

**Bonville Upgrade Project
Community Interest Group**

NOTES

**Meeting #1
Wednesday 9 August 2006
Bonville Memorial Hall
6.00 pm – 8.00 pm**

CIG members in attendance

Tony Brindley	Peter Haskins	Rod Lynn
Gary Carr	Patricia Herraman	Michael Newcombe
Evan Clarke	Jock Johnston	Trevor Pike
Ann Coyle	Peter Lubans (represented by	Ron Sprudd
Ron Duncan	Paul Crane)	Mike Thomas
Mike Edsall		

Project representatives in attendance

Chris Clark, RTA	Gordon Boer, Abigroup
Rachel Sadler, RTA	Chris Bryce, Abigroup
Janice Smith, RTA	Matt Frodsham, Abigroup
Colin Solomon, RTA	Ian Irwin, Abigroup
	Neil Pittaway, Abigroup

Geoff Baker, HBO+EMTB Urban & Landscape Design
Penny Hall, HBO+EMTB Urban & Landscape Design
Matthew Harrison, Bassett Acoustics
Ben Luffman, Representing the Environmental Management Representative
Kerry Morrison, Facilitator

Apologies

Martin Hicks, Environmental Management Representative
Bob Higgins, RTA
Chris Spencer, Local Aboriginal Land Council
George Stulle, Coffs Harbour City Council

Tabled/Handouts

Draft CIG Meeting Charter of Operation
Abigroup Project Overview presentation
Noise Mitigation presentation
Urban Design & Landscape presentation

3.4		<p>CIG Charter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft prepared for CIG member review and comment at the next meeting • Key matters include role and function; behaviour towards other group members; responsibilities; scope of issues; meeting facilitator; meeting frequency and length; attendance; media; agenda; meeting notes • CIG members are requested not to speak to the media as a member of the CIG, rather as an individual • Agendas will be provided prior to each meeting and members can add items however the project team needs time to investigate the matter prior to the meeting <p>Meeting notes will be prepared and distributed to all CIG members and any other interested local residents. The meeting notes will also be place on the project website.</p>	
3.5		<p>It was noted that the meeting will not be minuted verbatim; rather notes on the meeting will be taken and distributed.</p>	
3.6		<p>The Draft Charter will be distributed at the end of the meeting for review and consideration by CIG members.</p> <p>To be discussed at the next meeting.</p>	CIG members
4	Design & Construction activities	<p>Chris Bryce – Abigroup, Project Director Also refer attachment (copies of Project Overview presentation)</p>	
4.1		<p>The value of the project is \$245 million.</p>	
4.2		<p>The site office will have a tertiary sewer treatment system and more information will be provided at the next meeting.</p>	Abigroup
4.3		<p>Currently, the program for construction is scheduled to commence at the southern end of the highway upgrade. Starting at the southern end will raise some environmental concerns, including fencing and the ongoing research program by the Australian Museum Business Services. Both of these concerns are being considered by Abigroup as part of their Environmental Management Plan.</p>	
4.4		<p>Abigroup is developing a schedule for anticipated disruptions to the Pacific Highway. Abigroup will ensure that advance notification is provided for any disruptions. This will include advertisements and roadside signage.</p>	

