

WestConnex M8 Air Quality Community Consultative Committee (AQCCC) Meeting 2

Meeting: WestConnex M8 Air Quality Community Consultative Committee (AQCCC) Meeting 2

Date: Tuesday 1 June 2021

Time: 6pm-7pm

Location: Meeting held via Zoom

Attendees: Independent Chair (IC) Stephen Lancken
Associate and Notetaker Lynette Edwards
WestConnex | Transurban
Fulton Hogan Egis O&M Contractor (FHEO&M)
Inner West Council
Georges River Council
Canterbury Bankstown Council
Community Representatives

Apologies: Kingsgrove Community Member

Meeting Notes

Key Matters Discussed and Presented

1. Welcome and Introductions

1.1. No questions raised.

2. Community Update: WestConnex|Transurban (presentation attached)

2.1. Slide 7 shows that there were zero complaints relating to the M8 tunnels. Does that number relate to complaints made about in-tunnel air quality or ambient air quality?

2.1.1. The number is for both in-tunnel air quality and surface air quality.

2.1.2. There were a few complaints when the tunnel opened relating to construction dust and a complaint was later received about a smoky truck. Since that time there have been no complaints regarding air quality.

2.2. Who was notified of the opening of the shared footpath and cycleway?

2.2.1. A community letterbox drop was undertaken to a small geographical area, located close to the area, as a soft opening.

2.2.2. Information was also posted on Facebook.

2.2.3. When larger areas of the St Peter's interchange open there will be a larger opening event.

2.2.4. WestConnex public art: Canal to Creek Online Portal video can be found at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6MnW_dbpPnk&t=1s

3. Operations and Maintenance FHEO&M (presentation attached)

3.1. How far apart are the sprinklers of the water deluge system in the tunnel?

3.1.1. There are different zones in the tunnels, each zone spans between 25 - 30 metres.

3.1.2. Within a zone the sprinklers vary between five (5) and ten (10) metres apart.

4. Air Quality Reporting WestConnex|Transurban (presentation attached)

4.1. Air quality data was not available for December 2020 on the Linkt website, what happened to the data?

4.1.1. Data published on the Linkt website is published under the last date of the month. This date did not get recorded as December for the December report. The report was on the website titled with the incorrect month. The date has been updated to 1 December, instead of 31 December, and the data for December 2020 can be viewed online.

4.2. Has the impact of COVID-19 had a positive effect on air pollution due to reduced traffic as people worked from home and reduced their movements?

4.2.1. There was a significant reduction in vehicle numbers at the start of COVID-19 pandemic last year, compared to pre-COVID-19. However, more than four (4) months ago, vehicle numbers returned to pre-COVID-19 levels.

4.3. When the COVID-19 lock down occurred, was there an improvement in the in-tunnel and ambient air quality recordings?

4.3.1. Ambient air quality remained stable throughout this time.

4.3.2. In-tunnel pollution levels are very low. The only pollutant that reduced during this time was NO_x which indicates reduced traffic pollution.

4.3.3. During morning peak travel times, between 6am and 9am, there was a decrease in NO_x levels detected, when the lock-down in Sydney was implemented.

