Wow, what a month it’s been! I was delighted to release the five Westport Beacons announcing the shortlist and MCA-1 outcomes. This marks a major milestone for the project – especially as the five shortlisted options all involve a new port in Kwinana. In essence, the release of the shortlist was confirmation that an Outer Harbour is needed to meet Western Australia’s freight demands for the next 50 years and beyond.

I know what many people will be saying: “This outcome was pre-determined from the very beginning”; “why did you even go through a process when the answer had already been decided?” I can whole-heartedly assure you that this is not the case.

Westport undertook its assessments objectively and independently based on robust evidence and consultation. This is the first time port, road, rail and intermodal have been considered holistically in answering the question of the capacity of Fremantle Port. Westport looked at every piece of the problem in a measured and systematic way and our findings are consistent with many previous port planning exercises dating back to the early 1950s.

Through the Beacons, we wanted to share the process, the inputs, the feedback that was integrated and the eventual outcomes to reassure you that Westport’s methodology is sound – even if you don’t like the options that made the shortlist.

This really is a complex problem to tackle, and I have written an opinion piece for WAtoday which explains the need to balance all the issues.

On that note, I acknowledge that the shortlisted options have challenges that must be addressed. I said from the outset that Westport had no ‘perfect option’ which would tick every box; every single option had different issues. For Kwinana, environmental impacts were the biggest concern.

The challenge now for Westport is to determine ways in which potential environmental impacts, particularly in Cockburn Sound, can be mitigated, managed or offset. We remain committed to our original goal of finding win-win opportunities and potentially even delivering net environmental benefits if possible.

The next steps for the project team – which are already well underway – are to flesh out the underlying details of the five shortlisted options and put them through a second, more rigorous multi-criteria analysis and cost-benefit analysis. All five options, regardless of how they ranked in the first MCA, are now being reassessed with a clean slate.

By early 2020, Westport aims to have a firm grasp of the likely location, design and costings of the new port, along with a staged transition plan and timings.

In the meantime, I invite you to join me at one of four free events where I will personally explain Westport’s shortlist, why the Outer Harbour is Perth’s best long-term option, why Bunbury didn’t make the cut and the ongoing role of Fremantle.
If you are interested in attending one of the events in Kwinana (10 September), Perth (12 September), Fremantle (18 September) or Cockburn (20 September), please register now at mysaytransport.wa.gov.au/Westport-events. Seats are limited and it’s first in, best dressed.

Once again, I am always happy to speak about Westport at your events and conferences. Please email the speaking invitation and event details to enquiries@westport.wa.gov.au.

Thank you once again for your support and ongoing engagement with Westport.

Sincerely,

Nicole Lockwood
Independent Chair
Westport Taskforce

Reaction to Westport’s shortlist announcement

The public response to Westport’s recently published shortlist has been overwhelming. Westport featured in The West; on Channel 7, 9 and ABC news; 6PR and ABC radio; and on WAtoday, The West and Business News websites.

Nicole extends her sincere thanks to all the media outlets for their interest and helping to spread the news about the proposed new port in Kwinana.

The release of the shortlisted options has also shown that opinions remain divided. Roe 8/9 continues to be of interest and much-debated in the community. As stated before, Roe 8/9 wasn’t officially considered in Westport’s technical studies as the State Government had made a firm commitment not to build that road corridor at the last State election based on the wishes of the WA public.

However, regardless of whether Roe 8/9 had been included, Westport’s first MCA process – which ranked the 25 options across a broad range of vital economic, social and environmental criteria – determined that the Kwinana options offered a far superior long-term (for the next 50 years and beyond) outcome over Fremantle, especially on social and economic factors.

Update on Westport’s timing and deliverables

At the start, Westport’s key deliverable was to be the Westport: Port and Environ Strategy. This phrase is in our logo, which appears on all of our materials.

However, as Westport progressed its studies – and with related technical work being conducted in parallel by other agencies – Westport realised the importance of integrating all of the results to be able to produce a holistic strategy.

The outcome of MCA-2 may be a preferred option or two options with trade-offs. Instead of a strategy, Westport will produce a Stage 2 Outcomes Report that will be delivered to Government by the end of the year for consideration. This will include:

- the outcomes of the second multi-criteria analysis and cost-benefit analysis on the shortlist
- the preferred option (or top two options if there is no obvious winner)
- timings, transitions, costings and other information about the preferred option
- impacts on bulk and other trades
- Aboriginal engagement strategy
- stakeholder and community input
- next steps/where to from here

The Government will reflect on Westport’s findings and recommendations over the summer period before providing a response in early 2020.

The final strategy can then be developed incorporating the preferred option.
Learn more about the shortlist and why a Kwinana port is necessary.

Westport has released its shortlist which confirms the need for an Outer Harbour. How was this conclusion reached? What does this mean for Fremantle Port and Cockburn Sound? Find out more at one of Westport’s four free events in September.

Nicole Lockwood will be sharing the process that Westport undertook to arrive at its shortlist and the underlying reasons that made the Fremantle and Bunbury options unviable for the long-term.

Register now as seats are limited:

- **Tuesday 10 September**
  Kwinana 7:30am to 9:00am
- **Thursday 12 September**
  Perth 5:30pm to 7:00pm
- **Wednesday 18 September**
  Fremantle 7:30am to 9:00am
- **Friday 20 September**
  Cockburn 7:30am to 9:00am

If you have any questions or are having trouble registering online, please contact us on 08 6551 6525 or enquiries@westport.wa.gov.au.

Digital Westport Beacon

Westport is very pleased to launch the Digital Westport Beacon alongside the release of the five Westport Beacons announcing the shortlist and MCA-1 outcomes.

