COMMUNITY input into a possible road corridor through Park Ridge kicked off last month.

The Park Ridge Connector Corridor study is a joint council and Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) project aimed at identifying possible future road corridors through Park Ridge before it develops further.

A 15-strong Community and Stakeholder Reference Group (CSRG) was formed to include a cross-section of community members in the process.

Main Roads district director Paul Noonan said the group would have a “substantial” bearing on the decision-making process and would help tease out the economic, environmental and social impacts of the corridor.

He also said the new road would form part of a transport solution to cater for the development of Flagstone and Yarrabilba as well as industrial and freight orientated growth.

The CSRG took part in two workshops in May and the second one, held on May 28, involved a bus tour where constraints and opportunities were identified.

Park Ridge Connector Study spokesman Susanne Taylor said the community members were business people, environmentalists and residents and they were providing a broad spectrum of feedback.

“We are still collating the information coming back from the workshops and looking for common themes,” she said.

“Councillor Graham Able, who took part in the second workshop, spoke passionately about the Berrinba wetlands and their significance to the area.”

Ms Taylor said the location of possible corridors would be discussed at the next stage of the process.

“The next stage will be mapping,” she said.

Council’s spokeswoman for the project, Councillor Cherie Dalley, said she was thrilled community members were invited on board at such an early stage.

“Making the decisions and then asking the public is something all levels of government do too often, and I don’t exclude council from that, so having the community on board at day one is the biggest advantage to this,” she said.

“We couldn’t have done better with the reference group members, they represent the entire community and we are getting business people sitting down with environmentalists which is very meaningful.”

Cr Dalley said it was too early to say if a corridor could be identified.

“It would be very hard to say at this stage, there are definitely no-go areas we will have to protect so it’s a case of weighing up the constraints with the benefits.”

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