The Inland Rail team has been in the community, sharing initial plans for the Albury to Illabo section of Australia’s largest freight rail project. Here is an overview of what we’ve been up to and what we’re doing next.

Inland Rail is a once-in-a-generation project connecting regional Australia to domestic and international markets, transforming the way we move freight around the country.

Albury to Illabo (A2I) is one of 13 projects that make up Inland Rail. A2I consists of roughly 185km of existing rail corridor from the Victoria/NSW border to Illabo in regional NSW. The project will see work at 12 existing sites near Albury/Wodonga, Culcairn, Wagga Wagga and Junee, including road bridges, footbridges and a rail underpass (see map overleaf).

Site and track upgrade work will provide the height needed for double-stacked freight trains. Subject to environmental approval, the work will involve lowering or shifting the track, track raising, widening or replacing some structures. No new track is required.

To ensure safety within the rail corridor, some signalling structures, power poles and other infrastructure will be moved away from the track. In 2016, we looked at initial engineering concepts and we are now carrying out investigations and further planning to understand technical challenges and opportunities.

We are also engaging with the community about proposed works at key sites between Albury and Illabo.

Construction on the A2I section is scheduled to start between late 2020 to early 2021.

MORE THAN 200 ATTEND SEPTEMBER INFO SESSIONS

In September 2018, we held community drop-in sessions in Albury, Junee and Wagga Wagga to keep local residents and the wider community up to date. More than 200 people attended the sessions, to understand what’s planned in their towns and to provide feedback.

Albury to Illabo Senior Project Manager Dinesh Batra said that the team received plenty of valuable feedback from the communities along the Albury to Illabo route.

“Most people we spoke to are excited about the opportunities that Inland Rail can bring to Australia as well as regional NSW. But we also recognise there are concerns that need to be addressed around construction and operations noise, and the impact of rebuilding bridges, particularly in high traffic areas,” Mr Batra said.

He said that the community feedback from the sessions will be considered in the next stage of planning.
UPCOMING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Culcairn drop-in session
Come along to the Culcairn drop-in session to find out more about what’s happening in your area. The project team will be available to give an update on Inland Rail and to talk about proposed works for A2I.

When: 10 am – 12 pm, Saturday 1 December 2018
Where: Outside Foodworks, 48 Balfour Street, Culcairn NSW

Junee Rhythm n Rail Festival 2019
The ARTC Inland Rail team will attend the Junee Rhythm n Rail Festival on Friday 8 March 2019, to meet the community and keep people up to date about Inland Rail.

We will also host more community information sessions in 2019 to share more updates, so keep an eye on your local newspaper and radio for details.

WORK PROPOSED AT KEY LOCATIONS

ENHANCEMENT SITES

1 MURRAY RIVER BRIDGE, ALBURY
2 ALBURY STATION FOOTBRIDGE, ALBURY
3 RIVERINA HIGHWAY BRIDGE, ALBURY
4 WAGGA ROAD / BILLY HUGHES BRIDGE, ALBURY
5 CULCAIRN FOOTBRIDGE, CULCAIRN
6 PEARSON STREET BRIDGE, WAGGA WAGGA
7 BROOKONG AVENUE FOOTBRIDGE, WAGGA WAGGA
8 EDMONDSON STREET BRIDGE, WAGGA WAGGA
9 MOTHERS BRIDGE, WAGGA WAGGA
10 JUNEE STATION FOOTBRIDGE, JUNEE
11 KEMP STREET BRIDGE, JUNEE
12 OLYMPIC HIGHWAY RAIL UNDERPASS, JUNEE

LEGEND

- Project limits
- Major roads network
- Inland Rail alignment
- Enhancement sites

