FROM THE CHAIR

Westport is a complex and multi-faceted project. In the context of developing our strategy to future-proof Perth’s freight transport network for the next 100 years, we are also crossing over into numerous topics, such as environment, fisheries, energy, industry, innovation, defence, tourism, planning, agriculture, local government, Aboriginal affairs, and more. As a result, Westport requires understanding and buy-in from a much larger number of stakeholders than most projects.

Due to the depth and breadth of this engagement, there has been a delay to the anticipated release of our *What we have found so far* report.

We are working to finalise the consultations and release the report as soon as possible. I will keep you updated on any developments. As a subscriber to this newsletter, you will be emailed a link to download the report on the day of its release.

We will still be having a public consultation period following the report launch. I strongly encourage you to read the report and provide your feedback via the survey that will be made available on [mysaytransport.wa.gov.au/westport](http://mysaytransport.wa.gov.au/westport) on the day of the release.

Meanwhile, the Westport Taskforce has moved into Stage 2 of our project, where we develop a range of port and transport options and scenarios across Fremantle, Bunbury and Kwinana.

For Stage 2, Westport has adopted an agile approach; this will result in outcomes being delivered much more swiftly than in Stage 1. We look forward to being able to share our findings with you with more frequency, especially as we are now entering a stage where our deliverables will be more tangible, such as how different port combinations may operate and connect with the transport network. We’re not quite there yet, but it certainly won’t be too long. Much of this information will be communicated spatially through maps and models being created by Westport’s GIS team.

Nicole Lockwood
Westport Taskforce Chair

Westport is continuing to work very closely with our various Reference and Steering Groups comprising over 80 organisations. We also have teams of subject matter experts providing their time, advice and analysis on the Stage 2 work packages – commercial; land, activities and utilities; port operations and supply chain; environmental; and defence-related opportunities. I sincerely thank all those individuals and organisations who have dedicated – and continue to dedicate – their time and expertise to Westport; you are critical to the success of the project.

I will be in touch again soon to announce the release of *What we have found so far* and provide you with a link. In the meantime, please keep continuing to ask questions and engaging with Westport on our consultation portal, [mysaytransport.wa.gov.au/westport](http://mysaytransport.wa.gov.au/westport).

Nicole
Independent Chair
Westport Taskforce
Westport has been delighted with the success of our online consultation portal, mysaytransport.wa.gov.au/westport, since it launched in September 2018.

There have been more than 2,500 hits with nearly 2,000 unique users in the two months since the launch. Visitors are spending an average of 10 minutes on the site, which shows that people are engaging with the content.

More than 500 comments have been placed on the interactive map. Most of comments have centred on people’s concerns relating to potential impacts on Cockburn Sound, the loss of the Kwinana horse beach and optimising Fremantle Port before undertaking any new development.

While these comments are being considered and responded to by the Westport team, the interactive map is not intended to act as a public poll or popularity test of different port and freight route options. However, the feedback and data supplied provides important consultation, input and evidence for the project team. Westport wants to ensure that we are hearing the views and opinions of as many community members as possible.

Everyone is encouraged to share the link, www.mysaytransport.wa.gov.au/westport, among their networks and post their views on the various consultations.

Fremantle Ports Maritime Day

Thousands of visitors attended Fremantle Port’s highly successful tenth annual Maritime Day at Victoria Quay in Fremantle on Saturday 29 October 2018 – and Westport was there to answer questions.

Westport’s stall was in the B-Shed along with many other port and freight-related exhibitors, providing people with the opportunity to discuss the project with team members including Westport Director, Tim Collins (pictured).

The Maritime Day offered many interesting activities and exhibits for both children and adults, which attracted thousands of people from across the Perth metro area and regional areas. Westport would like to thank Fremantle Ports for the opportunity to attend.
ON THE ROAD

DEFENCE-RELATED OPPORTUNITIES

On 30 October, Westport Independent Chair, Nicole Lockwood, and Director, Tim Collins, attended the Western Australian Indo-Pacific Defence Conference 2018 in Burswood. They heard from strategic thinkers from the military, industry, academia and government on the role WA will play in defence and security in the Indo-Pacific region in the future.

At the conference, Defence West launched a major report, Western Australian Defence and Defence Industries Strategic Plan, produced by Major General Jeff Sengelman. This report will play a large role in shaping Westport’s Defence-Related Opportunities Work Stream, currently under development for Stage 2 of the project.

There is considerable interest in expanding WA’s defence facilities and supporting industries, including Garden Island’s HMAS Stirling Naval Base, which is already Australia’s largest naval base, and the Australian Marine Complex in Henderson. Defence has been touted as a possible growth industry for WA that could generate an increase in jobs and economic development.

Any recommendations in the final Westport Strategy regarding defence infrastructure planning or impacting Cockburn Sound will need to take the Australian Defence Force’s objectives into account.