- 4.3.4. Dr Longley, the Independent Air Quality Expert, will be able to talk to about the levels of NOx, as part of his analysis when he next attends a meeting.
- 4.4. When is Dr Longley next expected to attend the AQCCC?
- 4.4.1. After the last AQCCC meeting Dr Longley indicated that there was not enough post operational data to provide meaningful assessment. There needs to be 6-12 months of post operational data for better analysis. This follows the M4 tunnel model.
- 4.4.2. In the interim, the Environment officer from WestConnex and the Environment and Community Manager of FHEO&M will be able to provide data as captured.
- 4.5. Are the numbers of vehicles movements in the tunnel available to the public?
- 4.5.1. Yes, traffic figures can be found on the NSW Toll Road Data website:
<https://nswtollroaddata.com/>
- 4.5.2. All traffic results are published on the Transurban website:
<https://www.transurban.com/investor-centre/asx-releases>
- 4.6. A community member compared air quality figures for PM2.5 pollutant post opening, to 2015 and 2016 figures and found that Campbell Street PM2.5 pollutant had increased by 1.3 micrograms per cubic metre, even though the ambient air quality had improved by half a microgram per cubic metre. They noted a 10.4 micrograms per cubic metre on average which would become an exceedance if it continued to increase at this rate. The member would be interested in Dr Longley's views.
- 4.6.1. Dr Longley focuses on NOx as it is the best measure for vehicle tail pipe pollutants. PM2.5 can be caused by factors other than vehicles.
- 4.6.2. If the analysis is forwarded to the IC, it can be passed on to Dr Longley.
- 5. Question on notice from the previous AQCCC meeting of 16 March, 2021: Item 7.1 – FHEO&M, answered in presentation (attached)**
- 5.1. Can 11-12pm hourly raw data be rolled over into the next days' reporting to make a 24 hour report each day?
- 5.1.1. Response captured in slide 16 of the presentation by FHEO&M.
- 5.2. Comment by FHEO&M: An audit was conducted under E12 Conditions of Approval, Ambient Air Quality Monitoring and E27 In-tunnel and Ventilation Air Quality Monitoring. No non-compliances were found. The report will be made available to the AQCCC members shortly and will be uploaded to the project website soon.
- 6. Other business**
- 6.1. The Senior Communications Advisor is taking maternity leave and the Senior Manager, Community Engagement NSW & WestConnex will be taking the lead on the meetings.
- 6.1.1. The AQCCC members congratulated the Communications Advisor and wished her well.

6.2. Next meeting is scheduled for 7 September 2021.

Meeting closed at 6:40pm

These minutes were accepted on 25 June 2021 by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Lancken". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Stephen Lancken

Independent Chair

M8 AQCCC

Tuesday 1 June 2021– MEETING 2



Meeting Agenda

Item No.	Discussion	Time	Responsibility
1.	Welcome and introductions	5 mins	Independent Chair
2.	Project and Community Update	15 mins	Desiree Mousavi (WestConnex)
3.	Operations and Maintenance Update	15 mins	Justin Hazelbrook
4.	Air Quality Operational Exceedances	25 mins	Kris Hincks (WestConnex)
5.	Previous Questions on Notice	10 mins	Justin Hazelbrook & Kris Hincks
6.	Other business	5 mins	Independent Chair

