



MINUTES OF THE
INNER HARBOUR COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

Date: 1 September 2009
Location: Boardroom – Fremantle Ports Administration Building
Time: 5.30pm to 7.00pm
Chairperson: Dr Simon Avenell

Community Representatives:

Dr Simon Avenell, Chair
Peter Nolin, Fremantle Chamber of Commerce
Susan Philpott, Fremantle Inner City Residents Association
Des Snook, Main Roads WA
Gerry MacGill, North Fremantle Precinct
Eric Wilson, Port Beach Users Group

Cr Alex Wilson, Town of East Fremantle
Rev. Dennis Cloughton, Flying Angel Club for Seafarers
Vicki Stuckey, Gibson Park Precinct
Ron Davidson, Fremantle History Society
Joseph Zappavigna, City of Fremantle
Susanna Bessell-Browne, SBB Enterprises
Bob Johnson, Maritime Heritage Association

Fremantle Ports' Representatives:

Chris Leatt-Hayter, Chief Executive Officer
Lyle Banks, Manager Port Planning
Franco Andreone, Manager Fremantle Waterfront

Ainslie de Vos, Manager External Affairs
Jeanette Murray, External Affairs Coordinator

Apologies:

Jude van der Merwe, ArtSource
Matthew Piggott, City of Fremantle
Lloyd Owens, O'Connor Precinct
Graeme Clifton, Northbank Residents & Ratepayers Association

Helen Elliott, Fremantle Ports
David Hawks, The Fremantle Society Inc.
Beth Bax, Fremantle Volunteer Heritage Guides

Minutes:

1. Welcome, apologies and invitation for agenda items

Simon Avenell welcomed those present and called for additional agenda items.

Vickey Stuckey wanted to ask questions about break bulk on roads.

Bob Johnson wanted to ask about heritage interpretation planning.

Eric Wilson wanted to ask about vegetation being replaced at the temporary precast concrete yard, on Tydeman Road, North Fremantle, when operations were completed.

2. Minutes and actions from previous meeting

- Questions on notice were received from Susan Philpott, of FICRA, at the June meeting. Ainslie de Vos reported that Susan had been sent answers to those questions and a copy

of the answers was provided at the meeting.

- Des Snook, from Main Roads, said at the June meeting that he would provide a list to police advising them of intersections that should be monitored, such as Tydeman Rd/Stirling Hwy, Stirling Hwy/High St and Stirling Hwy/Canning Hwy. Des said that he would be getting a briefing from Police soon and he would advise them about those three intersections. Vicki Stuckey said the crossing at Marmion Street/Stirling Hwy lights was very dangerous; trucks were going through red lights.

3. Community Survey results

Update on the annual community survey results was provided by Ainslie de Vos:

- Levels of familiarity with Fremantle Ports have increased amongst Inner Harbour residents. Outer Harbour residents continue to show similar levels of familiarity this wave.
- Both Inner and Outer harbour residents show higher satisfaction with Fremantle Ports, especially so for Inner Harbour residents.
- Strong support for Fremantle Port's operation as a busy working port continues to exist with increased support amongst Inner Harbour residents.
- Support for the rail loop to service the container terminals at North Quay continued to increase in 2008/9 compared to the previous year.

General discussion followed about support for the port.

Information was provided on Fremantle Ports' community contributions:

At South Fremantle Senior High School, 12 scholarships (including two scholarships for Aboriginal students) are being awarded for 2010 Year 8 students; support is being given for local Year 5 students to develop a permaculture garden at SFSHS, for local Year 7 students planting trees on the SFSHS site as part of the carbon neutral program, for a peer support program linking Year 7 student to Year 10s and for implementation of Fremantle Ports' Curriculum Module through the society and environmental program at SFSHS. Fremantle Ports has also established linkages with Beaconsfield Primary, White Gum Valley Primary and Notre Dame University, Fremantle.

Support has also been provided for the Fremantle Chamber Orchestra, String Beans Orchestra (based at North Fremantle Primary School), Purple Haze Starlight Children's Foundation, Gimme Shelter fundraising concert, an artist-in-residence program, Paraplegic Benefit Fund Prevention – Aqua Program, Festival of Fremantle, Fremantle and East Fremantle Heritage Festival, Fremantle Hospital's Gage Roads Transit Lounge, North Fremantle Community Centre, Deckchair Theatre, Coogee Jetty to Jetty Swim and Clontarf Aboriginal College – North Fremantle Hostel.

