

Meeting Minutes

Date: 23 June 2026 **Time:** 6:00pm – 8:00pm
Location: Quest Moorabbin
Program: Suburban Rail Loop
Title: Heatherton Community Reference Group
Meeting Number: Meeting 17
Chair: Kim Jordan

Attendees	Organisation/Role
Kim Jordan	Chair
Members	
Andrew Dawson	Residents Against Inappropriate Development
Carol Dawson	Residents Against Inappropriate Development
Geoff Blake	Dingley Village Community Association
Martin Powles	Community representative
Melanie Starr	Kingston City Council
Michelle Hornstein	Kingston Residents Association
Suburban Rail Loop Authority (SRLA)	
Brenton Shaughnessy	Deputy Director, Engagement
Christine Concha	Engagement Adviser
Ewan Hickey-Kerr	Engagement Adviser
Suburban Connect (SC)	
Gareth Glover	Planning and Approvals Manager
Mark Wloch	Operations Environmental Manager
Simon Black	Stakeholder Engagement Deputy Manager
Ruby Señora-Culley	Senior Advisor, Communications and Stakeholder Engagement
Linewide Alliance (LWA)	
Dan Young	Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Manager
Dean Valentic	Delivery Manager
Simon Cox	Senior Environmental Adviser
Apologies	

Meng Heang Tak State Member for Clarinda

Damian Higgins

Christway College

Andrew Taylor

Kingston Heath Golf Club

Discussion topic

Welcome and introductions

- Kim Jordan (Kim) welcomed attendees, noted apologies and opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country.
- Kim provided an overview of the meeting agenda.

Previous actions

- Action: Suburban Connect (SC) to present update for haulage and management of spoil from tunnelling activities.
 - Update: SC noted it is investigating suitable receiving sites for spoil material. Will provide an update on receival sites and haulage logistics once confirmed, prior to commencement of tunnel spoil being taken off-site.

Questions & discussion

- Q: Is there a preferred site for spoil and timeframe for when it will be announced?
 - SC noted receival sites are not yet confirmed. Spoil will need to go to an Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) approved site.
 - Kim noted there are sites that are EPA approved to receive different types of spoil. Kim noted that the contractor makes the decision on which EPA approved site the spoil will be deposited at.
- Q: Is the Henry Street landfill site being considered as a spoil receival site?
 - **Post-meeting note:** SC confirmed that there are no current plans to use the Henry Street landfill site.
- A community member noted their concerns about the potential use of Lantrak as a disposal site for SRL East spoil, noting residents experienced impacts when Lantrak was used as a disposal site for the Metro Tunnel Project.

Note: Community Reference Group (CRG) member questions sent prior to the meeting and ongoing matters are addressed on meeting slides 8 and 9. Additional questions and discussion are captured in the minutes below.

- Members raised trucks entering local streets during ongoing matters discussion. Kim noted the 'no right-hand turn' signage around the train stabling facility has resulted in unintended consequences (trucks on local streets) and requested alternative measures be explored.
 - **ACTION: SC to investigate alternative measures to reduce truck use of local roads.**
- Kim mentioned the site meeting held with some members of the CRG and project representatives prior to the CRG meeting and asked what additional measures could be implemented to reduce environmental and amenity impacts such as lighting.
 - SC noted site lights are switched off when there are no active works occurring at night
 - A community member noted 24 hour lighting impacts to residents believed to be from the site car park and machinery on site (e.g. cranes)

