

Minutes

Subject: July Community Liaison Group Meeting

Date: Thursday 27 July 2023 **Time:** 5:30-7:30pm

Location: WGTP Information Centre

Apologies: Glen Yates, Steve Wilson, Neil Hutchinson, Cyrus Alorro

Community Members	Group/Association Members
(SS) Senthill Sundaram, Point Cook	(GB) Garry Brennan, Bike Network Victoria
(BB) Bert Boere, Brooklyn	(GY) Glen Yates, Maribyrnong Truck Action Group (MTAG)
(MDL) Marlon De Leon, Tarneit	(GM) Geoff Mitchelmore, Friends of Lower Kororoit Creek (Online)
(DR) Dennis Ryan, Altona North	(SW) Steve Wilson, Friends of Stony Creek
(KR) Kevin Redfern, Seabrook	MTIA Representatives
(FA) Fran Araneda, Kensington	(SDR) Shane D'Rozario, West Gate Tunnel Project, Major Transport Infrastructure Authority (WGTP MTIA)
(AB) Arthur Bregiannis, Yarraville	(LE) Liz Evans, WGTP MTIA
(PG) Peter Gerrand, West and North Melbourne Association	(DM) Douglas Morris, WGTP MTIA
(FS) Ferdinand Saliba, Deer Park	(AS) Ashleigh Simpson, WGTP MTIA
(CF) Con Frescos, Yarraville	(HT) Harley Thomas, WGTP MTIA (Online)
(AH) Adrian Havryluk	(ES) Ebru Saglam, WGTP MTIA
Transurban Representatives	
MF) Marcus Fosterling	(LS) Lachlan Sturt, Transurban
CPBJH Joint Venture Representatives	
(MM) Melissa Merrett CPBJH	(CD) Christian Dolezal, CPBJH
(ANS) Andrew Shepherd CPBJH	(CHF) Charlie Fairbairn, CPBJH
Council Members	
(EM) Eloise McGurn, City of Melbourne (Online)	
(IB) Ian Butterworth, Hobsons Bay City Council	
(AA) Adrian Ashford, Brimbank City Council	

Agenda items

Time	#	Item detail	Owner
5.30pm	1	Welcome, introductions and apologies	Chair
5.40pm	2	WGTP MTIA updates	WGTP MTIA
5.50pm	3	Construction update	CPBJH JV
6.30pm	4	BREAK	All
6.40pm	5	Member questions	Community members
7.10pm	6	Actions update	All

Introduction

- KJ welcomed attendees in person and online and stated apologies for the night.
- KJ gave an Acknowledgement of Country.

WGTP MTIA update

Grants and Partnerships

- DM provided an update on Grants and Partnerships, notifying members that the next round of WGNF partnerships closes on 1 August.
- DM thanked members in advance who will participate in the application review process. This final Partnership round also included an Active Community Grants category, targeting sport clubs, scout and girl guides to deliver equipment, programs and minor facility upgrades.

Community Outreach

- As train lines were impacted due to works taking place at Dynon Road, there has been considerable community outreach undertaken since the last CLG meeting in June.
- DM highlighted community engagement at Newport, North Melbourne, Williamstown, Werribee and Footscray train stations with over 1500 notifications given to passengers travelling on the Sunbury, Werribee and Williamstown train lines about disruptions between 23 June and 9 July.
- Several V/Line stations were also targeted including Melton, Deer Park, Wyndham Vale and Tarneit on the Ballarat and Geelong lines respectively due to disruptions beginning on 31 July, with 800 notifications distributed and 400 information packs provided about the Project.

Construction Update

West Zone

- MM provided an update on recent community engagement across the west zone including door knocks undertaken on Primula Avenue, Brooklyn with 'thank you' vouchers provided and notifications for the opening of the Hyde Street, Simcock Avenue and Douglas Parade intersection and guard rail installation on Venier, Hicks and Derham Streets in Spotswood.

CHF provided an update on activities taking place across the west:

- Works in the west zone have reached a milestone of being approximately 90% complete.
- Near Williamstown Road, the retaining wall is being built for the last spans of the Hyde Street ramps. Civil works and piling works are now complete.
- 3,500 noise walls have been installed across the project, with the remaining panels to be installed by the end of 2023.
- There is a major focus on completing works on local roads abutting the freeway. The connection between Muir and Andrews Streets has been reinstated, court bowls completed with minor footpath, landscaping and civil works to be completed in this area.
- To date, there have been over 155,000 trees and shrubs planted across the west across the last 6-7 months. A large planting regime is taking place between now and the end of 2023.
- At the Hyde Street, Simcock Avenue and Douglas Parade intersection, line marking has been installed and the new signalised intersection was opened on Saturday 15 July.
- Along the West Gate Freeway, works on the outer verges are complete. Overhead gantries will begin to be installed shortly and will continue through into next year. These are huge structures that require full night-time freeway closures for installation. Power supplies along the outer verges are currently being installed.

- The Geelong Road ramp to Princes Freeway has been closed since Friday 16 June, for the completion of railing and pavement works. The ramp will reopen on the night of Tuesday 1 August enabling the M80 interchange to be fully operational.

West zone questions

- **Q:** (CF) Is the project cleaning up the area as works take place?
- **A:** (CHF) The expectation is to clean up project sites as works take place. Once landscaping is complete, everything should be done in these areas.
- **Q:** (IB) Can you provide an update on the Kororoit Creek shared user path?
- **A:** (CHF) The Kororoit Creek section is approximately 60% complete and should be close to opening by the end of 2023. Other sections are still being worked on over the course of the next six months with major structures being put in place. The walking path on the western side of the Grieve Parade bridge is being tidied up and the maintenance track is being prepared for Melbourne Water.