Map is indicative only
### ALBURY/WODONGA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enhancement site</th>
<th>Proposed work</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Murray River bridge</td>
<td>Raise the height of the existing arches and reinforce the bridge to allow double-stacked freight trains to pass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Albury Station footbridge</td>
<td>Raise the height to allow double-stacked freight trains to pass and rebuild the footbridge to be the same height as the connecting footbridge from Kenilworth Street, with ramps at either end.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Riverina Highway bridge</td>
<td>Lower the track under the highway to allow double-stacked freight trains to pass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Wagga Road/Billy Hughes bridge</td>
<td>Lower the track under the highway to allow double-stacked freight trains to pass.</td>
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### CULCAIRN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5. Culcairn footbridge</td>
<td>This bridge, which has historical value, needs to be relocated to provide the height needed for double-stacked freight trains to pass. We are working with Greater Hume Council and the Culcairn community to move the bridge to an area where the community can continue to enjoy it.</td>
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### WAGGA WAGGA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Proposed work</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6. Pearson Street bridge</td>
<td>Lower the track underneath the bridge to allow double-stacked freight trains to pass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Brookong Avenue footbridge</td>
<td>Replace the footbridge with a new, taller and wider bridge with ramps at either end.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Edmondson Street bridge</td>
<td>Build a new bridge that’s tall enough to allow double-stacked freight trains to pass underneath.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Mothers Bridge</td>
<td>Replace the footbridge with a new, taller bridge with ramp access at either end.</td>
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### JUNEE

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10. Junee Station footbridge</td>
<td>This site needs higher clearance. We propose to remove this footbridge and will work with Junee Shire Council and the community to find an alternative area for possible relocation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Kemp Street bridge</td>
<td>Build a new, higher bridge to minimise traffic disruption and the impact on nearby properties.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Olympic Highway rail underpass</td>
<td>The rail underpass may need to be replaced or the deck modified to allow for double-stacked trains to be able to pass each other.</td>
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WHEN WILL WORK START BETWEEN ALBURY AND ILLABO?

While we are in the second phase of our planning and engineering investigations, we still have some way to go. Community consultation and engagement is under way to help inform this work, and we are working on getting the necessary approvals.

We are doing a lot of talking before we start building, to keep the community informed and engaged in the process. At this stage, we expect construction to start between late 2020 to early 2021 in the Albury to Illabo section.

HOW NOISY WILL DOUBLE-STACKED FREIGHT TRAINS BE?

In the A2I project, we are conducting an assessment to understand the noise and vibration levels from the double-stacked freight trains operating on the track from 2025. Where the noise trigger levels in the NSW Rail Infrastructure Noise Guideline (RiNG) are exceeded, we will investigate feasible and reasonable noise mitigation in consultation with the impacted community. Similarly, vibration impacts will be assessed in accordance with relevant guidelines and standards.

We are also assessing noise and vibration levels during construction and will be developing a Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan to guide the management of our works and, where practical, to mitigate adverse effects on communities where the works are being undertaken.

Once operational and construction noise and vibration impacts are understood, we will be able to share the findings with our neighbours and discuss how the impacts will be managed.

WHAT WORK CAN I EXPECT TO HAPPEN IN MY AREA?

You might see our teams conducting various field studies near your property to support the environmental assessment and the engineering design. We will also continue to be out in the community, meeting our immediate neighbours and the wider community.

We are happy to meet with you to listen, understand and answer your questions in person – please contact us if you would like to arrange a meeting. We will also let you know how you can provide input to the planning process.

PROUDLY SUPPORTING LOCAL SHOWS

ARTC Inland Rail was a proud supporter of the Junee and Albury Shows in October and November. We were delighted to sponsor the Junee Show as well as hold trade stalls at both events.

Inland Rail NSW Stakeholder Engagement Manager Helena Orel said that NSW regional shows are a great way to speak directly to the people in the communities where Inland Rail will operate.

“When we attend the NSW regional shows, we meet so many members of the community we wouldn’t otherwise meet. It’s a good opportunity for the community to hear more about the work planned, make new contacts and to voice their issues or concerns,” Ms Orel said.