

Date: Tuesday 5 July 2022	Time: 5.30 – 7pm	Venue: Teams
Meeting No: 11	Meeting Objective: To provide advice and guidance on the development of strategies, and identification of challenges and opportunities, in relation to built and natural facilities and systems within the LGA.	

1. Welcome

Councillor Winney-Baartz acknowledged the Awabakal and Worimi Peoples.

1.1 Attendees:

Members

Cr Peta Winney-Baartz	Councillor Member (Chair)
Cr Deahna Richardson	Councillor Member (Deputy Chair)
John Merrell	Community Representative
Corinne Thompson	Senior Manager, Community and Place Partner, Transport NSW
Robert Main	Group Manager Planning & Engineering, Hunter Water Corp.

Guests

Patrick Arnold	Principal Consultant, MRA Consulting Group (for Item 6)
David Clarke	Director Governance and CFO, City of Newcastle (for Item 4)
Dan Champness	Director Community and Place, Transport for NSW (until 6.22pm)
Robert Dudgeon	Acting Manager Assets and Projects, City of Newcastle
Lynn Duffy	Acting Director City Wide Services, City of Newcastle
Rachel Howard	Executive Assistant (Committee Secretary)
Elissa Mead	Operations Analyst Waste Services, City of Newcastle (for Item 6)
Matthew Murray	Chief of Staff, Lord Mayor's Office
Joanne Rigby	Acting Director Infrastructure and Property (Committee Facilitator)
Ryan Tranter	Traffic and Transport Manager, City of Newcastle

Apologies

Lord Mayor Cr Nelmes	Councillor Member
Cr Katrina Wark	Councillor Member
Emmanuel Genlot	General Manager, Keolis Downer
Clint Thomson	Executive Manager Customer Delivery, Hunter Water Corporation
Frank Roberson	Network Planning & Operations, Council Management, Ausgrid

1.2 Declaration and Conflicts of Interest

1.2.1 The Committee noted that Councillor Winney-Baartz is the Chair of the Sports Infrastructure Working Party.

2. Minutes and Actions Arising

- 2.1 Minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 5 April 2022 endorsed as per Attachment A of the business papers.
- 2.2 Action Item updates received as per Attachment B of the business papers. The Environment Strategy and Zero Emissions Bus Strategy updates will be listed for the October Committee meeting.

3. Sports Infrastructure Working Party Update

3.1 Lynn Duffy provided an update to the Committee:

- 3.1.1 The purpose of the working party is to guide the provision of sporting infrastructure to support an active community, meet current standards and ensure alignment with CN's Strategic Sports Plan 2020.
- 3.1.2 The Strategic Sports Plan seeks to address future demand, and inform the ongoing supply, maintenance and upgrade of sporting infrastructure with consideration to current and future needs of the community and CN's financial capacity and sustainability.
- 3.1.3 The Committee discussed playing field utilisation for field based sports as a % of national capacity. It was noted that ground utilisation is a key area for improvement.
- 3.1.4 The Sports Infrastructure Working Party has identified the following areas of focus:
 - Critical review of masterplans for key sites to ensure a strategic approach to future sports infrastructure planning, noting that four are currently underway.
 - Review and prioritisation of Strategic Sports Plan actions.
 - Identification of priorities for 2023/24 ensuring alignment in planning and delivery.
 - Establish seasonal Sports Forums for improved communication commencing in September.
- 3.1.5 The Committee noted the quantum of work involved in the masterplanning process, in particular the importance of thorough community consultation and consideration of integrated project delivery. The Gregson Park Masterplan process has been a good example of integrated planning, this focussed not only on sport but also catchment.
- 3.1.6 HWC noted opportunities for coordination and positive community outcomes through collaborative project planning.

4. Principal Pedestrian Network

4.1 Ryan Tranter provided an overview of CN's Principal Pedestrian Network (PPN) program:

- 4.1.1 The PPN has strong links with the Newcastle 2040 Community Strategic Plan priorities.
- 4.1.2 The PPN provides clear mapping, which will be provided in an interactive format for residents to access. The map will highlight nodal areas across the LGA.
- 4.1.3 The existing 617 listings within CN's Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) have been pulled into the PPN. The PAMP list consisted of community requests, local traffic studies, and public domain planning items.
- 4.1.4 Community consultation has been undertaken on CN's Pedestrian Plan (the Plan). The results are currently being analysed prior to the draft Plan being placed on public exhibition. The Plan will sit alongside the adopted Cycling and Parking Plans.
- 4.1.5 The Plan will focus on accessibility and inclusivity, with actions delivered over a ten year period.