4. Trade update

Update provided by Chris Leatt-Hayter:

In regard to the global economic crisis, Fremantle Ports' monitoring of trade showed that Inner Harbour container trade was down 12-15%; and that impact was mirrored around Australia. He said he was hoping to see some pick up in trade closer to Christmas. The negative impact was still less than some overseas countries where trade was down 25-30%. Motor vehicle trade at Fremantle Ports was down about 25%. Steel trade was starting to pick up; machinery trade not too greatly affected; livestock trade stayed about the same. Overall, it was difficult to predict what would happen with trade trends.

A question was asked about the build up of wheat. Chris said last year there was a massive growth in container grain exports; now the trade was switching back to bulk shipping; there would continue to be growth in the bulk trade.

5. Magellan Metals update

Information provided by Kane Blackman, Magellan Metals:

Spoke about contribution to clean up at Esperance. Received final approval from Minister for Environment for trade through Fremantle. Magellan was probably four weeks away from removal of lead from site. Monitoring was now live on Magellan's website.

Abraham van Niekerk, Magellan environmental officer, presented on the transport route monitoring program. He said:

- Final approval was granted in August 2009.
- Stringent requirements to be met were set out by ministerial statement 783 (HHEMP)
- Monitoring would determine whether lead levels in the environment along the transport route and/or at the Port of Fremantle were increased as a result of Magellan's activities.
- Monitoring would ensure that ambient standards for lead were not exceeded.

Baseline survey requirements: Sampling consisted of soil sampling, rainwater tank sampling, static dust sampling, high volume sampling (Port of Fremantle), sump sampling (Port of Fremantle), benthic sampling (Port of Fremantle) undertaken by Oceanica consultants.

Methods involved all samples collected by applying AU standards and guidelines, soil samples were collected every 10 km and 500m within built-up areas, rainwater tank samples within 250m of track, static dust stations placed in close proximity to transport, analysis by NATA accredited laboratory.

Results of baseline sampling were provided (information available on Magellan website.)

Questions were asked about:

- the frequency of monitoring —the Magellan representative said some monitoring would be done six-monthly while other monitoring such as dust monitoring was ongoing.
- whether the lead carbonate containers would be on trains with other trade — answer was there would be other trade on the trains as well.

Lyle Banks said Fremantle Ports would be doing its own independent sampling and Kane Blackman said the PTA was also doing sampling.

In conclusion, Kane Blackman said there would be regular reporting to this group when transportation started.

6. Optimum Planning Group

Update provided by Chris Leatt-Hayter:

The Fremantle Ports Optimum Planning Group was established in March by Transport Minister Simon O'Brien to make recommendations on the way forward for port planning to meet future trade needs. This included looking at the development of additional port facilities at Kwinana. A report was expected later this year.

7. Inner Harbour Deepening Project update

Update provided by Lyle Banks:

- Ministerial approval for dredging and reclamation received on 18 August 2009 included conditions on water quality monitoring; seagrass monitoring; coral monitoring; macro algal monitoring; vessel inspections for invasive marine species; and compliance and internal auditing. Information on monitoring locations was provided.
- The seawall construction is scheduled to commence this month. Internal access roads and traffic management has been completed. Rock delivery is underway. Dredging is to start in January 2010. Berth 10 Reconstruction was 20% complete. The project is on schedule for completion in February 2010. Car parking areas at Napier Road have been established. A precast concrete works yard has been established adjacent to the Railway Hotel and works are scheduled for completion in September 2009. Transport of large (28 tonne) units across Tydeman Road will be carried out as required — two have

been undertaken to date. All works scheduled to be completed at the end of 2010.

- For the Berth 10 reconstruction, 232 sheet piles have been driven along the berth face, 136 (62%) wharf piles have been installed, precast concrete works are 70% complete and an 80-strong workforce is on site.

The piling technique at Berth 10 was also discussed. The piles are mostly vibrated in to minimise noise; only about the last five metres are banged in to lessen impact on residents.

8. Loss Management report

Chris Leatt-Hayter discussed the article in a local newspaper which stated there were oil spills every week at Fremantle Port. He said the fact was there were nine controlled incidents in the past 2.5 years out of 1.4 million container movements.

