

**Port Botany Expansion  
Community Consultative Committee**

**Date:** 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2009

**Meeting number:** 26

**Attendees:**

Roberta Ryan - Chairperson  
 Nancy Hillier - Community Representative  
 Neil Melvin - Community Representative  
 Mick Costelloe - Community Representative  
 Paul Pickering - Community Representative  
 Michael Kavanagh – Community Representative  
 Paul Shepherd - City of Botany Bay Council  
 Linda Armstrong - Baulderstone  
 Vince Newton - Baulderstone  
 Quentin Pitts - Baulderstone  
 Marika Calfas - Sydney Ports Corporation  
 Kathy Lloyd - Sydney Ports Corporation  
 Shane Hobday - Sydney Ports Corporation  
 Sandra Spate - Minutetaker

**Apologies:** Paul Jerogin - Sydney Ports Corporation

**Not present:** John Burgess - Community Representative; Bronwyn Englaro – Randwick Council; Peter O’Leary – SPC; Matthew Flugge - SPC

Item	Issue	Action	By whom	When
1	<b>Minutes of last meeting</b>			
1.1	Item 1.3 regarding rocks at the end of the beach, SH noted that discussions were taking place with BHJDN. PP suggested that large rocks are better as people look for crabs by moving smaller rocks. SH reported that regarding item 1.5 a coating was to go on the structure once the rust was at a uniform level. Regarding item 4.4 MC reported that a design could not be incorporated into the mesh on the Foreshore Road overpass, as it would involve removal of the mesh and reinstallation. Options for the Banksia St overpass will be investigated.	SPC to report outcomes at next meeting		Next CCC meeting
2	<b>Introduce new member – SPC</b>			
2.1	The chair welcomed Michael Kavanagh to			

	the meeting as the new business representative.			
<b>3</b>	<b>Update on construction and activities</b>			
3.1	<p><u>Presentation by BJ-JDN (VN)</u></p> <p>The Marco polo is dredging sand for the reclamation area and excavating the trench for the Counterfort units.</p> <p>The Nu Bounty, a smaller dredge, has been onsite and involved in minor dredging.</p> <p>Work on the project is entering its busiest phase.</p> <p>Production of Counterfort units is continuing, with number 8 being installed today.</p> <p>New boatramp limited opening is expected about November 5<sup>th</sup>. The carpark will be asphalted next week.</p> <p>There will be temporary amenities while waiting for services connection. The permanent amenities would be opened with the full opening in early 2010. A new navigation channel will be in operation as part of the opening. Notifications and advertisements are being issued advising of the changes.</p>			
	Questions and discussion			
3.2	<p>NH asked whether the carpark was for boating alone.</p> <p>SH replied, once it was fully opened in early 2010, it was also for beach users and as an access point to the beach, shared path and amenities.</p> <p>PP asked how much parking it would contain.</p> <p>VN replied there would be approximately 140 spaces.</p> <p>PP asked whether pedestrians from the park would have access over Foreshore Rd during this period.</p> <p>VN responded that the Foreshore Road pedestrian bridge would not be available until the full opening, which was expected to be early next year.</p>			
<b>4</b>	<b>Environmental monitoring monthly report</b>			

4.1	<p>Presentation by BJ-JDN (QP)</p> <p>There were no complaints for the quarterly report covering the last 3 months.</p> <p>There was no indication of acid sulphate soils.</p> <p>There was no significant increase in numbers of hazard birds in September. It has been reported that about 30 Little Terns arrived on the southern side of the Bay (Boat Harbour Kurnell) on weekend. More seagulls were apparent today. Shorebirds are starting to arrive back in Botany Bay.</p> <p>There were no dust exceedances or complaints. It should be noted that the recent dust storm (September 23) wasn't included in this period but will be in the next report. No marine mammals have been recorded.</p> <p>No noise exceedances or complaints. No odour issues.</p> <p>Extension new saltmarsh planting in estuary is planned for this month (October) and existing areas are being well maintained. Seagrass is going well and no physical damage reported.</p> <p>Migratory shorebirds are beginning to return. A pair of Pied Oyster Catchers is nesting, and have laid one egg on the new roosting island. This happened after the pair previously abandoned their first nest and egg. They then laid one on the sand stockpile, but that egg was taken by a predator. NPWS has been notified as the Pied Oyster Catcher is a protected species.</p> <p>There were no water quality exceedances and turbidity levels have remained low.</p>			
	Questions and discussion			
4.2	<p>NH asked why Pied Oyster Catcher chicks had been lost last year. Was it due to a lack of food?</p> <p>QP noted that NH was referring to the report for August 2008 and replied that in that instance a protective barrier had been erected around the nesting area, following advice from NPWS, to protect the nest, but</p>			