- **ACTION: LWA to confirm whether car park lighting and the positioning of lighting including those on plant equipment, like cranes, can be adjusted away from residents when there are no active works.**
- Discussion on public open space offsets. Kim confirmed with the group that these offsets may be delivered across multiple sites rather than a singular parcel of land.
- Community members raised concerns regarding road conditions including mud, dust, dirt, potholes and road safety impacts, noting cumulative impacts from South East Water works.
 - SC outlined existing mitigation measures implemented and noted impact of weather on conditions. SC advised EPA Victoria completed a site visit on 2 June and are aware of these matters.
 - SRLA noted impacts are expected to reduce following the completion of excavation works and site sealing.
 - **ACTION: SC to provide update on mitigation measures to reduce dirt and dust impacts from project trucks, including update on wheel washing methods.**
 - **ACTION: SC to provide update on the timing of internal road sealing.**
- A community member raised concerns about the condition of Pine Lane. KCC noted concerns and will investigate further.
 - **ACTION: KCC to provide update on road conditions on Pine Lane.**
- Q: Are vibration rollers being used to maintain internal site roads?
 - **Post meeting note:** *Vibration roller equipment is used on site at times for earthworks including for roadways and lay-down areas.*
- Q: Some residents are reporting hearing a humming/pulsing sound believed to be emanating from the train stabling facility. What is causing this?
 - SC advised investigations undertaken in late May found no construction activities or equipment could be linked to the reported humming/pulsing noise and noted the timing of the reports did not align with construction activities. Concluded the noise was not originating from project works.
 - SC noted generators currently supporting excavation activities were introduced after reports of the pulsing noise were received and are being managed through mitigation measures, including noise blankets and locating generators away from residences where practicable. SC noted some level of construction noise is unavoidable, but the project will continue to implement at-source noise mitigation measures and monitor compliance with applicable noise limits.
- Q: Has the humming and pulsing noise been investigated with South East Water, completing works on Old Dandenong Road?
 - SC confirmed it has liaised with South East Water and other major construction projects in the area and has not identified any external or onsite equipment that matches the reported noise.
- Q: Could the noise be coming from the network support facility and has Christway College reported experiencing this noise?
 - SC advised investigations of onsite plant and equipment did not identify any source matching the reported noise and confirmed no reports had been received from Christway College.
 - Kim encouraged continued investigation into the potential source and requested further information to be shared with the CRG if available.

- A community member noted upcoming works on Tootal Road (not project related) may result in additional noise impacts in the area.
- A community member noted recent resurfacing works on Clarinda Road have improved road conditions.
- Members discussed the Voluntary Purchase Scheme (VPS) process in the context of the upcoming election and caretaker period. SRLA advised there is no indication the VPS will be affected but will confirm further details on this.
 - **ACTION: SRLA to confirm any potential impacts to the VPS process of the caretaker period.**
- Discussion around noise and vibration modelling, noting actual impacts versus modelling can differ. SC acknowledged the feedback, noting that actual impacts can be higher or lower than predicted and this is why continuous monitoring is undertaken to compare predicted vs actual impact levels.
- Q: What percentage of the piling works have been complete?
 - **Post-meeting note:** Sheet piling at the western tunnel entrance was completed in early August.

Project update

- SRLA provided an update on the broader project, including:
 - Site progress across SRL sites
 - SRL at Cheltenham program updates, with some works brought forward
 - Tunnel boring machine (TBM) sequence update, noting TBMs from Clarinda will launch from 2026 and from the western tunnel entrance from 2027.

Discussion

- Q: Are the recent works on Nepean Highway in Cheltenham near the Bay Road intersection related to SRL?
 - SRLA confirmed the recent telecommunication service relocation works on Nepean Highway in Cheltenham are related to SRL and form part of ongoing service relocation works at the SRL Cheltenham site.
- Q: Where was rail line testing planned to occur before the Cheltenham works were brought forward?
 - SRLA noted that rail testing could not commence until the construction of the broader rail corridor had been completed.
- Q: Will the TBMs tunnel in both directions from Cheltenham to Heatherton?
 - SRLA noted two TBMs will be launched from the western tunnel entrance at the train stabling facility at Heatherton, and will tunnel in parallel to each other, which is consistent with the planned program. Noting the change from the original program is the timing being brought forward and that the TBMs will be retrieved at the Cheltenham site instead of Heatherton.
- Q: Will tunnelling works have noise and vibration impacts?
 - SC advised some noise and vibration impacts are expected and will be managed in accordance with the Residential Support Guidelines.

- Q: Where will the tunnelling spoil and the spoil from the excavation of the station box at Cheltenham be removed from?
 - SRLA noted tunnel spoil will be removed at the western tunnel entrance at Heatherton and transported to a designated spoil receival site. Excavated materials from the station box at Cheltenham will be managed and removed at Cheltenham.
- Q: Where will the TBMs be launched from?
 - SRLA advised the two TBMs are expected to launch from Heatherton towards Cheltenham in 2027. The first TBMs to commence tunnelling will launch from Burwood.
- Q: Will tunnelling at Burwood begin before the election?
 - SRLA noted tunnelling will start in Burwood later this year.
- Q: Will there be a new station announced at Clarinda?
 - SRLA advised there are no plans to announce a new station at Clarinda.

Communications and engagement update

- LWA and SC provided an overview of community interactions, including:
 - Number of matters raised and key themes
 - An overview of recent communications and engagement activities
 - A summary of the Heatherton pop-up session held on 17 May.

