

Perth Darwin National Highway Bindoon Townsite Deviation Planning Study

Results of Community Consultation Program (May-June 2009)

This newsletter provides the community and other stakeholders in Bindoon and surrounding areas with the outcomes of the community consultation program conducted to gain feedback on a possible deviation of Great Northern Highway (GNH) east of the Bindoon townsite.

Consultation occurred during May-June 2009 as part of the planning study being undertaken by Main Roads, on behalf of the Department of Planning, to define the general corridor alignment for the possible future deviation of GNH around the Bindoon townsite. This work was requested by the Western Australian Planning Commission's Sustainable Transport Committee (WAPC-STC).

Consultation included distribution of a brochure entitled *Perth Darwin National Highway, Bindoon Townsite Deviation Planning Study: Community Consideration of Possible Options* throughout Bindoon and surrounding areas to gain community, business and road user feedback on two alignment options for the possible future deviation of the highway east of the Bindoon townsite.

The options were developed in consultation with a Community Reference Group (CRG) and the Shire of Chittering. Main Roads thanks the members of the CRG for their time and input into this process.

Consultation Results

A total of seventy (70) submissions were received from the community and business owners, including directly and non-directly affected landowners.

There was a clear preference for corridor alignment Option 1, east of Chinkabee Hill (please see map overleaf), with 73 per cent of respondents supporting this option and nine per cent supporting Option 2.

The key points raised by those people supporting Option 1 included:

- removal of heavy traffic through town;
- improved safety;
- reduced traffic noise;
- reduced visual impact; and
- ensuring there is provision for the townsite to grow.

The key issues raised by directly affected landowners included:

- property impact on current usage;
- compensation; and
- the need for a quick decision to provide greater certainty.

Both the comparative assessment of the two corridor alignment options and the community feedback clearly indicate a preference for Option 1, east of Chinkabee Hill. Option 2 was not preferred as it would result in poor integration with existing and future land use and increased noise and visual impact in the townsite.

What has happened with the consultation results?

The Shire of Chittering and the Study Steering Committee have subsequently endorsed Option 1 as the preferred general corridor alignment for the possible deviation. Therefore, Option 2 will not be considered further.

Due to feedback from the community requesting a quick decision to provide greater certainty, landowners directly affected by Options 1 and 2 were notified of the outcome, including the Shire and Study Steering Committee endorsement of Option 1.

The outcomes were presented to the WAPC-STC on 5 August 2009, and the committee endorsed the Shire's and Study Steering Committee's recommendation for Option 1.

What are the next steps in this planning study process?

The next step involves undertaking a more detailed Alignment Definition study to define the road reservation requirements for the future highway deviation. During this study, further community and stakeholder consultation will be undertaken, particularly with directly affected landowners.



Government of Western Australia
Department of Planning and Infrastructure





Further Information

Main Roads thanks you for your patience and continued interest in this process. If you have any further queries, please don't hesitate to contact Community Relations Consultant Carolyn Walker on phone: 9450 1445 or email: icwalker@vianet.net.au.