

MEETING AGENDA
Meeting #35
Port Botany Community Consultative Committee

Location: Online – zoom link as sent in the calendar meeting invitation
Date: Tuesday, 24 May 2022
Time: 5.30 pm - 7.00 pm

Attendees	
<p>Community members Charles Abela John Burgess Peter Fagan</p> <p>Council representatives Bronwyn Englaro – Randwick City Council</p> <p>Electorate Offices Alexi Cassis – Electorate Offices for Member for Kingsford Smith</p> <p>Business representatives Russell Brown – ACFS Creagh Debrabander – Elgas Limited</p>	<p>Dozie Egeonu – Hutchison Karen Jones – Opal Michael Kinnell – Origin Energy George Tanevski – Origin Energy Gus May – Patrick Terminals Mark Walker – Qenos Steve Barclay/Trent Gearside – Quantem Derrick Quinlivan – SafeWork NSW Michael Martin – Vopak Gary McKay – Ampol Jos Kusters – Ampol</p> <p>Guest presenters Kate Koutsamanis – TfNSW Matt Frodsham – John Hollands Seymour White Joint Venture</p> <p>NSW Ports representatives Bryan Beudeker Jonathan Lafforgue Peter Munro</p> <p>Sophie Alais – Minute taker Roberta Ryan – Chairperson</p> <p>Apologies: Trevor Brown – NSW Ports Mark Bernhardt – Origin Energy Sam Steel – Patrick Paul Pickering – community Alan Chambers – Vopak Hamish Wood – NSW Ports Erin Barker – EPA Glen Young – Port Authority Clare Harley – Bayside Council Louise Brawn – Bayside Business Enterprise Centre Patrick Medway – Bayside Chamber of Commerce</p>

Agenda Items
General Business
<p>1. Welcome, apologies, introductions</p> <p>RR welcomes all members to the 35th Port Botany CCC.</p> <p>RR notes that tonight SA is taking the minutes.</p> <p>2. Minutes of the last meeting</p>

PM and JB approve the last meeting's minutes.

Actions arising from previous minutes

3. Recruitment of community members – PM – agenda item

RR says she has been in touch with Mal Jagdev-Imrich who is interested in the CCC but not in the position to attend meetings regularly. Minutes record the CCC's thanks to Mal and wish her well.

Regarding recruitment, PM says it is proceeding well. An advertisement will be published next week in Eastern Suburbs Life stating the CCC's requirements etc. PM has been in touch with Randwick and Bayside council regarding CCC membership. NSW Port's social media has also promoted the cause. PM says these multiple approaches should recruit at least one community member. PM will share the ad with members via email. PM encourages the members to share the ad far and wide as it is better to have too many applicants rather than too few.

PF said he would try to help in the Little Bay and La Perouse areas. He has added the issue to the Bays and Beaches Precinct meeting agenda for 27 June. He has also previously shared the details with the Matraville Precinct. PF noted that though Matraville is a prime source of port noise complaints, the precinct executive had advised that there was no interest from precinct participants in joining the committee.

CA says he will raise the issue with the Matraville Precinct as he is a regular participant.

Presentations

4. Sydney Gateway project – KK & MF

KK (Transport for New South Wales) and MF (John Hollands Seymour White Joint Venture) present a PowerPoint (see Appendix 1) and videos (both available on the website).

KK says the project issues monthly and quarterly updates. KK advises that members can join the subscriber's list if they would like further updates. The project has an 1800 phone number, email address, and interactive web portal. KK is keen to hear any questions from members.

RR asks for comments or questions.

BE asks on behalf of councillors, why is there no connection from the Port to this project?

KK says that connecting this project to the Port was not part of the scope. The business case was improving access to the airport. It will help the port because it will separate traffic going to the airport from traffic related to the port.

JL notes that NSW Ports pushed hard to connect the port to this project but was not successful.

BE asks if the roads have any weight limits and would trucks be able to use it?

MF says the project is designed to accommodate current traffic, not trucks.

JB asks what the completion date for the project is estimated to be.

KK says the completion date is the end of 2024, subject to weather conditions.

PF asks if there is a possibility to extend the project to connect traffic to the port?

KK says improvements are possible but are subject to a business case and government funding. The project design allows for ramps to be constructed later to connect the Sydney Gateway to Canal Road.

JB says that many years ago there was a project (discussed for over a decade) to connect a new road to link the Port to major storage areas, to link to other areas with major intermodals and to reduce truck traffic on the M5. JB asks if KK or MF envision this as part of another major project?

. NSW Ports has lobbied this case. JL says NSW Ports are persistent on the issue and have not given up. JL says that connectivity is their number one issue.

MF says that he is not aware of any major storage containers anymore since the project has taken over that land.

KK asks if JB is talking about Cube?

JB says yes. Not aware of any reduction in containers, mainly empties.