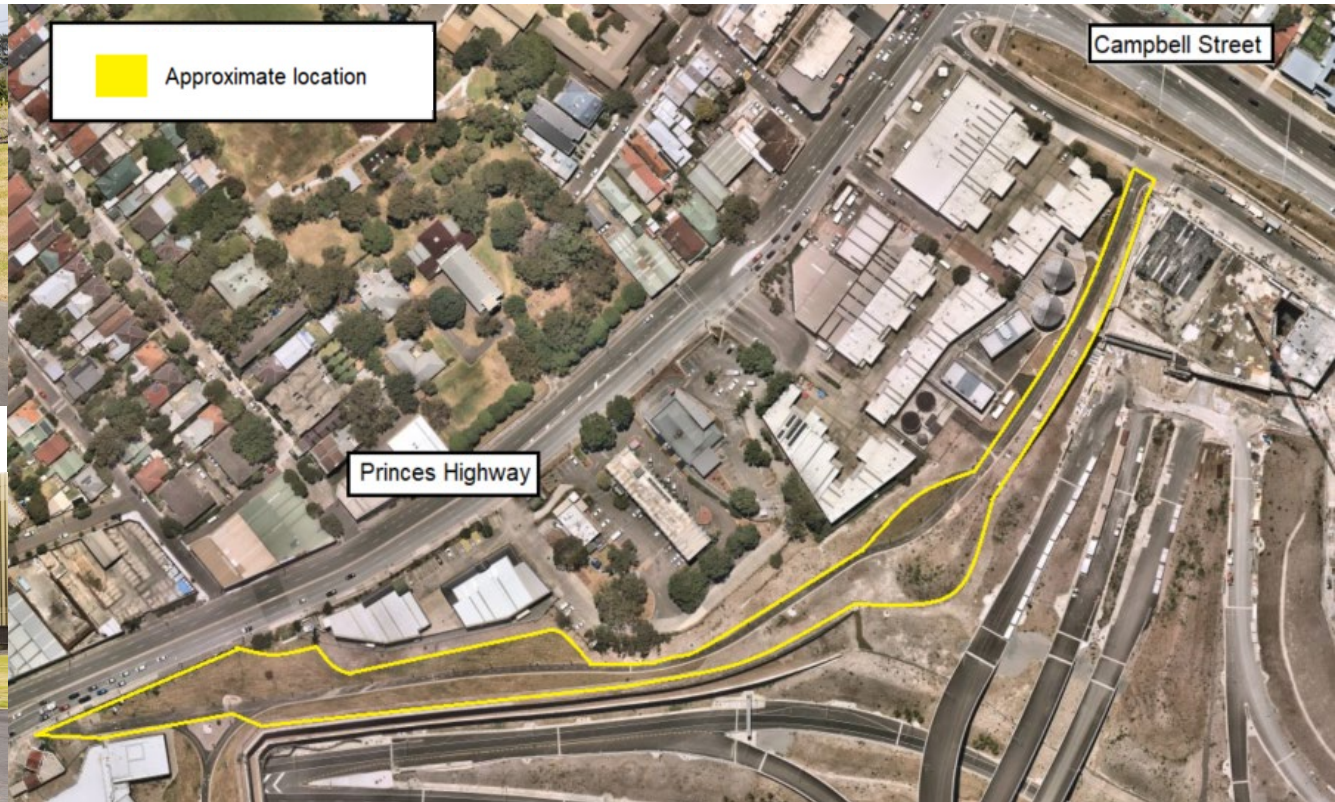
National Reconciliation Week

WestConnex | Transurban is committed to fostering Indigenous Reconciliation and recognition wherever possible. As part of National Reconciliation Week 2021, our portals and bridge piers have been lit up yellow, to raise awareness of this important movement.



Project & Community Update

The shared path at the St Peters Interchange opened as scheduled on opening at SPI Saturday 15 May. The shared path allows pedestrians and cyclists to bypass the Princes Highway footpath and travel from the corner of Princes Highway & Canal Road to Albert Street/ Campbell Road.



Canal to Creek Portal Launch

- In May, we launched the Canal to Creek – WestConnex Public Art Portal which is one of Australia's largest public art education programs.
- The portal and program was designed in partnership with the Visual Arts & Design Educators Association to fit the NSW Visual Arts Curriculum.
- You can experience the portal here: www.canaltocreek.com/wcx/art



