Meeting Purpose and Process

The Minister for Transport The Hon Troy Buswell MLA appointed Mr Geoff Totterdell the Chairman of the Peel Development Commission to Chair a Community Reference Group (CRG) with the collaboration of Mayor Paddi Creevey of the City of Mandurah and other Community Members within the Peel Region.

The Mandurah Bridge Replacement CRG will work with the community and other key stakeholders in conjunction with Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA) to assist Government to better understand what the local community sees as priority in achieving road transport solutions to the ever increasing traffic congestion in and around Mandurah, including the timeline for the replacement of the Mandurah Traffic Bridge.

The community through the Mandurah Bridge Replacement CRG will submit a project business case setting out recommendations through the Chair to the Minister for Transport.

GT opened the meeting and welcomed members. This was followed by an outline of the purpose and process of the CRG with signed Terms of Reference being distributed amongst members. (refer to Attachment 1)

Previous Meetings and Appointment of CRG Members

Membership of the CRG to include representatives of the community, key government agencies, industry and non-government organisations.

The following members were appointed following an invitation from the Minister for Transport and the CRG Chairperson.

Chairperson: Geoff Totterdell Chairman of the Peel Development Commission
Executive Officer: Antony Missikos Department of Transport/Main Roads WA
Paddi Creevey Mayor of the City of Mandurah
Mark Newman Chief Executive Officer City of Mandurah
Allan Claydon Director Works and Services, City of
3 Review and Comment on the Scope of the Project Business Case

AM circulated a proposed timetable for the delivery of the final report. This was tabled with a close out time of September 2013. GT advised that he would be travelling overseas from 4 June returning 5 July 2012 and that the report will be required to be finalised prior to his departure. The CRG were subsequently advised by AM that the period has been shortened to end of May 2013.

4 Situation Analysis

AC delivered presentation briefing on the background to the Mandurah Bridge including a summary of the bridge condition and estimates for repair. The extent of deterioration is now beyond the point where renewal intervention is considered viable. This view is supported by MRWA.

Council have completed indigenous and physical heritage assessments, transport studies, an economic analysis of the existing bridge and have had Concept Bridge designs drafted. An information pack containing the results of these studies and further background documentation on the Mandurah Bridge was circulated to each member for consideration.

Council has been requested to adopt in principle, that the replacement bridge should be configured with 4 lanes for traffic in conjunction with pedestrian/cyclist provision. This request will be formally considered by Council at its Ordinary Meeting to be held on 27 November 2012.

5 Scope of Community Consultation

AC presented the City’s draft Community Engagement Recommendations for member’s consideration.

The recommendations include 3 stages of community engagement (refer to Attachment 2).

Members approved of the recommendations and called for an additional meeting to discuss and implement the ‘inform’ stage of the recommendation.

AM referred to the Ministerial Communications Protocols requiring the Minister to approve external Media 3 weeks in advance. AM noted that priority approvals would be sought subject to CRG endorsement of the Community Engagement Plan.

6 Other Matters Raised

GT commented with regards to planning for the future, that consideration be given to the potential increase of boating activity as well as road activity. Climate change is also a factor that needs to be considered eg. Floating fishing platforms.
Members asked who was the ultimate decision maker in the process. AM stated this would be the Minister for Transport in Government. MN responded with a proviso that Government agrees to fund the bridge replacement. Until then he believes the ultimate decision lies with Council.

PC enquired about funding availability for the community engagement process and the project business case. AM responded that funding for the appointment of a consultant to write the business case would be sourced by Government. The City would fund the community engagement process.

PH commented that some members of the community would still like to see the ‘Old Bridge’ retained for pedestrian use only. This highlighted a course of action required in the community engagement process to produce Frequently Asked Questions.

Meeting closed at 11.50 am

Next Meeting: **Monday 3 December at 9.30 am**
Conference Room, City of Mandurah