KK says they are working on Tempe Lands on Swamp Roads. Improving road access to ports is one TfNSW road. There is early work. KK suggests that the project team could brief the CCC next meeting.

JB says he thought TfNSW was supportive.

KK says that is outside of her scope, but she can get people to come to the next meeting. **ACTION**

JB says there was a major meeting between Ports, Transport NSW and Michael Daley many years ago to sort out the port related traffic problems, but nothing happened after the change in government.

CA says that you can drive from Melbourne to Sydney without traffic lights but to drive down General Homes Drive there are 12 traffic lights. CA says this is wasteful time for big trucks.

PM says that KK said that someone from TfNSW can talk to the community specifically on that issue.

Action: KK to invite relevant TfNSW staff to brief the community on this issue.

SE provides the ARTC Board update on the rail duplication project from Port Botany to Mascot to speed up rail traffic towards the Port. Early works are being planned to gear up for major construction. Currently working on-site establishment, piling works, utility works, and cable service work. John Holland has been doing a good job of communicating with the community. Otherwise, working towards gearing up for major construction. There are big works planned for next year e.g., bridge works and training for girders in early next year.

NSW Ports Business Update

5. Operations update – JL

JL provides the CCC with an operations update. From a macro perspective, JL says Port Botany is busy due to the global high demand for import and export goods. The Ports successfully overcame issues regarding covid and have a good labour supply. The Ports has proved its resilience. The lockdowns in Shanghai have impacted the vessel schedule.

On a micro perspective, JL says there were the Blockage Australia protests that tactically leveraged off social media. NSW Ports greatly appreciates the cooperation from NSW Police who were well organised. The broadcast's perspective of the protests made it seem worse than what was actually experienced. It was annoying for the terminal and the truck drivers. JL says that NSW Ports is maintaining vigilance and reviewing security processes.

RR asks for any questions and comments.

PF says that from his understanding a large volume of freight from China to Europe is routed via rail through Russia. With the current sanctions on Russia due to the conflict in Ukraine, does that mean there is a reduction in rail transport across Russia and an increase in seaborne trade, and if so, how will this affect Australia? Could it mean a reduction in the number of ships available to serve China-Australian routes?

JL says that rail-borne freight would be significantly smaller compared to seaborne freight. Ships on the China to Europe loop can carry up to 23,000 TEU. Seaborne may be handling a bit more due to impacts from the conflict in Ukraine but it would be very small. There is small import volume from Ukraine or Russia into Port Botany. The routes from North Asia to Australia operate on different services, so any conflict in Ukraine has minimal impact on Australia.

PF says he asked because a friend who took the Tran Siberian rail trip said constant heavy freight traffic was noticeable during the crossing of Siberia.

PF asks if there is any administrative burden resulting from sanctions?

JL says no. Many ships have both Ukrainian and Russian crew on board. The aim is to make their life as easy as possible. Mission to Seafarers are offering extra support for those who have loved ones involved in the conflict.

JL says it is part of the Chinese Government's Belt and Road initiative. China also owns and operates ports in Pakistan.

RR says that this draws attention to how conflicts can affect ports.

PM ads that trade is looking good after extreme weather events e.g. grain exports – record harvests in NSW. There was record trade in Port Botany and Port Kembla. Some supply chain pressures out of the Port's controls continue to lockdowns in Shanghai which have affected shipping reliability.

6. Corporate Affairs update – PM
 - Recruitment of new community member
 - Molineux Point signage update
 - Community engagement audit

PM says it has been a lengthy project but 3 of the 4 signs are up. The fourth was scratched when it was being unloaded but it will be up soon. PM encourages everyone to go have a look and give them feedback.

JB asks if there is any rehabilitation work on the stands and wooden platforms. JB says they are very dilapidated.

PM also says that the community grants program has been launched for the second year. It was launched in 2021 and rewarded many great recipients. PM advises members to pay attention to social media. One group that benefited in 2021 was the La Perouse Netball Club. The community grant allowed them to increase the number of ATSI (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) players and coaches.

PM says that applications closes Friday 27th May. PM says that if any members know of any great community groups, he encourages them to tell the group to apply. All the details are on the website.

PM says that NSW Ports was happy to host members from Randwick Council on the water. It was a terrific opportunity despite bad weather. It gave the council members a different perspective on how the port operates and how important ongoing trade is. It is part of an ongoing government relations program. If anything, the disruptions of recent years have highlighted how important the supply chains are.

JB states that there is no one from Bayside Council attending the meeting tonight. JB says the memorial to the old Sydney Zoo near the Joseph Banks Hotel is in a poor state. There is a sign thanking NSW Ports, among other corporate sponsors like Kellogg's but nothing seems to have happened. JB says that NSW Ports social license would benefit from being part of this project.

Does PM ask to clarify that the memorial needs to be spruced up?