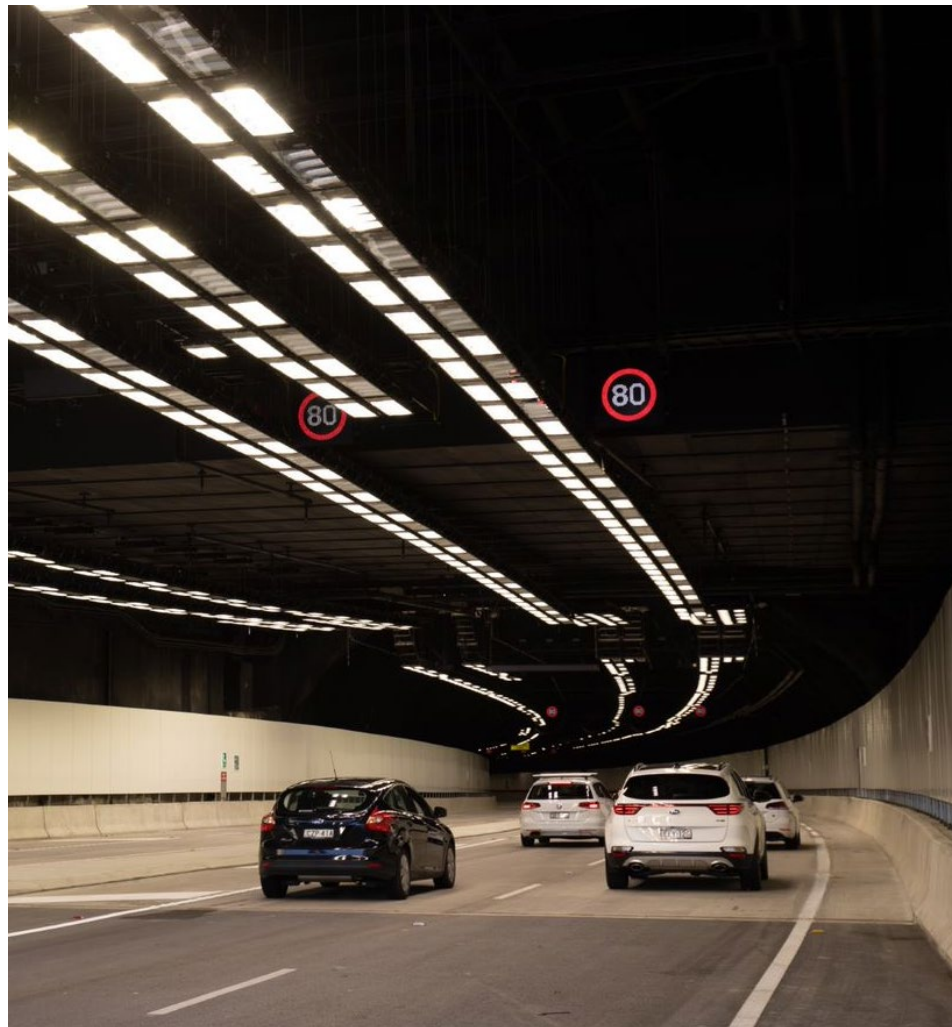
Canal to Creek - continued

St Peters Fences playground, designed by artist Mike Hewson, has won the NSW Parks and Leisure Australia, Playspace Award.



Community Complaints

- Since the last M8 AQCCC meeting we have received zero complaints relating to Air Quality for the M8 Tunnels.



Operation and Maintenance

Justin Hazelbrook



Incident Response

- Incident Reporting Statistics



	February	March	April
Total No of Incidents	119	153	124
No of Incidents (Peak)	83	116	112
No of Incidents (Non-Peak)	36	37	25
Average Response Time (Peak) (minutes)	6	6.5	7.6
Average Response Time (Non-Peak) (minutes)	5.8	8.6	8.1

Maintenance

- M8 Maintenance Tunnel Closure

- Fire Deluge Systems
- Tunnel Message Signs
- Jet Fans
- Air Conditioning Systems
- Motorist Emergency Telephone System
- Fire Doors
- Air Quality Monitoring System
- Tunnel Lighting



Air quality reporting

Kris Hincks



Air quality reporting

- Exceedances occurring since Last Meeting

- **27/4/2021– Ambient – PM_{2.5}**
 - 8 stations recorded a 24hr exceedance.
- **30/4/2021– Ambient – PM_{2.5}**
 - Arncliffe 1. Kingsgrove (MOC 1) and Kingsgrove Rd stations recorded a 24hr exceedance.
- **3/5/2021– Ambient – PM_{2.5}**
 - 8 stations recorded a 24hr exceedance. Independent Expert (EMM) review of ambient air quality data found that the operation of the tunnel has not caused nor is a major contributor to the above-goal recording
- **4/5/2021– Ambient – PM_{2.5}**
 - 6 stations recorded a 24hr exceedance.
- For the above exceedances the Independent Expert's (EMM) review of ambient air quality data found that the operation of the tunnel has not caused nor is a major contributor to the above-goal recording due to
 - elevated concentrations and similar diurnal profile recorded across all sites is indicative of a regional influence on recorded concentrations, rather than any localised impact from ventilation outlets;
 - a number of hazard reduction burns taking place caused smoke across the Sydney basin which lingered until a change in weather conditions on 5 May 2021; and
 - none of the ventilation outlets recorded above-limit readings.

Air quality reporting

- Exceedances occurring since last meeting

- **3/5/2021– Vent Outlet – Total Solids**

- Report certified by Independent Expert (EMM) confirmed that exceedance was caused by elevated ambient particulate levels caused by hazard reduction burns being drawn into the tunnel.

