on the website and shared publicly once they have been accepted by the group at the following meeting.
- What happens from here, how can I go back to our group to close out some of the items?
 - The department is committed to being transparent and honest with the group.
 - The department is taking stakeholder feedback for project consideration.
 - Answers to some questions raised will not be known for some time until the Reference Design progresses.
 - Moving forward each meeting will take a deeper dive into specific topics.

2.6 Meeting dates / locations

- Future meeting dates will be shared with the group once this has been confirmed.

ACTION: Communicate future meeting dates for the year.

ACTION: Make presentation available to group members.