ON THE ROAD

This has been a very busy month of presentations and events for the Westport team:

• 16 October – Nicole Lockwood spoke about the importance of efficient infrastructure and freight routes for the whole community on a panel that included State Treasurer, Hon. Ben Wyatt MLA, at a Town of Victoria Park Business Breakfast.

• 16 October – Nicole presented about Westport’s work on freight rail to the ARA Heavy Haul Rail Conference.

• 22 October – Nicole shared her career journey and learnings as a leading infrastructure advisor to the Murdoch University Young Professionals Network.

• 24 October – Westport Director, Tim Collins, explained the project to a group of Master’s students at Curtin University.

• 29 October – the Westport team manned a display and answered questions at the Fremantle Ports Maritime Day.

• 30 October – Nicole and Tim attended the WA Indo-Pacific Defence Conference 2018.

• 1 November – Nicole and Tim presented to the board and staff at the South West Catchment Council in Bunbury before participating in a tour of the Bunbury Port, waterfront and Dolphin Discovery Centre organised by the South West Development Commission.

• 2 November – Nicole presented alongside Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food, Hon. Alannah MacTiernan MLA, at the Committee for Economic Development Australia (CEDA) South-West Regional Update in Bunbury.
GLOBAL INNOVATION IN FREIGHT

The Westport Taskforce is keeping abreast of developments in port and freight technology so that we can ensure our final Strategy utilises world’s best practice.

Here are some of the innovations in freight logistics that are currently being trialled around the world.

**Onshore Power Supply (OPS)**

Onshore Power Supply is a strategy recommended for ports by the World Port Climate Initiative. When berthed, ships require considerable electricity to support loading, unloading, heating, cooling, lighting and other activities. Usually this power is generated by using the ships’ diesel-powered auxiliary engines, which emit carbon dioxide and other emissions that may affect local air quality.

As a result, some ports around the world are introducing OPS, which involves the port supplying power to the berthed ship from an onshore (usually cleaner) energy source. The Port of Kiel in Germany which intends to have a 4.5 megawatt facility operating by 2020 that will power half of its ship calls, including large ferries and cruise ships.

**Blockchain container logistics**

Blockchain-based distributed ledger technology is considered to have enormous potential to improve efficiencies in the world of asset transfer and movements and data security.

According to the Port of Rotterdam’s chief financial officer, Paul Smits, quoted in a recent Greenport article, an average of 28 parties are involved in transporting one container from China to Rotterdam.

In a move to improve efficiencies, Rotterdam has partnered with ABC AMRO and Samsung SDS to, for the first time, connect different blockchains to operate together. Integrating the physical, financial and administrative distribution blockchains should result in much smoother container logistics. Initial results should be available in early 2019.

**Autonomous freight**

Many operators in the freight and logistics industry worldwide are excited about the potential of autonomous trucks and vessels to provide smoother, safer and more efficient transfer of goods.

According to a recent article in Business Insider, some industry players believe self-driving trucks will be the norm as early as the next decade. However, achieving this would require considerable modifications to existing legislation, roads and highways, as well as social acceptance.

Locally, companies such as Rio Tinto and Fortescue Metals Group have been using autonomous vehicles on their mine sites for several years.

Meanwhile, companies such as Rolls-Royce Marine have claimed autonomous shipping is the future of the maritime industry, starting with tugs that can be remotely operated from a nearby control centre, and in the long-term, using a land-based control centre staffed by just 7 to 14 people to monitor and control an entire fleet of large ocean-going ships around the world.

Ports experimenting with robots, artificial intelligence and other digital tools are becoming increasingly common around the world.
U.N. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

As part of the Westport Taskforce’s commitment to sustainability, a workshop was held on 7 November 2018 to explore the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and how these might be impacted by the Westport Strategy.

Steve Lennon, President of the WA chapter of the United Nations Association for Australia, and Kieren Heikkinen, WA Case Manager for the Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia (ISCA), also presented at the workshop.

ISCA are independently verifying the sustainability performance of the Westport project through the Infrastructure Sustainability (IS) V2.0 Rating Scheme.

The SDGs, listed in full at SDG Compass, cover all aspects of life and range from ending poverty to creating sustainable cities and communities.

Australia joined other United Nations member states in committing to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs in September 2015.

Although Westport is a planning-only project, it is developing an approach to apply infrastructure sustainability practices throughout all future infrastructure lifecycle stages, including design, construction and operation, that will help achieve the SDGs by 2030.

The outcomes of the workshop provide an initial impression of how the SDG’s might apply to a final preferred port and freight network strategy.

What’s on the Westport calendar?

- 22 November – briefing to the City of Cockburn council.
- 27 November – presentation at the PIANC Working with Nature seminar.

Westport is eager to speak about our project!

If you have an event coming up and would like to invite Westport to present, please contact Westport on enquiries@westport.wa.gov.au

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