4.5		<p>The surface of the Upgrade will be concrete from the southern end through to Reedys Ck while approximately 5.5km north of Reedys Ck will be a high quality, noise reducing, SMA (stone mastic asphalt). SMA helps reduce road/tyre noise and will be located through residential areas.</p>	
5	<p>Abigroup consultation & communication activities</p>	<p>Matt Frodsham, Abigroup Community and Communications Manager</p> <p>Along with this CIG, there are a range of other community involvement activities that are an integral part of the communication and consultation being undertaken for this project.</p> <p>These fall into two main categories</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. face to face meetings 2. publications 	
5.1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Project Display Centre will be located at the Site Office on Bonville Station Rd, which will be set up in September. Open Mon – Fri. 9am - 5pm • A 24hr toll free phone number - 1800 725 321 • Email bonville@abigroup.com.au • Newspaper advertisements in local papers to advise of changes to any traffic conditions. • 3 monthly construction update advertisements to advise of proposed construction in the coming months. • Fact sheets will be available at the Display Centre and will include Noise Design, Managing Noise, Community Involvement, Urban Design & Landscape, Building Treatments and First Flush systems. • Letterbox notifications will be issued as required and will include information regarding project activities/changes. • Community Update – Brochures will be delivered to mailboxes in the local area to provide information on the major construction milestones. • Website – Will be available in September. The website will have all the information that is available in the Display Centre, including the notes from each CIG meeting, all notifications, the Community Update, fact sheets and advertisements placed in the local papers. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information about the project will also be placed on a number of community notice boards throughout the local area. 	
5.2	Community Notice Boards	<p>Suggestions for community notice boards include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bonville Post Office Local store at Repton Front counter of the Coffs Harbour Christian Community School Urunga community notice board located at the local shops Tourist information centres 	Noted
5.3	First Flush Water Diverter	<p>The First Flush Water Diverter is a system to reduce the level of dust that is washed from the roof into the rainwater tank by diverting the initial runoff that has 'cleansed' the roof, into a separate holding tank. Once the holding tank is full, rainwater is diverted back to the rainwater tank. The initial runoff from the roof, containing the dust and other debris is called the 'first flush'.</p> <p>Residents are to be contacted that qualify for this treatment.</p>	
6	Noise mitigation	<p>Matthew Harrison, Basset Acoustics Refer attachment (copies of presentation)</p>	
6.1		<p>Abigroup's Noise Consultant advised that there is an incorrect perception that tree plantings reduce the level of noise. For tree plantings to be effective as a form of noise mitigation, it would require a 15m thick forest to be planted. Generally, trees are only planted for visual effect and to soften the look of noise walls.</p>	
7	Landscape & Urban Design	<p>Geoff Baker and Penny Hall, HBO + EMTB Urban and Landscape Design Refer attachment (copies of presentation)</p>	
7.1		<p>The safety rails on the overpasses are made of 50mm x 50mm metal mesh and will stand 3m high from the level of the road, to assist in preventing objects being thrown onto the highway.</p>	
7.2		<p>The life expectancy of the Fauna Overpass is at least 100 years.</p>	
7.3		<p>The Fauna Overpass is constructed of at least 3m of soil over the top of the pre-cast arches. Lessons have been learnt from other fauna overpasses on the Pacific Highway and some modifications have been made to ensure that this overpass is functional. A mesh fence, with a flexible top, is also being constructed over the Fauna Overpass, to assist in guiding Fauna along the overpass. Further information about the selection of the Fauna Overpass will be provided at a future meeting.</p>	RTA

7.4		A complete list of the plant species to be used on this project will be available at the Display Centre. Local species will be utilised in the planting schedule to ensure that only native species are used in areas where they are already occurring.	
8	General discussion		
8.1	Grandis Road	At the back of Grandis Road, there is a watercourse. This watercourse will be treated with a blanket of rock and drainage pipes, to assist with the existing sub-surface water flow.	
8.2		Abigroup advised that there is a requirement for noise barriers to be used behind some houses along Grandis Road and the plans for these will be available at the Display Centre.	
8.3	Aerial photos	<p>Comment that the images used to showcase the alignment of the highway are the latest aerial images available from the Government. Once construction plans are issued for construction, these will be available at the Display Centre.</p> <p>Abigroup also noted that while the aerial images were taken approximately 8 years ago, the independent Ecologist, Environmental Manager, Urban Design and Landscape Consultants and the Noise Consultant have all physically walked the alignment to ensure that they get a personal view/perspective, to refine the design according to current local conditions.</p>	
8.4	Signage	<p>CIG member suggested that a sign be erected on the Pacific Highway to advise passing motorists with directions to the Project Display Centre.</p> <p>Abigroup will investigate this suggestion.</p>	Abigroup
8.5	Fauna fencing	Locations and details on the timing of fauna fencing will be made available at the Display Centre.	Noted
8.6		Abigroup and RTA are currently consulting with the Australian Museum Business Services and their Koala Advisory Committee.	
9	Next Meeting	<p>Meeting #2 Wednesday 13 September 2006 Bonville Memorial Hall 6.00pm – 8.00pm</p> <p>Vote of thanks to the members of the CWA for their assistance and catering on the night.</p>	