JB says yes, it needs to be fixed up. All the paint has come off and the cement and fire glass is damaged. It needs to be rehabilitated.

RR states that this issue has been raised with Claire from Council and actions following up with Claire on this issue. RR says it is an important historical memorial and children's play area.

Action: Follow up with Claire (Bayside Council) about the rehabilitation of the Sydney Zoo Memorial.

PM says NSW Ports does do work on Sir Joseph Bank's Park, but he is unaware of the memorial. He will go look at it.

CA signs out to attend a council meeting.

PF says that former CCC member Lynda Newnam pointed out to him that of local major facility operators who had community consultative committees (CCC), NSW Ports was the only one that had

never offered to give its community CCC members a site tour. PF says site tours are a fundamental part of the process of providing CCC members with an appreciation of such major facilities. PF asked PM to please consider giving the CCC members a site tour along the lines of the one they recently gave to Randwick City Councillors.

PM says that on the face of it, it is a sensible request. It comes down to resources. There are water and land tours. He says he will come back next meeting with a response.

Action: PM to enquire about giving the NSW Ports CCC a tour.

Committee Member Updates

7. Port Authority: Port Botany community assets – GY

No one from Port Authority is present at the meeting. PF says this is disappointing because he would have liked to receive an update on the cruise terminal project that he could report back to the community.

8. Port Botany Expansion operational update (Patrick/Hutchison) – GM, DE

9. Tenant developments & round table updates – All & NSW Ports

MW (Qenos) says it is business as usual.

KJ (Opal) says there was a major maintenance shutdown from Friday to Monday. There are 750 jobs and 400 people on site. It went well. About to start construction on solids reject handling facility. Building, an extra building with conveyors to move plastic parts that cannot be recycled. Then it can be dropped into trails. Construction starts next month and will be done by the end of the year. It will be noticeable because it is at the front of the site.

KJ says they did a study on last year's complaints regarding odour. A study was done of the air emissions points and one site contributed 40% of the odour. It was a decanter building that took in fertilizers that smelt like sewage. The project team is working on how to minimise the odour impacts. It will be in a newsletter sent to the local community.

MM (Vopak) says nothing to report. Last meeting, reported on a strategic options study for terminals. Vopak will continue to operate the Australian business.

PA says it is normal operations. Excitingly, five new cranes have been shipped over to replace the old fleet. There is a 60-day commissioning period. Another five cranes will arrive in February 2023.

GM (Patrick) says there is nothing new to report.

10. EPA update – EB

EB is an apology but emailed to inform RR and the CCC that the Clean Air Regulation is open to public exhibition. See link: <https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/news/media-releases/2022/epamedia220506-clean-air-regulation-now-open-for-comment>.

11. The Kamay Project – BE

BE says the council will be working with SIMS which was successful in receiving a major grant from the Potter Foundation to undertake an ecosystems model for Botany Bay. There was a meeting last week. Botany Bay is one of the most studied bays in Australia. This study will be different because it will approach the Bay holistically and put it together for a better understanding of how Botany Bay functions as an ecosystem. The study will engage with local stakeholders and the Indigenous community.

BE also provided an update on the reestablished Coastal Councils committee which will be looking at the impacts of global warming and severe weather changes on beach side locations.

JB says it is great to see the Coastal Council's renewed involvement in coastal damage. It will dovetail with SIMS project which JB expects to be part of. It is a positive step and will help chart a pathway for containment of the ongoing erosion damage that has beset Botany Bay.

HSE Update

12. Summary of complaints and incidents – BB

BB says there were only 6 complaints – 2 in March, and 4 in May. The weather should have been conducive to more complaints but that did not materialize. One complainer was new to the area. BB had a good discussion with her. BB says the Ports continue to engage with shipping companies when it happens and do message the captains. BB says they are starting to build a database to collect data on auxiliary engines. BB says there are looking at ways that ships can run quieter. The reduction in complaints may reflect the work that the Ports have done.

BB says there have been minimal issues at the Port. The protests were the biggest issue. In one incident in March where a container was blown over in the high winds. The weather has not been the Ports friend this past couple of months and has caused challenges but overall, things have fared well despite the tempest.

BB says following his attendance at the Matraville Precinct committee last year in November he was invited back to provide an update in April. BB says the presentation was well received and helped people to understand what the Ports is doing and how they can help us. BB says it is an unusual situation because the Ports have no control over the ships but have to take responsibility. Hopefully more good news next meeting.

BE asks if commitments have been made to provide shore-based power at White Bay? It has more impact on residents around Little Bay. Anything about it being an option?