5. Stakeholder Updates

5.1 Transport for NSW – Corrine Thompson provided an update:

- 5.1.1 The Hunter Region Transport Plan is expected to go out for consultation in the coming weeks. This is a 20-year Plan which provides a blueprint for how Transport NSW will proactively respond to changes in land use, population, and travel demand across the region.
- 5.1.2 M1 to Raymond Terrace – the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) submissions report has been released. The report includes any proposed changes to the project in response to the submissions received. Examples of changes include improved access to the Hunter Region Botanic Gardens and a centralised interchange at Old Punt Road. The Report will help inform the Minister for Planning’s decision on the project which is expected later this year. Contracts are expected to be awarded by the end of 2022.
- 5.1.3 Feedback from community consultation on the Hexham Straight concept design will be compiled into a summary report to provide responses to submissions made. A report responding to the EIS submissions will also be prepared and published by CN. Transport NSW will consider all feedback received during the display period and continue to consult with the community in the next stage of the project. Timing for construction is reliant on project approvals.
- 5.1.4 Rankin Park to Jesmond, Newcastle Inner City Bypass early works to relocate overhead powerlines, watermains and telecommunications are underway on Lookout Road and McCaffrey Drive at New Lambton Heights is progressing well. This work is on track for July completion. Tender evaluations for construction of the bypass are currently underway. The contract is expected to be awarded in the coming weeks. Work on the main contract is due to start in the second half of 2022 and is expected to take three years to complete.
- 5.1.5 Works at Northcott Drive is complete and fully opened to traffic, The contractor is scheduled to demolish the site near Kahibah Road this week. The contractor will return to complete the pedestrian crossing and footpath in early August due to a delay in the supply of materials.
- 5.1.6 Light Rail – Transport NSW is aware of the land use pressures in the Newcastle West part of the corridor, however at this stage does not have the ability to prevent any development from proceeding or acquire any land for the currently unfunded project. The local planning team has progressed the feasibility for light rail to Broadmeadow and has narrowed down the number of corridors. This work has been handed over to Transport NSW’s Statewide Corridor Preservation team to refine the corridors to a preferred option that can be included in the LEP. The Corridor Preservation team has received some planning funding to progress this work.

5.2 Hunter Water – Robert Main provided an update:

- 5.2.1 The Hunter Water Sustainability Strategy has been released. The strategy includes consideration of the social, environmental, economic and governance outcomes across the business.
- 5.2.2 The Committee noted the challenges presented by the persistent heavy rain currently being experienced across the region.

6 Our Sustainable Waste Strategy

- 6.1 The Committee were provided with an overview of the Summerhill Waste Management Centre (SWMC), including the Organics Facility and the proposed location for a new access road.
- 6.2 Alissa Jones, Patrick Arnold and Eilssa Mead provided an overview of the Strategy:
- 6.2.1 Waste is an essential service for CN and the Hunter, with 7 million collections undertaken each year. It is a significant economic contributor, providing a third of CN's total revenue. A circular outcomes catalyst requires resilient local markets, with CN as a key enabler.
- 6.2.3 CN has undertaken significant engagement with the community in the development of a background paper to inform the draft Strategy. The consultation showed that 93% of those engaged wanted to maximise the life of SWMC.
- 6.2.4 The Committee participated in a Mentimeter activity to capture perspectives around turning challenges into opportunities. The sphere of control hierarchy shows that the most sustainable strategic outcomes are around avoidance and reuse which can be influenced through education and advocacy.
- 6.2.5 The draft Strategy will be placed on public exhibition in October. Following further community feedback the Strategy will be presented to Council for adoption later this year.

7. General Business

- 7.1 The Committee noted the recent opening of the Honeysuckle Promenade. The existing cycleway on Honeysuckle Drive will be reviewed by CN.
- 7.2 Councillor Winney-Baartz encouraged members to submit agenda items for consideration by the Committee.

8. Closing

- 8.1 Next meeting: 5.30pm, Tuesday 4 October 2022
Lord Mayor's Reception Room, City Administration Centre