

Minutes for:
Cambridge Connections Community Reference Group

Time:	5:15 – 6:45 pm
Date:	14 July 2026
Venue:	Kaipaki Room, Waipā District Council, Cambridge Office, 23 Wilson Street Cambridge, and via Teams.
In attendance:	Katie Mayes, Phil MacKay (Co-Chair), Peter Carr (Co-Chair), Kelly Bouzaid, Kellie Pearson, Peter Pickett, Graham Scott, Ian Wilson, David Cooney, Sharon Cresswell
Guests in attendance:	Guests: Deputy Mayor Jo Davies-Colley
In support:	Janeane Joyce, Jane Thompson, Rachel Algar, Bryan Hudson, Eeva-Liisa Wright, Dana Takacs, Rachel Murray (minutes)
Apologies:	Poto Davies, Ngawai Hamblin, Andrew Myers, Alan Garvin

1. Welcome and housekeeping

Co-Chair Phil MacKay open the meeting with a karakia.

2. Communications and Engagement Plan

- The draft communications and engagement plan was discussed.
- The plan supports key Elected Member decision points on 5 August and 26 August 2026.
- The Cambridge Connections website will be used as the central source of project information.
- Potentially affected residents, ratepayers, landowners, and property owners are to be contacted before relevant Council agenda material becomes public.
- Future communications need to clearly explain uncertainty, timeframes, the designation process, and potential property impacts.
- The Cambridge Business Chamber was confirmed as a key stakeholder and communications channel.

3. Strategic Transport Network Review

- Janeane Joyce, Project Manager, outlined the purpose of the Strategic Transport Network Review.
- The review will focus on the strategic transport network and identify the current network, desired future network, and key gaps.
- Beca's work is expected to be completed in early August and will support reporting to the 26 August Strategic Planning & Policy meeting.

4. Data, Modelling and Assumptions

- Some members raised concerns about traffic modelling inputs and whether earlier modelling underestimated traffic growth and bridge movements.
- It was noted that modelling is one input and will be considered alongside traffic counts, historic growth, land use information, subject matter expertise, and other technical checks.
- The group agreed modelling assumptions and data inputs should be transparent and available for review.
- Peak-hour data should be considered alongside daily averages.

5. Growth, Network Impacts and Investment Options

- The group discussed how planned and potential development is captured in transport forecasting. It was noted that:
 - Any bridge option would need to be assessed as part of the wider transport network.
 - Supporting infrastructure, intersections, freight movement, public transport, walking and cycling, and local road impacts will need to be considered.
 - The 30-year plan should include a mix of short-, medium-, and long-term interventions.

6. Governance and Elected Member Participation

- Concerns were raised by some members about some Cambridge Elected Members recusing themselves from decision-making due to potential conflicts of interest.
- They noted the potential impact on community confidence and local representation.
- Other members supported the action taken by Elected Members, noting it is critical for the success of the project that the process is beyond reproach.
- It was acknowledged that conflict of interest matters are guided by legal and governance advice and decisions by individual Elected Members.
- CRG feedback will be passed on through the appropriate channels.

7. Next Phase and Upcoming Work

- The next CRG meeting will consider draft outputs from the Beca work and feedback from Elected Members following the 5 August meeting.
- The next phase will support development of the draft transport plan, including a preferred programme of short-, medium-, and long-term activities.
- The draft plan is expected to be considered by Elected Members in early October before public consultation.
- An additional CRG meeting before 12 August may be arranged to review modelling assumptions, data inputs, and the strategic transport planning approach.

8. Actions

No.	Action	Owner	Due date
1	Review the draft communications and engagement plan and provide feedback, including any gaps, risks, or stakeholder groups that should be included.	CRG members	Before 5 August 2026
2	Contact potentially affected residents, ratepayers, landowners, and property owners before relevant Strategic Planning & Policy agenda material becomes public.	Project team / Communications team	Before agenda publication for 26 August meeting
3	Develop clear website information for potentially affected landowners, including what “potentially affected” may mean and what uncertainty remains.	Communications team	Before direct communications are issued
4	Ensure future communications use clear and precise road and location references to avoid confusion.	Communications team	Ongoing
5	Set up a meeting with Peter, David, and any other interested CRG members to work through traffic data, modelling assumptions, and areas of concern.	Project team	Before 12 August 2026
6	Report back to the wider CRG on the outcome of the data and assumptions discussion.	Project team	At next CRG meeting
7	Consider holding an additional CRG meeting before 12 August to discuss data assumptions and the strategic transport planning approach.	Project team	Before 12 August 2026

9. Next Meeting

- The next scheduled CRG meeting is 12 August 2026. An additional meeting may be arranged before then to focus on modelling assumptions, data inputs, and the strategic transport planning process.

Phil MacKay closed the meeting with a karakia.