

MINUTES

UNSCHEDULED MEETING OF COUNCIL

Friday, 18 September 2020

Held Swan Hill Town Hall
McCallum Street, Swan Hill
Commenced at 4pm

COUNCIL:

Cr B Moar – Mayor

Cr A Young
Cr LT McPhee
Cr J Benham
Cr C Jeffery
Cr L Johnson
Cr N McKay

Confirmed 20 October 2020

Chairperson.....

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SECTION A – PROCEDURAL MATTERS

- **Welcome**

Mayor, Councillor Bill Moar assumed the chair and declared the meeting open at 4pm.

- **Acknowledgement of Country**

Mayor, Councillor Bill Moar read the Acknowledgement of Country.

- **Prayer**

Cr Lea Johnson read the prayer.

- **Apologies/Leaves of Absence**

Nil

Recommendations

That the apologies be accepted.

- **Directors/Officers Present**

John McLinden, Chief Executive Officer
Bruce Myers, Director Community and Cultural Services
Heather Green, Director Development and Planning
Svetla Petkova, Director Infrastructure
Helen Morris, Acting Director Corporate Services
Sharon Lindsay, Executive Assistant

SECTION B – REPORTS

B.20.77 ADVOCACY - MCCALLUM STREET BRIDGE ALIGNMENT

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer
File Number: S84-02-03
Attachments: 1 Transport of NSW - community consultation

Declarations of Interest:

John McLinden - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

Summary

Transport for NSW are about to commence community consultation with respect to the McCallum Street Bridge alignment for the Swan Hill Bridge replacement.

Discussion

Transport for NSW has now advertised the community consultation program for the consideration of a new alignment for the replacement of the Swan Hill Bridge over the Murray River. The new alignment is referred to as the McCallum Street alignment.

Discussions around the proposed alignment for the Swan Hill Bridge have been held within the community for many years. This Council has debated the merits of various alignments over the last decade.

The Swan Hill Rural City Council's official position with respect to the bridge alignment was resolved 15 April 2014.

This Council's position is "That Council endorse option 4B or a 4B variation as its preferred bridge option."

Council will be required to represent its community's view in the open consultation being conducted by Transport for NSW.

The central question is "For the purpose of the open community consultation, Does Council support the McCallum Street alignment or the formally gazetted 9A alignment".

The McCallum Street alignment is a suitable alignment that will address the needs of the community and allow a new bridge to finally be built. Council still prefers Option 4B or Alternative over any plans for a 9A bridge alignment and should maintain that position if the McCallum Street alignment is not able to be built.

Consultation

Nil.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Social Implications

A safe and efficient crossing over the Murray River will aid the growth and development of the communities that live either side of the river.

Economic Implications

An efficient bridge crossing will aid the economic growth of Victoria and NSW.

Environmental Implications

Nil.

Risk Management Implications

Nil.

Council Plan Strategy Addressed

Governance and leadership - Effective advocacy and strategic planning.

Options

1. Support the McCallum Street bridge alignment over the 9A alignment in the open community consultation.
2. Support the 9A bridge alignment over the McCallum Street alignment in the open community consultation.
3. Take no position on this matter.

Recommendation

That Council support the McCallum Street bridge alignment over the 9A alignment in the open community consultation.

81/20 Motion

MOVED Cr Jeffery

That Council;

SECTION B - REPORTS

18 September 2020

1. **Support the McCallum Street bridge alignment over the 9A alignment in the open community consultation.**
2. **Still supports Option 4B or 4B Alternative over any plans for a 9A bridge and maintains that position if the McCallum Street alignment is not able to be built.**
3. **Makes a submission to the Transport for NSW community consultation on the alignment of the Swan Hill Bridge setting out Council's position.**

SECONDED Cr McPhee

The Motion was put and CARRIED

Have your say

Your feedback will help to inform the preferred alignment for a future bridge at Swan Hill.