Information provided by Lyle Banks:

Incidents and complaints had included two container spills, several complaints regarding construction noise from piling activities, several reports of discharges and sheen in and around port waters and various incidents involving unauthorised access, break-ins and vandalism:

- On 22/7/09 a faulty valve on an ISO Container resulted in a spill of styrene monomer. DP World responded by blocking drains, containing the spill with bunding and placing the faulty ISO into a Spill Trailer. FESA were onsite within 15 minutes.
- On 28/7/09 a leaking container holding resin solution was reported on a ship moored alongside the Patrick terminal. FESA was called in to assess, the product was identified and FESA declared the container safe to be parked up overnight. The container was placed in a spill unit.
- On 20/8/09, while discharging waste oil from a vessel alongside Berth 5 the discharge hose disconnected causing about 70 litres of waste oil to be spilt around the discharge truck and onto the wharf apron. The waste oil was immediately contained by DP World stevedores using an absorbent peat, a sucker truck was called to help with the clean up and there was no sign of any product on the wharf apron the next morning.
- On 5/6/09 a contractor's superintendent noticed oil sheen within the Berth 10 works silt curtain. The area was inspected for the source, including fuel lines and bunkering points. No leaks or other obvious sources were found. The sheen was contained behind an oil boom.
- On 12/6/09 a 40-litre spill was reported on Berth 12 and an oil trail was observed leading to two haulpac trucks parked at the eastern end of the berth. A hydraulic hose from the truck was found to be damaged. The oil was contained using kitty litter to stop it spreading and barricades put in place to prevent spreading of spill prior to cleaning up.
- The port received a phone call from DEC Kwinana reporting a member of the community who alleged he witnessed a livestock carrier discharging bilge water that contained livestock effluent on 25 July 2009. Fremantle Ports contacted the complainant who was unable to describe the discharge, its colour or any other characteristics as he was too far away. He did say the discharge came from two points at the end of the vessel, maybe a couple of metres above the waterline. Followed up with the shipping agent and ship's Master who both understood the IMO requirements and the severe penalties involved for unauthorised discharges in the harbour. The agent thought that it was a ballast water movement. Such a discharge is permitted under international legislation and part of normal operation. This was subsequently confirmed after checking the ship's ballast log and a copy of the AQIS-approved ballast log was provided. Findings of the investigation were communicated to the complainant and DEC.
- Reports were made of a fisherman inside the fenced construction area (adjacent to Carnegie's) on 5 and 8 August 2009. There were several instances of fences cut after hours and on weekends. There was one report of a fisherman on North Mole fishing in a dangerous location — standing on rocks near the waterline with waves breaking over him. North Mole lighthouse was vandalised by graffiti in June 2009. The building at the rear of No.12 Berth was broken into in June 2009.

A question was asked about the limestone rubble on the seawall. Lyle Banks explained how the seawall was being constructed with big rocks on outside and then gradually smaller rocks, then a geotextile (fabric) lining, then the smallest rocks.

There was a question on the situation of homeless people at Victoria Quay. Ainslie de Vos said each winter there were homeless people at the wharf but this year there were quite a few and Fremantle Ports had been very concerned about the welfare of a 16-year-old girl with her mother. Numerous calls had been made to agencies and organisations.

9. Cruise shipping and Celebrate Maritime Day

- Information provided by Ainslie de Vos:
- Cruise shipping: This year there are 29 ship calls, next year there will be 39, including *Queen Mary 2* and *Queen Victoria* arriving in the new year. Latest figures provided by Cruise Down Under (a peak body) were that there was \$55 million metropolitan spending this year from cruise shipping.
- Celebrate Maritime Day: An inaugural expo-type day is being held at the Fremantle Passenger Terminal on 12/9/09. There will be 39 exhibitors at the free day for all the family, with an emphasis on education and career opportunities.

10. Fremantle Waterfront update

- Information provided by Chris Leatt-Hayter:
- Victoria Quay Planning Committee will get going again. ING intends to start work on the Commercial Precinct in the middle of next year.
- Chris reported that he had met with members of the community group, the Victoria Quay Taskforce, and Fremantle Ports and the group would be working cooperatively to have immigration recognised on waterfront.

11. General Business

- Discussion about:
- Heritage Interpretation Plan: There was a question about what stage it was at. Ainslie de Vos said consultants Lovell Chen were still working on the draft plan.
- Ron Davidson said interest in the John Curtin commemoration was growing and he had written to the Heritage Council about relooking at the C Y O'Connor Centre building.
- Vicki Stuckey asked if any break bulk trade could be moved to Kwinana, especially scrap metal. Chris Leatt-Hayter said the trade required land behind the berths to hold break bulk and land wasn't available at Kwinana. He said scrap metal had been handled on Kwinana Bulk Jetty but trucks had trouble turning around.
- Eric Wilson reported that a bare bank had been left on Tydeman Road when the trees were pulled out. Lyle Banks said trees would not be grown there again because of line-of-sight problems but the area would be re-landscaped.

Conclusion:

Meeting concluded at 7.19pm

Next meeting:

Tuesday 17 November 2009