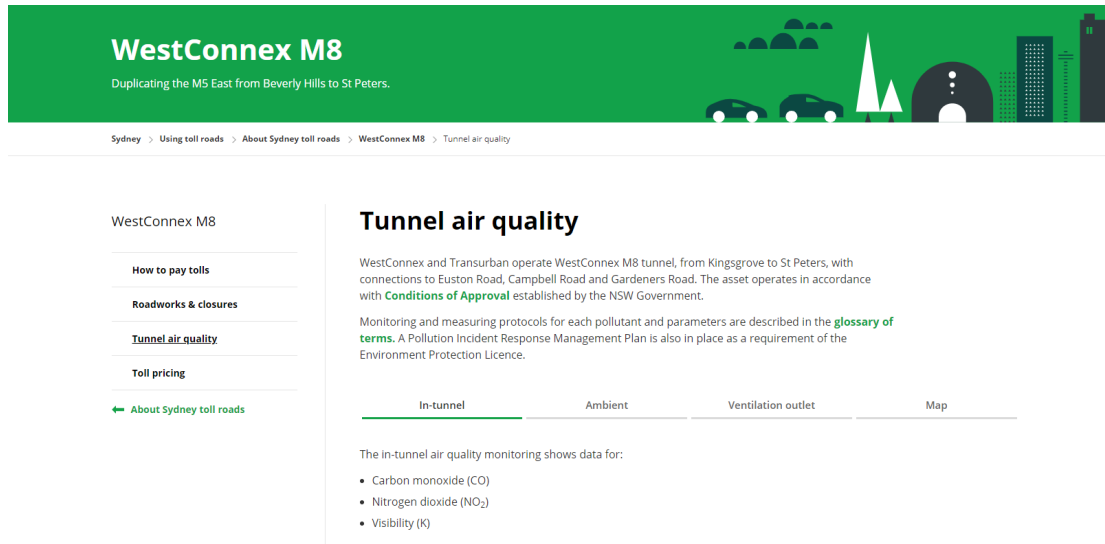
- **4/5/2021– Vent Outlet – VOC**

- Report certified by Independent Expert (EMM) confirmed that the 1 hour rolling average did not exceed its limit. The instantaneous reading was incorrectly reported

Air quality Real Time Reporting

- [Linkt Website](#)

- **Linkt Website**
- <https://www.linkt.com.au/sydney/using-toll-roads/about-sydney-toll-roads/westconnex-m8/tunnel-air-quality>



The screenshot shows the 'WestConnex M8' page on the Linkt website. The header is green with the text 'WestConnex M8' and 'Duplicating the M5 East from Beverly Hills to St Peters.' Below the header is a navigation breadcrumb: 'Sydney > Using toll roads > About Sydney toll roads > WestConnex M8 > Tunnel air quality'. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains a sidebar with links: 'How to pay tolls', 'Roadworks & closures', 'Tunnel air quality' (highlighted), 'Toll pricing', and 'About Sydney toll roads'. The right column is titled 'Tunnel air quality' and contains text about the tunnel's operation and air quality monitoring. Below the text is a horizontal navigation bar with four tabs: 'In-tunnel' (selected), 'Ambient', 'Ventilation outlet', and 'Map'. The 'In-tunnel' tab shows a list of pollutants: Carbon monoxide (CO), Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), and Visibility (K).

WestConnex M8
Duplicating the M5 East from Beverly Hills to St Peters.

Sydney > Using toll roads > About Sydney toll roads > WestConnex M8 > Tunnel air quality

WestConnex M8

- How to pay tolls
- Roadworks & closures
- Tunnel air quality**
- Toll pricing
- ← About Sydney toll roads

Tunnel air quality

WestConnex and Transurban operate WestConnex M8 tunnel, from Kingsgrove to St Peters, with connections to Euston Road, Campbell Road and Gardeners Road. The asset operates in accordance with **Conditions of Approval** established by the NSW Government.

Monitoring and measuring protocols for each pollutant and parameters are described in the **glossary of terms**. A Pollution Incident Response Management Plan is also in place as a requirement of the Environment Protection Licence.

In-tunnel Ambient Ventilation outlet Map

The In-tunnel air quality monitoring shows data for:

- Carbon monoxide (CO)
- Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂)
- Visibility (K)

Questions on notice from prior meeting



Questions from March AQCCC

- 24-Hour Averaging of data

- Question -

- *“Can 11-12pm hourly raw data be rolled over into the next days reporting to make a 24 hour report each day? 11pm-11pm”*
- Monitoring of Carbon Monoxide (CO) and Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) are calculated on differing averages. CO is calculated based on an 8-hour rolling average and NO₂ is based on a 1 hour average. PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} are the only two monitored parameters calculated based on a 24-hour average.
- The confusion in reporting was start time vs. end time. The National Environmental Protection Measure (NEPM) specifies daily averages so for hourly averages that would be 00:00 - 23:00 (start time) or can be alternatively written as 01:00 - 00:00 (end time).
- WestConnex is currently reporting as start time, so we are in fact reporting 24 hours of data

Other Business