You can submit your feedback about Option 2a or McCallum Street Option:

- nswhighways.projects@transport.nsw.gov.au
- southwest.projects@transport.nsw.gov.au

Swan Hill Bridge, PO Box 484, Wodonga, Wodonga, NSW 2650

Comments and feedback will be accepted until **5pm on Friday 18 October 2020**

What happens next?

We will consider your feedback on the preferred option and prepare a community feedback summary report.

If feedback strongly favours the McCallum Street Option over Option 2a, we will seek endorsement from the NSW and Victorian governments.

The NSW and Victorian governments have not committed funding for a future bridge at this stage. Transport for NSW will continue working closely with the Victorian Department of Transport to progress this important project.

Find out more

An information session will be held online on **Monday 21 September at 1pm**

Register at seminars.work/tysswanhill today!

Why is the information session being held online?

We are holding an online information session due to current COVID-19 restrictions including border closures, and for the health and safety of the community and staff.

The event is an opportunity to learn more about the two options, ask questions and get real-time answers from the project team. A recording will be available for viewing on the project website after the event.

More information, including links to previous planning documents, the bridge map strategy and frequently asked questions, can also be found on the project website.

Contact us:

If you have any questions or would like more information about planning for a future bridge over the Murray River at Swan Hill please contact our project team:

Senior Project Manager, Joel Van Tassel
 02 8923 6550
southwest.projects@transport.nsw.gov.au
southwest.projects@transport.nsw.gov.au



The existing Swan Hill Bridge

The document contains proposed information about Transport for NSW's preferred option for a future bridge at Swan Hill. It is intended to provide information to help inform the community about the project and the preferred option. It is not intended to be a final decision. The project team will continue to work with the community to develop a preferred option for a future bridge at Swan Hill.

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Transport for NSW

Planning for a future Murray River crossing at Swan Hill

Community update



Aerial view of new bridge

- Improved freight and business productivity
- Safer, more reliable journeys
- Improving connectivity for access to healthcare, education and employment

Transport for NSW, in collaboration with the Victorian Department of Transport, is gathering for a future crossing over the Murray River at Swan Hill. You are invited to provide feedback about the preferred alignment following changes to the heritage status of the existing Swan Hill Bridge.

September 2020

Early planning for a future bridge

Between 2007 and 2009, the Victorian Department of Transport (formerly VicRoads) led early planning studies into a future bridge crossing over the Murray River at Swan Hill. At the time, the state heritage-listed Swan Hill Bridge would be retained.

A number of potential bridge route options were investigated and, following extensive community consultation, the NSW and Victorian governments approved Option 9a as the preferred route for a future bridge.

Changes to the timber truss road bridges strategy

In 2019, the NSW Government's timber truss road bridges strategy was amended after considerable work to better understand the structural capabilities of the various timber bridge types and the strengthening methods available.

Changes to the strategy included removing Swan Hill Bridge from the list of bridges to be retained. Tooleyburc Bridge was added to the list of bridges to be retained.

More information about these changes can be found by viewing *Timber Truss Road Bridges - A Strategic Approach to Conservation* on the project website at nswroads.work/hysswanhill

Reviewing the preferred option

Previously, the heritage status of the existing bridge was a constraint to considering building a future bridge on the existing alignment at McCallum Street.

As the bridge will be removed, it is now possible to investigate a McCallum Street Option. If community feedback strongly supports the McCallum Street Option we will seek endorsement from the NSW and Victorian governments before progressing to the next stage of planning.

We are seeking your feedback about the two options.

No new options, or those previously investigated and subsequently ruled out as being unviable or lacking local government or community support, will be considered.