Discussion

- LWA noted they are procuring a subcontractor to undertake ongoing maintenance of the Kingston Walk Linear Reserve and in the interim, the area is being mowed every few weeks
 - A community member noted more frequent mowing may be required during summer due to increased snake risks.
- A community member noted the monthly works notices can be difficult to interpret and suggested simplifying the content and increasing the use of visual elements
 - LWA acknowledged the feedback and noted the challenges of providing specific dates and times for construction timeframes
 - Feedback taken on notice with SRLA, SC and LWA to consider improvements to the format and content of monthly work notices.
- Q: Will maintenance works be undertaken to maintain overgrown trees along the Kingston Walk Linear Reserve?
 - **ACTION: LWA to provide an update on any planned maintenance works for overgrown trees on Kingston Walk Linear Reserve.**
- Q: Is there a direct contact line to LWA?
 - LWA advised a dedicated inbox is being established. Community members can continue to contact the project hotline 1800 105 105 and email contact@srla.vic.gov.au

Linewide Alliance works update

- LWA provided an update, including:
 - Location of their works within the train stabling facility site at Heatherton.

- o Completion of site establishment at the northern end of site, with site sheds operational. The sheds will remain in place for the next few months and then be relocated to the western side of site as works locations move.
- o Site investigation works are complete and data is being assessed. An update on results will be provided to the group at a future meeting.
- o Upcoming works include tree removal, piling and rolling ground improvement trials and earthworks.
- o An overview of mitigation measures for their works.

Discussion

- Q: Where will tree removal occur?
 - o LWA confirmed trees marked for removal are located within the site.
- A community member raised concern on the potential removal of high-value trees that provide habitat for local wildlife
 - o LWA noted they are working closely with KCC on tree removal activities and that no-go zones will be established to protect and retain high value trees
 - o KCC confirmed their arborists have completed investigations related to the proposed tree removals.
- Q: How many trees are being removed?
 - o **ACTION: LWA to provide an update on tree removals.**
- A community member raised concerns about fencing installed at the northern end of the SRL site near the Henry Street and Old Dandenong Road intersection, noting larger gaps between fence sections and potential road safety risks. Suggested additional bollards be considered.
- Q: Why is the gate on Kingston Walk Linear Reserve, on the Henry Street playground end, unlocked and is this for project use?
 - o LWA noted this is being used for project works
 - o KCC noted will clarify access arrangements and purpose of the gate.
 - o **ACTION: KCC to provide further information on access arrangements and use of the gate at the Henry Street playground end of Kingston Walk Linear Reserve.**
- Q: Where will the removed noxious weeds be disposed?
 - o LWA noted noxious weeds will be disposed of at approved sites.
- Q: Are there wildlife rescue plans for animals in the pond, particularly long neck turtles, during the dewatering of the pond within the site?
 - o LWA noted environmental assessments are currently being undertaken.
- Q: Will respite offers be provided for LWA's upcoming piling and rolling ground improvement works?
 - o LWA noted upcoming piling trials and ground improvement trials will inform construction methodology and management of impacts. Piling trials are expected to commence shortly, with rolling ground improvement trials anticipated later in the year. Trials and impacts will be managed through appropriate communications and engagement measures.

Suburban Connect works update

- SC provided an update on current and upcoming works, including:
 - Works at the western tunnel entrance – western portal excavation, sheet piling, and spoil shed construction
 - Works at the eastern tunnel entrance – fencing, weeding, and site investigations
 - Works at the TBM launch site at Clarinda including excavating the TBM launch shafts, constructing acoustic sheds, tunnelling preparation and equipment delivery.
- SC noted it will provide further information on tunnelling in future meetings when updates are available.

Discussion

- Q: Are generators being used to power the site offices?
 - SC confirmed the site offices are connected to mains power and not powered by generators. Generators however are commonly used on construction sites and will be used as required during the construction period.
- Q: What are the new silo-type plants onsite?
 - SC noted these are grout plants required as part of tunnelling activities.
- Kim suggested updates on major equipment arrivals and TBM assembly to be provided.
 - SC noted further information will be provided through upcoming tunnelling communication materials.

Works lookahead

- SC and LWA provided an overview of construction timeline of works taking place at the Heatherton and Clarinda sites for the remainder of the year.

Environmental monitoring

- SC provided an update on environmental monitoring data. No significant changes to monitoring results for noise, vibration and air quality were reported, with results reviewed daily. No exceedances in dust, noise and vibration monitoring.
- SC noted no complaints received related to sheet piling activities.
- SC noted they are regularly meeting with EPA Victoria, alongside LWA and SRLA representatives.
- LWA advised all monitors to have been installed and are operational.

