

## Participant Information Sheet

### Research team:

The Institute for Infrastructure in Society (I<sup>2</sup>S) is based at the Crawford School of Public Policy, College of Asia and the Pacific at the Australian National University. The lead researchers include:

- Professor Sara Bice
- Dr Kirsty Jones.

The data collection and analysis for this survey is being completed in partnership with Voconiq, a social science research firm specialising in local community voices and a CSIRO spin-out company.

**Project Title:** Australian Perspectives on Infrastructure

### General Outline of the Project:

- **Description and Methodology:**

The Institute for Infrastructure in Society is home to the largest study of community engagement in Australian infrastructure project selection, planning and delivery. The Institute's research shows that community engagement is very important to successful infrastructure project delivery. It also shows that where projects have poor community engagement, local people bear the brunt of negative social and environmental outcomes.

This study aims to understand the perspectives and experiences of Australian communities concerning major infrastructure projects. This includes the perceptions of the general public and of those who are located at the sites of major infrastructure project delivery. The study is especially concerned to understand:

- how the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting communities' experiences of major infrastructure
- the ways in which community priorities for infrastructure may be changing in light of the pandemic
- communities' perceptions about the opportunities and challenges for infrastructure to play a role in post-pandemic recovery.

- **Participants:** We are running an online survey in which we hope to capture the viewpoints of about 5,000 members of the Australian community, including the general public and those who are living in areas of intensive infrastructure project delivery.
- **Use of Data and Feedback:** The data we collect through the survey will be used to inform a report, 'Australian infrastructure and COVID-19 pandemic recovery' and the Infrastructure Engagement Standards – a framework of 10 standards for best practice community engagement in infrastructure projects. We plan to publish the report in the second-half of 2021 and to release details of each of the six surveys prior to that summary report publication. Results will be available through the Next Generation Engagement Program website ([nextgenengagement.org](http://nextgenengagement.org)). Results will also likely be presented at relevant conferences (e.g. AFR Infrastructure Summit), published in academic journals and media (e.g. *The Conversation*). We will also present the results at a series of online events to promote and support their use within the infrastructure sector. A dashboard of the results will be made available to Institute for

Infrastructure in Society industry partners to help inform how they plan and deliver community engagement around major projects.

### **Participant Involvement:**

- **Voluntary Participation & Withdrawal:** Your participation in this research is voluntary, and you may decline to take part or to withdraw from the research, without providing an explanation at any time until your survey is submitted in the online system. Within the survey, you may also decline to answer any question that is not marked mandatory. If you withdraw before submitting your survey response, the data you have provided prior to withdrawal will be destroyed and not used.
- **What does participation in the research entail?** You are invited to take part in an anonymous online survey that will take no more than 15-minutes to complete.
- **Location and Duration:**  
The survey should take about 15 minutes to complete and can be done online or on your mobile or tablet device.

#### **Risks:**

Participants in this study are being asked to provide their insights based on their experience and personal opinions. Topics covered remain at a fairly broad level and canvas a range of contemporary issues related to major infrastructure projects. For these reasons, the project is not expected to pose any risks to participants.

- **Benefits:** This project is part of the work of the Institute for Infrastructure in Society, which aims to provide a robust evidence-base to inform decision-making about major infrastructure project selection, planning and delivery through improving understanding of Australian communities' perceptions and needs.

**For government and industry,** the insights will be used to inform infrastructure planning and policy.

**For community members,** the insights will be used to inform the Infrastructure Engagement Excellence Standards. These Standards will provide a tool for communities to hold organisations accountable for the quality of engagement they deliver.

### **Confidentiality:**

- **Confidentiality:** The survey is anonymous and no attempt will be made to identify any participants. Individuals who wish to sign-up to receive research updates may do so at the end of the survey. This form is separate to the survey data and no attempt will be made to connect individual respondents with any details provided.

### Privacy Notice:

In collecting your personal information within this research, the ANU must comply with the Privacy Act 1988. The ANU Privacy Policy is available at [https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppi/document/ANUP\\_010007](https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppi/document/ANUP_010007) and it contains information about how a person can:

- Access or seek correction to their personal information;
- Complain about a breach of an Australian Privacy Principle by ANU, and how ANU will handle the complaint.

### Data Storage:

- **Where:** Project data will be largely electronic and will be stored in a shared, encrypted password-protected survey program and related Sharepoint, accessible only to our project team and approved research assistants or transcriptionists.
- **How long:** Data will be stored securely for at least five years following all publications arising from the work.
- **Handling of data following the required storage period:** After the storage period, all identifying details will be removed from the data and the non-identified data will be archived at the Australian Data Archive ([www.ada.edu.au](http://www.ada.edu.au)) for use in later research, including potentially by other researchers.

### Queries and Concerns:

- **Contact Details for More Information:** If you have any requests for information or queries regarding the study please contact Professor Sara Bice ([Sara.Bice\[at\]anu.edu.au](mailto:Sara.Bice[at]anu.edu.au)).

### Ethics Committee Clearance:

The ethical aspects of this research have been approved by the ANU Human Research Ethics Committee (Protocol 2020/510). If you have any concerns or complaints about how this research has been conducted, please contact:

Ethics Manager  
The ANU Human Research Ethics Committee  
The Australian National University  
Telephone: +61 2 6125 3427  
Email: [Human.Ethics.Officer@anu.edu.au](mailto:Human.Ethics.Officer@anu.edu.au)