FROM THE CHAIR

In January’s Project Update, I promised that Westport would share our progress and findings with you during the year. I am pleased to announce that Westport is launching a series of regular publications called the Westport Beacon.

Each issue of the Beacon will explain various components of Westport’s work and investigations which, together, will form the evidence base that will determine the final strategy.

The first issue, to be released this month, is an introduction to the Westport Beacon and explains its purpose and content. Future editions will explore Westport’s technical work – covering supply chain, port operations, environment, economic development, land activities and commercial analysis – in more detail.

Our intent is that by sharing these more detailed insights into the workings of the project team, you will gain a deeper understanding of how Westport has formed its final strategy and provide you with confidence in the final outcome.

Subscribers to this newsletter will receive each issue of the Beacon when it is released. Expect to receive the first edition shortly. We encourage you to forward the Westport Beacon to anyone who shares an interest in the project and urge them to sign up to Westport’s mailing list if they haven’t already.

We will continue to ask for your input on various topics throughout the year. Please keep providing your feedback and comments as they will help shape Westport’s final strategy.

There is currently a community survey open at mysaytransport.wa.gov.au/westport – make sure you have your say and share the link with your networks as well.

The Westport project team, in collaboration with our Taskforce members, has been busy finalising the multi-criteria assessment (MCA), which will narrow down the long-list of options to the one which best fits the essential criteria.

An upcoming issue of the Westport Beacon will explain the MCA process in more detail, and subsequent editions will outline the results of the first high-level MCA and second comprehensive MCA.

I am always happy to speak about Westport’s progress personally, so please do not hesitate to invite me to present at your events and conferences this year. Simply email the invitation and event details to enquiries@westport.wa.gov.au.

Thank you again for your ongoing support of the project, and I look forward to seeing you at a Westport event soon.

Sincerely,

Nicole Lockwood
Independent Chair
Westport Taskforce
Westport briefings in Bunbury
27 February

Nicole Lockwood visited Bunbury in late February to deliver a series of presentations for interested community members and industry stakeholders.

We were delighted to see a turnout of more than 80 people at a Bunbury Geographe Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BGCCI) breakfast. Nicole provided a summary of Westport’s Eight Strategic Options and explained how Stage 2 of the project is investigating these options in detail. Each option will be tested against a series of key criteria, including supply chain links, land availability, costings, commerciality, and environmental and social impacts. There was a lot of interest around the three options that see Bunbury Port handling part or all of Perth’s shipping container trade in the long-term.

Nicole also delivered a presentation for the Bunbury Leschenault Rotary Club (BLRC), gave a briefing to key industry stakeholders and spoke to several local media outlets.

Westport extends its thanks to the BGCCI, BLRC and the South West Development Commission for partnering with us on these initiatives. Westport will be returning to Bunbury on Thursday 6 June for another round of presentations, by which time there will be a lot of news to report.

Australian Logistics Forum, Melbourne, 5-7 March

Nicole Lockwood travelled to Melbourne in early March to present to 400 delegates at the Australian Logistics Council (ALC) Forum. The ALC is the peak membership body representing Australia’s logistics supply chain customers, providers and infrastructure owners in supply chain efficiency and safety. Attendees covered the entire supply chain – road, rail, airports, sea ports and intermodal terminals.

Nicole spoke about the main findings from Stage 1 of Westport’s process; the Eight Strategic Options; and the Stage 2 scope and work streams. She also covered Westport’s work on the multi-criteria assessment (MCA) and the next steps for the project. A range of senior industry representatives provided positive feedback about the integrated planning approach, with many interested in applying the Westport model in their jurisdiction.
Free Westport community events in May and June

Westport is working with local councils to facilitate a series of free community events in May and June in jurisdictions impacted by the freight network. Independent Chair of the Westport Taskforce, Nicole Lockwood, will present the project’s latest progress and findings, as well as answering questions from the audience.

Details of the events and links to register are as follows:

- **City of Cockburn** – 7.30am-9.00am, Tuesday 7 May 2019
- **City of Rockingham** – 9.30am-11.00am, Thursday 16 May 2019
- **City of Melville** – 9.30am-11.00am, Wednesday 22 May 2019
- **City of Bunbury** – 7.30am-9.00am, Thursday 6 June 2019
- **City of Bunbury** – 5.30pm-7.00pm, Thursday 6 June 2019
- **City of Fremantle** – 9.30am-11.30am, Wednesday 15 May 2019

These locations are significant areas in Westport’s investigations and potential outcomes. Westport is eager to provide local residents with the opportunity to learn more about the project, ask questions and provide input directly to the Chair.

All events are free to attend. Registrations are essential as places are limited; please click on the links above to register your attendance. Light catering will be available.

Other Westport events in 2019

In alignment with key milestones and outcomes from Westport’s process, two rounds of community drop-in sessions will be conducted in the second half of the year. The first round of events will take place in August alongside the MCA, and the second round will occur when the draft strategy has been released for public comment.

These dynamic stand-up sessions allow community members to interact directly with the Westport project team and ask the difficult questions. You can drop in and leave at any time.

The events will feature materials showcasing Westport’s options, fact sheets and will be some of the last chances to provide input before the strategy is finalised.

This is an exciting opportunity to see what has materialised out of Westport’s investigations over the past two years. Details of these community drop-in sessions will be available soon. Registration is encouraged but not essential.

What’s coming up on the Westport calendar?

- **19 March 2019** – briefing for the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council
- **20 March 2019** – presentation at the 10th Annual WA Major Projects Conference
- **28 March 2019** – member event presentation for the Committee for Perth
- **5 April 2019** – presentation at the Trucking Australia 2019 conference
- **9 April 2019** – presentation for the Concrete Institute of Australia (WA Branch)

If you would like Westport to present at your upcoming event, please email your request and event details to enquiries@westport.wa.gov.au.