Discussion

- A community member noted that residents continue to experience impacts despite monitoring results indicating no exceedances
 - SC acknowledged feedback and advised that complaints continue to be managed, and support provided where appropriate.
- A community member noted the background noise including traffic, planes, birds etc. in the linear reserves are quite loud on top of construction works
 - SC noted existing background noise levels are considered as part of noise modelling and helps establish baseline conditions and predicted noise impacts.
- Q: Why was the location of the noise monitor at Kingston Walk Linear Reserve chosen?
 - LWA advised the noise monitor was positioned between the worksite and nearby residents on Nicholas Grove to monitor potential impacts of works to closest residents.

Other business

- A community member noted a perceived increase in trucks using Old Dandenong Road to access Dingley Bypass, that could be Lantrak or SRL project trucks
 - SC noted Lantrak operates a site in the area, cannot verify Lantrak truck movements but can investigate whether specific trucks are associated with the project when details are provided. This includes number plate and/or time, date and location of the truck movement.
- A community member noted new fencing along the northern boundary of site along Henry Street, does not blend into the surrounding environment like the other fencing installed
 - LWA advised the mesh fencing is temporary.
- A community member raised ongoing concerns about the persistent humming and pulsing noise noting residents continue to be impacted and with no outcome of what the source is
 - SC advised investigations into the source of the pulsing noise remain ongoing. SC directed to the previous environmental investigations and monitoring results regarding the reported humming noise presented to the CRG previously.
 - **Post meeting note:** Detailed discussions on noise monitoring results can be found in the following CRG presentations:
 - [21 October 2025 Heatherton CRG presentation](#)
 - [24 February 2026 Heatherton CRG presentation](#)
- A community member noted some trees support local birds such as rosellas, lorikeets and kookaburras and requested consideration to minimising impact on wildlife and high-value trees.

Meeting closed at 8:08pm.

New Actions

Item	Responsible
Action: SC to investigate alternative measures to reduce truck use of local roads. Response: SC continues to distribute clear expectations and instructions to its workforce and delivery drivers, and immediately follow up on any feedback received from the community. Installation of physical barriers to prevent or deter access to local roads is not supported following assessment by traffic engineers. Additional signage may be proposed by SC pending continued monitoring and engagement with DTP/Council.	SC
Action: LWA & SC to confirm whether car park lighting and the positioning of lighting including plant equipment with lights, like cranes, can be adjusted away from residents when there are no active works. Response: LWA confirmed to not have any lighting planned to face into the linear reserve or residential properties. SC have reviewed positioning and timing of lighting on site. Lighting along Kingston Rd has been repositioned. Lighting in the carpark (adjacent to Kingston Walk Linear Reserve) is switched off except for 30 minutes before and 30 minutes after working hours.	LWA & SC
Action: SC to provide further information on alternative or additional mitigation measures to effectively manage road impacts such as dirt and dust from project trucks. Response: The condition of Kingston Rd has improved following action taken by SC including permanently asphaltting both the light and heavy-vehicle entrance gates, relocating a wheel-wash and installing additional gravel on internal site roads.	SC
Action: SC to provide update on the timing of internal road sealing. Response: Sealing is complete at the Kingston Road entrances at the Heatherton site, and a majority of internal roads within the Clarinda site. Both will be fully sealed before tunnelling commences at each site.	SC
Action: KCC to provide update on road conditions on Pine Lane Response: Surface impacts are driven by external traffic impacts and weather events, rather than maintenance quality. KCC have three proactive gradings per financial year, alongside weekly inspections and 6-week maintenance cycles.	KCC
Action: SRLA to confirm any potential impacts to the VPS process of the caretaker period. Response: Anyone who has already opted in to the VPS should engage directly with their Department of Transport and Planning) case manager with any questions about the VPS process and their specific circumstances. Your case manager and SRLA will continue to be available to support throughout the caretaker period. Any new applications for the VPS will continue to be considered throughout the caretaker period as the business of government and public administration continues. However, we continue to encourage anyone who is considering joining the scheme to reach out to SRLA as soon as possible as it is a lengthy process from end to end.	SRLA
Action: LWA to provide update on any planned maintenance works for the overgrown trees on Kingston Walk Linear Reserve.	LWA

Response: LWA are undertaking regular mowing of the grass within Kingston Walk Linear Reserve. Additional maintenance of overgrown trees and bushes will be undertaken on an ad hoc basis as required.

Action: LWA to provide update on tree removals.

Response: Tree removal works within the train stabling facility site are progressing. Removals along the northern fenceline are complete. Works are continuing within the site and are expected to be completed late August.

LWA

Action: KCC to provide further information on access arrangements and use of the gate at the Henry Street playground end of Kingston Walk Linear Reserve

KCC

Response: KCC team investigated and locked the fence.