BB says yes, that is true, and is surprised that the Port Authority is not present to share the news. NSW Ports continues to investigate the feasibility of shore power. It will not happen in 5 to 10 years. The majority of the ships do not enable shore power. Only 10% – 15 % of the ships that call into Port Botany are capable of connecting to shore power. Depending on the ship, it can cost between \$100,000 to millions of dollars. It is not a solution in the short to medium term. There are over 300 container ships from 15 or so companies that call at Port Botany, and these ships are chartered, they are not owned. Those who own the ships will have to retrofit. About 20% – 25% of cruise ships are shore power capable.

JB says a strategic plan from 3 years ago listed shore power as a priority and that shore power would be investigated as part of the 10 year strategy.

BB says he is glad to say that they are 7 years ahead of schedule as investigations into the feasibility of shore power have commenced. The question is as a port do they put it in? Having discussions with the different organisations about what different models could work. If the opportunity is there and the economic risk is negligible the Ports could consider it.

JL says that to be clear there is no proposed shore power trial. Currently, just looking at ideas and having ongoing discussions.

PF says the port's outdoor lighting is very visible. Have the outdoor lights been converted to LED luminaires which offer considerable energy savings and Green House Gas Emission reductions? An additional benefit of LEDs is that they can be configured to significantly reduce light spill which would be of benefit to fauna.

BB says he does not know but will take the question on notice.

Action: BB to investigate if outdoor lighting is LED.

JB says three meetings ago, new lighting along Foreshore Road was raised. He has asked for an update from the Port Authority.

Action: Question for the Port Authority regarding new lighting on Foreshore Road.

13. Port Botany Expansion Rail Noise (as per CoA 2.28) – BB

No complaints.

14. Biosecurity – BB

BB says that Sydney Institute of Marine Science (SIMS) is continuing work on biosecurity issues. The Ports facilitated for the Dr Nina Schaefer to go out on the boat every month to collect data to study the impacts on Indigenous and non-Indigenous species.

BB says there is also a marine surveillance program from NSW DPI. The first survey was in March and the second survey is being planned now. There are no other biosecurity issues.

Other Business

15. Erosion and environmental damage – JB/BE

BB says there has been no progress on the Ausgrid cables that BE and JB have spoken about. BE wrote to the relevant authorities and the response was not related. Ausgrid said they sandbagged some of the cables but that was done in 2015 at the shallow end. JB dug up papers from 2016/2017 and at that stage, there were three options. 1) All exposed cables dug up and replaced and retrenched. Existing cables cannot be retrenched as they cannot be stretched. This option could cost \$60 million plus. 2) Find a way of carpeting the cables with hessian bags, containing stone and concrete. 3) Do nothing.

JB believes the 3rd option was adopted. Potentially, if a large vessel breaks free and its anchor was to breach the cable, there is a risk of high voltage transmission to the vessel and major damage to

the power grid. Luckily, this has not happened but in 2015 a vessel dropped over it, missing the cables. JB and EB have tried to get some meaningful response from Ausgrid etc but the involvement of the Port Authority, NSW Ports and EPA may be needed to make some progress with Ausgrid.

JB says from the meeting in November, it was an action item for NSW Ports and the Ports Authority to look into erosion. Since November, it has gotten worse. The major storms in April cause strong easterly swells, major flooding, super tides, and strong gale force winds. Impact damage on La Perouse, Yarra Bay and other parts of Botany Bay has never been so severe. JB has never seen such a level of damage. The April storms unearthed stuff from the 1970s. Old building foundations have resurfaced, the boatshed restaurant foundations and the new sea wall in front of the children's playground have been undermined and two-thirds of the beach has been washed away. Water has gone up to the bush area. Now a vertical drop of 2 – 3 metres. JB has spoken to the local member and the Federal member. There was also major damage in Bayside. One Jetty on the northern side of Botany Bay was built some 23 years ago, and in 17 of those years has not been overwater. But now the sand is gone under that area and the water is there.

RR says that JB has been doing lots of work in this area, trying to get thing sorted.

BE says councils have done studies into this issue. Erosion issues also in Kurnell. So each of the landowners has been looking. What is missing is putting all the pieces together to develop a model for the Bay to see what is happening as a whole.

JB says his concern is that La Perouse and Yarra Bay are so badly eroded that the bush land barrier between the road and the beach is disappearing. What interim measures can be done? Who will pay for it?

JB says he has been talking about erosion issues for 20 years and it is getting worse.

RR says that everyone is grateful for the work JB has put into this issue. It won't be solved in this meeting.

JB says that SIMS and UNSW are looking into re-growing sea greases. JB says significant amounts of rare and endangered seagrass have washed up on the beach and are now dead; precious seagrasses are gone. JB even saw a seahorse, which is unusual, as well as numerous different types of molluscs (live seashells with a slug intact). They are all dead.

RR ends the meeting and thanks all those who present.

RR says that she and PM will think about the next meeting because she conscious that the CCC needs the members from Bayside Council and the Port Authority present.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, 23 08 2022

5:30pm – 7:00 pm

Location: Zoom