	the parents would not come into the area to feed the chicks. The chicks ultimately died.			
4.3	<p>The chair noted a reply from the DECCW to Botany Environment Watch regarding an enquiry related to spikes in heavy metals recorded in monitoring. DECCW noted that existing water quality monitoring demonstrated that ANZECC Guideline values for Lead, Copper and Zinc were exceeded in Botany Bay prior to the Project commencing. DECCW also stated that it closely reviews monitoring and is satisfied that the requirements of the licence are being met by BHJDN. DECCW considers that it is not possible to attribute the levels of metals detected in the water in Botany Bay to the Project.</p> <p>PS noted council has also received a letter which cited historical uses in the Bay and catchment.</p> <p>NH noted her concerns with the letter were that it says requirements of the licence have been met, but are they strict enough? The chair suggested NH follow this up with DECCW.</p> <p>NH advised that she was happy for the letter to be distributed to members.</p> <p>PS noted that council satisfied with DECCW's response. He was also happy for the letter to be distributed to members.</p>			
4.4	<p>MK asked how Orica's water purification efforts interacted with Port expansion activities.</p> <p>MC noted that SPC meets quarterly with Orica particularly as there are Orica wells in the estuary.</p> <p>MK asked how long would the extraction and treatment continue?</p> <p>MC replied the water extraction would go on indefinitely.</p>			
4.5	<p>NH asked whether Ports had made a submission regarding the Environmental Assessment of Orica's Southlands proposal. Orica had indicated that the flows from the Floodvale and Springvale drains to Penrhyn Estuary would be altered. She asked</p>			

	<p>whether this would occur during Port expansion work.</p> <p>MC replied that Port work would be finished. Orica's proposal was in two stages with the flow changes linked to Stage 2. If approval was given for Stage 2 issues around flows to Penrhyn Estuary and traffic would need to be resolved before work commenced. SPC's submission raised impacts on the estuary and seeks further assessment. SPC has lodged a submission, and spoke with Orica beforehand. Orica has a copy of the SPC submission.</p>			
4.6	<p>PO asked where sedimentation plate No 3 was located.</p> <p>QP indicated in the location of the deposition plates in the estuary. These are to ensure that organisms aren't smothered due to port activities. They measure sedimentation.</p>			
4.7	<p>PS asked about Epiphytic algae.</p> <p>QP noted it was a good growth, an indicator of health.</p> <p>MC replied it was not toxic.</p>			
<b>5</b>	<b>Update on communication activities including complaints</b>			
5.1	<p><u>Presentation by BJ-JDN (LA)</u></p> <p>Documents that have been distributed to members include the August Environmental Report; the Navigation Warning Marine Notice; the Activities Look Ahead and the October Newsletter which was distributed to the wider community last week.</p> <p>There had been a spike of calls after the newsletter, many asking for the Q and A packages and a couple of enquiries regarding the new boat ramp.</p> <p>A public display was held at the boatramp last Saturday between 7-10am. This was the third display the project has held, the others being at the Botany shopping centre and pool.</p> <p>Regarding the boatramp opening the new navigation channel will also be available and a navigation channel flyer will be produced.</p> <p>There will be signage at the entrance to the</p>			

	<p>Penrhyn boatramp regarding the opening in November, an advertisement in the paper as late as possible so the date is firm and an advertisement in Afloat Magazine. The communications team has met with JB and other recreational fishermen. There will be Variable Message Signs on Foreshore Rd. A key message around the boatramp opening will be to use the phrase “limited opening”. The boatramp will be fully operational but with temporary facilities. There will be fish cleaning facilities and bins. Access to the beach will be as is currently, from Foreshore Road.</p> <p>There is no complaints report as there have been no complaints for the last 3 months. There have been a couple of calls regarding the new boatramp, and some requests for information on the property claims process.</p> <p>For MK’s information, the communications and complaints procedures were outlined. LA manages communications working with project managers across the five construction zones. She identifies potential hazard impacts e.g. noise, dust, vibration or visual impacts and looks at the need for communication as a courtesy or license requirement. For big events such as the boatramp opening she speaks with members on best approaches. Notifications go to areas of noise sensitive receiver zones. Newsletters were distributed 12,000 residents which is not a requirement, but are published when issues of interest arise. A hotline operates 24/7. The communications team takes advice from members on the local community and area. Regarding communications on services work council is consulted.</p>			
	<p>Questions and Discussion</p>			
<p>5.2</p>	<p>NH offered congratulations on the newsletter which she said was very informative. NM offered congratulations on achieving no</p>			