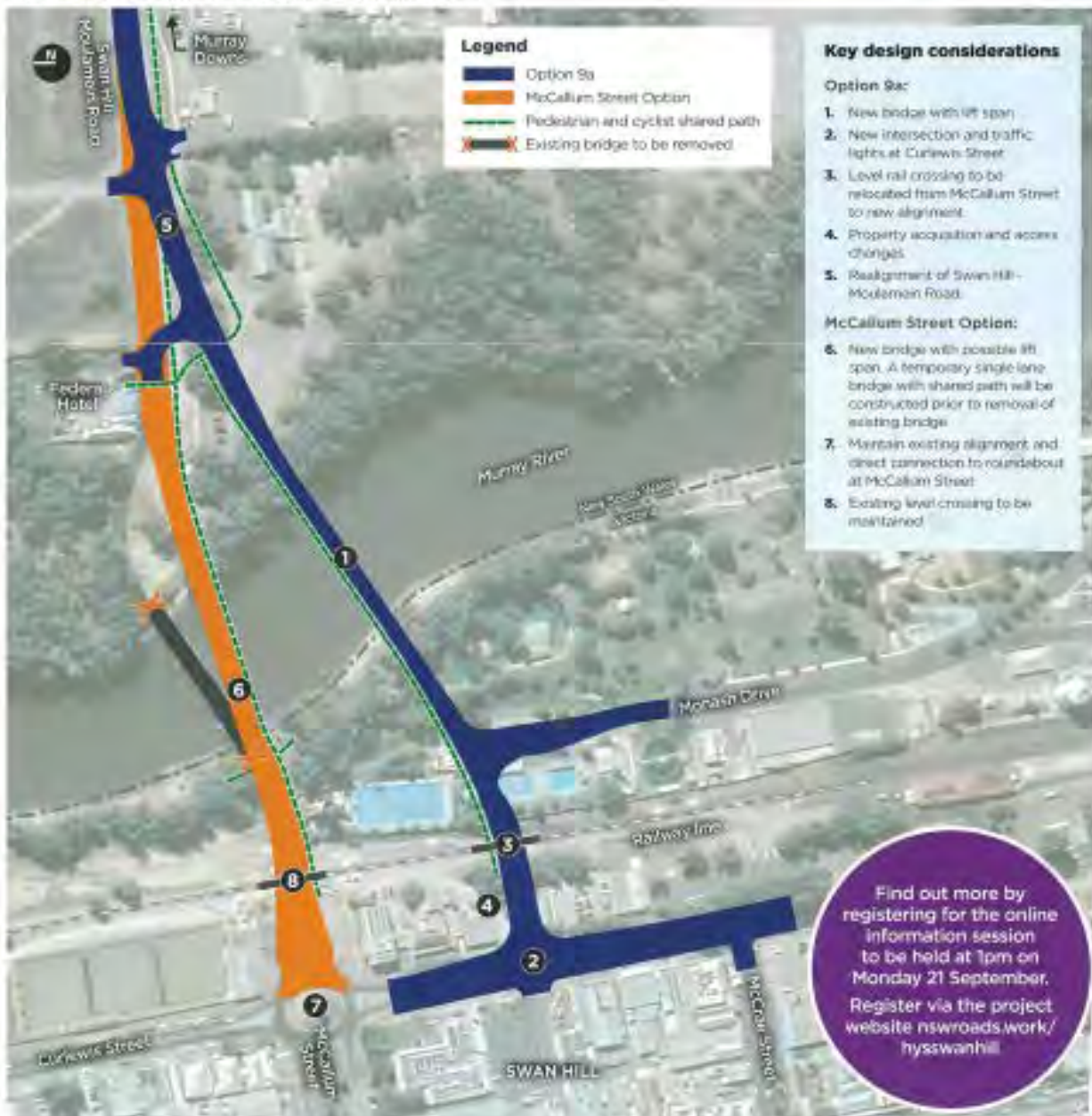
Recognising the history of Swan Hill Bridge

The existing bridge must be delisted from NSW and Victorian heritage registers before it can be removed.

As part of this process, we will consult with you about an appropriate way to recognise its history and importance in connecting the Swan Hill and Murray Downs communities.

We will let you know when we are starting this process so you can have your say.

McCallum Street Option and Option 9a concept design



10/2020/1206/001-01

New Hume River Bridge crossing at Swan Hill | Community Update

There being no further business the Mayor, Councillor Bill Moar closed the meeting at 4.23pm.