This online, interactive narrative of Westport’s work showcases a series of story maps and apps. The digital maps are driven by spatial data collated by the Westport Location Intelligence Team, covering key themes such as environment, land use, port operations and supply chain.

The digital applications leverage Esri’s online GIS platform, ArcGIS Online and provide a portal for users to discover Westport’s geographic information.

Visitors to Westport Maps can explore a range of digital content from the history of port planning in WA to a closer look at our shortlist of the five best port and supply chain options to manage Perth’s long-term freight growth.

Westport events in September

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ON THE ROAD

Once again, May, June and July were incredibly busy for Nicole Lockwood, Westport’s Independent Chair.

The most notable activity during this time was the media contact after the release of the five Westport Beacons announcing the shortlist and outcomes of the MCA-1 process. Nicole’s press conference was very well-received and she spoke to nine media outlets and was featured on radio and television.

In August, Nicole was interviewed by Infrastructure Magazine, where she discussed the Westport Project and its scope, as well as the five shortlisted options and the findings of Westport so far. The article will be published in September 2019, so look out for it!

In addition to the events detailed below, Nicole addressed a group of Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) members in late May, discussing how to unlock economic development through better land use; gave a Westport update to a group of partners and directors at KPMG in July; presented at the Risk Management Institute of Australasia (RMIA) on 8 August to share the importance of social licence and the lessons learned from Westport’s major infrastructure project; and gave a Westport project update to the Local Government Agricultural Freight Group.

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ISCA 2019 Western Australia Conference and French Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 24 July 2019

Approximately 80 people attended the 2019 Infrastructure Sustainability Conference in Subiaco on 24 July. Local leaders and industry professionals took a deep dive into projects that are excelling in sustainable planning, design, and construction.

Nicole updated delegates on the Westport project and outlined how sustainability objectives are being applied. She also discussed stakeholder and Aboriginal engagement, how feedback is influencing project variables and how the Westport project is aligning with Infrastructure Australia’s requirements.

Immediately after the ISCA Conference, Nicole attended the French Chamber of Commerce and Industry event, bringing a very engaged audience of around 60 attendees up-to-date on Westport’s findings, options and process.

Community events

Eight community events were held in May, June and July in the suburbs of Cockburn, Fremantle, Rockingham, Melville, Bunbury, Kwinana and Cannington. Overall, 342 people attended to hear Nicole Lockwood present Westport’s latest progress and findings. Nicole explained Westport’s long-list of port and supply chain options and answered questions from the audience.

The questions varied in different locations, but generally ranged from the environment, recreation and Aboriginal heritage through to traffic congestion, road safety and rail impacts.
Influence of your feedback and input

The Westport project is actively engaging with its stakeholders and the community, seeking input and feedback, which have influenced the project variables. These variables include environmental and social win-win outcomes and offsets, community tolerances for trucks and safety and acceptable trade-offs and compromises.

If you attended one of the community sessions in May, June or July 2019, you would have had the opportunity to complete a community survey. As well as the survey responses, Westport has been collecting additional data from report consultations, events, interviews, focus groups and social values research. This data has been compiled and Westport are using it to understand community concerns and priorities.

Here is what you’ve told us:

Westport was set up by Government to proactively develop a future freight plan before it becomes urgent. Do you support this approach?

Total number of responses = 375

![Image: Response to community survey question about government planning]

Westport received 395 responses to this question on the community survey. It is clear that the community is supportive of a proactive planning process for new infrastructure.

Do you believe that Westport is following a sound process?

Total number of responses = 320

![Image: Response to community survey question about Westport’s process]

Over half of the respondents to this question on the community survey believe that Westport is using a thorough process to find a solution to Perth’s future freight needs.

![Image: Issues raised in public comments received on Westport’s interactive online map]

Overwhelmingly, we can see that Cockburn Sound and the general environment are high on the priority list. The Westport Beacon is providing insights into Westport’s work, outcomes and key issues and an upcoming Beacon will address environmental issues as outlined on the next page.
Westport Beacon environmental issue

Your feedback has told us that environmental and social issues are very important to you. Westport is listening, and in response to this feedback, we are planning on releasing a dedicated environmental Westport Beacon issue in September 2019.

Westport is giving equal priority to social, environmental and economic value, however balancing the three is challenging given every option has impacts. We are considering the issues that would normally be an afterthought and integrating these into the project from the start to maximise the influence of Westport’s outcomes.

The environmental Beacon will explain how the environment was weighted in Westport’s process, how environmental issues have been investigated from the beginning, and how the most damaging environmental outcomes have been avoided already, by knocking these out of the running through the first multi-criteria analysis (MCA-1) process.

If you are registered to receive updates from Westport, you will automatically receive the environmental Beacon when it is published.

If you haven’t registered yet and are interested in receiving news from us, please enter your details at https://www.mysaytransport.wa.gov.au/westportbeacon.

What’s coming up for Westport?

- 22 – 23 August 2019
  National Community Engagement for Infrastructure (NCEIF) Forum in Sydney, NSW

- 4 September 2019
  Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI) Location Intelligence Forum and Exhibition (LIFE2019): Chris Barber, Location Information Lead from Westport will discuss the Westport journey and the critical role of spatial data in the project

- 6 September 2019
  Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) WA Conference: The changing face of leadership in an age of disruption

- 10 September 2019
  Westport shortlist information event in Kwinana

- 12 September 2019
  Westport shortlist information event in Perth

- 18 September 2019
  Westport shortlist information event in Fremantle

- 20 September 2019
  Westport shortlist information event in Cockburn

- 15 October 2019
  Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia (ISCA), Annual Conference in Melbourne, VIC

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