

## CHAIR'S SUMMARY

The third meeting of the Inner Darling Downs Community Consultative Committee (the Committee) was held in Southbrook on Tuesday 4 September 2018.

Firstly, I would like to pass on my deepest condolences to Professor Steven Raine's family. Steve's commitment and dedication to the role of Chair has built a strong foundation for the Committee to carry forward as we continue our work as a conduit between the communities on the Inner Downs and the Inland Rail project. We not only acknowledge his work with us, but the impact on his family at this time.

In regard to the meeting, below is a summary to share the information discussed at the meeting with the community. The summary is a precursor to the meeting minutes, which will be published on the Inland Rail website following endorsement by the Committee.

The meeting was attended by fourteen of the fifteen members of the Committee.

The Committee was provided with an update on the Inland Rail NSW/QLD Border to Gowrie (B2G) project, particularly in relation to:

- ▶ continuing development of the project design
- ▶ environmental field studies and geotechnical investigations
- ▶ flood modelling.

ARTC advised over the last three months, the B2G project team has been meeting with government agencies, carrying out technical investigations and, where possible, incorporating community feedback into the project design. This has included running a Multi-Criteria Analysis (MCA) process in Brookstead, developing a flood model for the Condamine floodplain, and working with Toowoomba Regional Council and the Department of Transport and Main Roads to ensure design supports existing and future infrastructure projects. This work has assisted in the continuing development of the design, and ARTC advised they will commence engaging with potentially affected landowners in the coming weeks.

ARTC advised a range of activities for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process are continuing and will be occurring simultaneously within the study area. Activities include design work, technical and environmental studies, and community consultation. EIS field studies and geotechnical investigations commenced in July 2018 and are ongoing. The studies and investigations are primarily being carried out by contractors Golders and Future Freight Joint Venture (FFJV).

ARTC informed the Committee the Terms of Reference were expected to be released in the coming days and that the ARTC Weed Hygiene Procedure has been developed.

ARTC consultants, FFJV provided an update about the development of flood models for the Macintyre Brook, Macintyre River, Condamine floodplain, Westbrook Creek and Dry Creek, and Gowrie Creek. They advised they had engaged directly with landowners on the Condamine floodplain to gather anecdotal evidence to supplement their technical studies and input to their detailed model. ARTC is working towards presenting and discussing the different design options with the directly affected landowners in October 2018.

Committee members requested clear identification on all ARTC and contractor vehicles. The Committee also emphasised the importance of adequate notice for engagement activities, raised the need for vehicles travelling between properties to implement strong biosecurity measures to avoid weed spread across the region, asked for information about ARTC sponsorship and community programs, and requested ARTC clarify how cattle requiring agistment during construction are dealt with under their policies.

Minutes of the meeting will be made available on the Inland Rail website in September 2018.

### **Ken Murphy**

Acting Chair  
Inland Rail Inner Darling Downs  
Community Consultative Committee

Interested community members are welcome to attend committee meetings as observers. For more information please contact the Inland Rail Community Engagement team.