	complaints for the period.			
5.3	<p>PP asked how wide the temporary channel would be. It will be 30m.</p> <p>PP asked what width the permanent channel would be, as it would be shared with canoeists etc. SH replied it would be around 30m near the boatramp, but when it turns parallel to the runway it would be 150m wide. The recreational channel would be separate from shipping and tugs.</p> <p>NM asked whether the closing of the old channel would overlap with the opening of the new. LA responded the old would be closed on the same day as opening the new channel. The old boat ramp will be fenced off. A small period of transition would be managed through the marine manager and with the involvement of NSW maritime. This won't be at peak time. There will be no access to the old carpark, but for a short period would be used as a turning circle for those who had come to the old boatramp.</p>			
5.4	<p>PP noted that a number of neighbours in Dent St had expressed concern with driveways settling and gates jamming. PP had informed them that there is more compacting to come, so many will not undertake rectification till compaction work is finished. SPC could expect more enquiries then.</p>			
<b>6</b>	<b>Naming of community facilities</b>			
6.1	<p>SH reported that SPC will be circulating ideas and asking for feedback regarding the naming of facilities. A document containing possible options and naming guidelines will be circulated to the group prior to the next meeting and feedback on options will be sought. This item will be held over till the next meeting.</p>	SPC to circulate ideas to the group.		
<b>7</b>	<b>Banksia Street Pedestrian Bridge over Freight Rail line</b>			
7.1	SH reported that a Community Information			

	<p>Session had been held for residents regarding the Banksia St Pedestrian Bridge. Residents had been letterboxed beforehand and approximately 40 people attended. The photomontages were circulated and residents could submit comments. The main concerns were about rail noise (which have been passed on to RailCorp and ARTC) and the bulk of the bridge. Options have been suggested regarding the ramps, which haven't reduced the bulk and a suggestion made for lifts which has ongoing maintenance issues associated. SPC will formally advise Council about the options, but it is likely the bridge will proceed as previously shown.</p> <p>PS noted SPC had successfully handed the Foreshore Rd bridge to the RTA.</p> <p>SH indicated that SPC's preference is that it does not retain ownership of the Banksia St overpass as it is remote from the Port, but ownership will remain with SPC until it is resolved.</p>			
7.2	<p>NH reported that three students from University NSW had attended with her. While she doesn't approve of the expansion, it is a major environmental and engineering feat and UNSW should be involved. It is a learning curve about what to do and not to do. She asked whether information could be provided to the university as it is to libraries.</p> <p>MC noted that university students typically accessed information via the internet and that significant amounts of information were available on the SPC website. SPC has been sponsoring work on shorebirds through UNSW and had received requests for engineering students to tour.</p> <p>PS suggested that NH refer to students requesting information to the website as he has done.</p> <p>NH has provided students with material.</p>			
<b>8</b>	<b>Other Matters/next meeting</b>			
8.1	PP asked whether the Hale St access to Foreshore Rd was progressing.			

	<p>PS reported there were issues with two government departments – the RTA had approval issues and part of it was on Sydney Water land.</p> <p>MK asked about the timing for Hale St.</p> <p>PS noted it was a priority for Council.</p>			
8.2	<p>MK noted questions he is most frequently asked are about the Hale St access and the rail network. He asked whether there was still one rail track from the Port.</p> <p>SH replied that it was currently one track but the plans were to duplicate the track from Botany to the Cooks River as part of the work to achieve 40% of freight to be moved by rail. The remainder of the track to the Enfield Intermodal Logistics Centre is duplicated now.</p> <p>MC noted the timing for this duplication is between 5 and 7 years.</p> <p>NH asked about progress on the noise attenuation and firebreak issues.</p> <p>SH noted they have not yet had a reply from RailCorp or ARTC.</p> <p>PS noted that as one of the conditions of approval for the project, there was requirement for the establishment of a rail noise working group. Where is this working group? SPC to respond to this.</p> <p>PP asked whether freight trains and commuter trains are separate.</p> <p>SH replied that they are to Enfield. There is talk of a dedicated southern freight line to Minto, Southern Sydney Freight Line.</p> <p>KL indicated work had commenced on this.</p> <p>PP asked whether once the line to Cooks River is duplicated would there be dedicated trains doing a loop between Botany and Enfield.</p> <p>SH replied that running shuttle trains back and forth was a major initiative to achieve the 40% target.</p>	<p>SPC to respond to the issue of the timing for the rail noise working group.</p> <p>SPC to provide group with a copy of the Ports Growth Plan release.</p>		
8.3.	<p>NH asked how much more land does the Port need, because the community will not give more.</p> <p>SH noted that as part of Ports Growth Plan 63ha was needed now and any future</p>			

	capacity beyond that would be established in Newcastle. This was part of the Ports Growth Plan media release. There is a 3.2 million TEU cap as part of development consent.			
8.4	Michael Kavanagh introduced himself to the meeting. He runs a pharmacy in Banksmeadow which has been run by his family for 3 generations. The Port is a common topic of conversation among his customers. Other members introduced themselves.			
	<b>Next meeting will be held on Tuesday 1 December</b> , combined with a Christmas lunch starting at 1pm			

These minutes have been endorsed by the Chair, Roberta Ryan.