East Zone

- LS provided an update on recent community engagement across the east zone including at Moonee Ponds Creek trail where there have been some recent flooding events. Bicycle Network and the City of Melbourne has reiterated the importance of communication and safety when using Moonee Ponds Creek trail as a detour, Transurban is committed to the maintenance of the detour route and are looking into the notification system.

Construction Update

- CHF gave an update on construction progress in the east:
- The launching gantry has almost completed its main works for the connections over Footscray Road. Asphaltting is being planned for the start of 2024.
- Works will commence on the Veloway around October and be ongoing throughout 2024.
- Steel work has been completed on the ramp over Moonee Ponds Creek and both sides of the bank are now connected. Bridge deck works have begun and will be placed over the steel girders.
- Works on the Maribyrnong River bridges are progressing very well. The steel beam installation of the main bridge structures over the Maribyrnong River is now complete. Over the next four months, all steel work on the new ramps to and from the Port is expected to be completed. There has been a recent traffic switch on Mackenzie Road.
- Works on Dynon Road, which is currently closed, will be ongoing until 31 August. These works have resulting in major rail and road closures. The road bridge is being reconstructed and widened, with a staged approach taken to reduce the rail impact as much as possible. The works also include a new shared user path bridge, which has an architectural design and has been built in pre-formed spans, the last span will soon be installed.
- A major roadworks campaign is being planned to take place at Wurundjeri Way and Dudley Street, for the superstructure and steel installation works for the extension of Wurundjeri Way over Dudley Street, starting in October. This will form part of the extension of Wurundjeri Way from Dudley Street up to Dynon Road.
- **East zone questions**
- **Q:** (CF) made note that on the far-right lane heading inbound along Footscray Road, the condition of the road is rough and dangerous for motorbikes and smaller cars and should be considered. CF is interested in who is maintaining this road.
- **A:** (CHF) confirmed CPBJH maintains part of the road and surface works can be difficult to do at the moment unless in emergency circumstances due to Footscray Road being used as a

detour whilst Dynon Road is closed. Traffic will be shifted on to a new section of road in August which will help alleviate the concerns.

- **Q:** (EM) questioned what works will remain for the walking and cycling path at the end of the Dynon Road campaign?
- **A:** (CHF) advised that the main shared path structure will be in place, however further work will need to take place on the deck and railing to be installed, therefore the shared user path will not be ready for use at the end of August when the road re-opens.

Tunnel zone

CD stepped through engagement activities in the tunnel zone including:

- Ongoing engagement taking place with residents of Frederick Street, Yarraville, with respite offered including headphones and vouchers.
- Businesses have been engaged along Somerville Road to the east of Whitehall Street Yarraville, regarding the one-day closure to disassemble the spoil conveyor.
- CPBJH met with Maribyrnong City Council to discuss parking solutions along Youell Street Footscray and an update will be provided at the next meeting.
- There will be several pop-up community engagement events to provide project information and discuss the emerging ventilation structures. A notification to encourage attendance at these events will be distributed.

Works happening around the tunnels including:

- The cross-passage incident around Frederick Street has been stabilised. The final drilling works are planned to take place on 15 August.
- TBM Vida demobilisation at the southern inbound portal is progressing well. 85% of the TBM has now been removed from the site including the front shield and the gantries that are behind the main boring machine.
- TBM Bella continues to be dismantled at the southern outbound portal. The TBM shield will be buried on the southern side of the excavation area and an explanation of this provided to the meeting.
- Over 50% of the inbound tunnel road deck is complete and approximately 70% complete in the outbound tunnel. This equals about 4.5 km so far.
- Works are progressing on the ventilation structure on the West Gate Freeway outbound portal which is located next to the crane removing TBM Bella. Works will continue through next year forming the 50-metre structure.

Tunnel zone questions

- **Q:** (CF) Will any structural issues be created by burying a TBM?
- **A:** (AS) There will be no structural issues. the method of encasing in concrete prevents degrading and future movement.

Actions update

Action: CPBJH to confirm total number of trees to be replaced and removed.

- (SD) Some areas of the project have already been planted. The project is still working with councils to confirm numbers.
- Action to remain open.

Action: CPBJH / TU to follow up an earlier than end 2023 reopening of Federation Trail between Millers Road and Fogarty Avenue

- (SD) The project continues to look at reopening the section of the Federation Trail between Millers Road and Fogarty Avenue. WGTP MTIA will continue to work with the project parties to look at the earliest possible reopening. Solutions are being worked through as to who will maintain the path between opening and the end of the project.

- (CHF) Freeway signage structures will be installed between Millers Road and Fogarty Avenue between now and the end of 2023, these structures are installed adjacent to this stretch of path
- (CHF) Some of the physical works will be completed at the end of 2023 but will require approvals from all parties before reopening to the public. Works on the path are complete, however surrounding works such as signage, ITS, guard rail and gantry works for the freeway, are preventing the path from reopening.
- (LE) Noted that there have been some general community enquires regarding the re-opening of this section of the Federation Trail.
- (DR) Is there a possibility of a temporary opening of the path, as happens with roads when they are opened and closed at various times?
- (CHF) A temporary opening would cause delays to works. Noted that it would not be possible to open the path before the end of the year.

New Action

- (AH) What is the maintenance program for graffiti during construction?
- (SD) As maintenance will be a Transurban responsibility, they are required to submit a maintenance plan that will need to meet certain standards. WGTP MTIA will consider this plan in conjunction with Department of Transport and Planning requirements in operating the freeway network.
- (LS) Graffiti management is being worked through. Transurban is experienced maintaining its current assets and would look to apply similar standards to Citylink. A further update can be provided at a subsequent meeting.

Break

Paringa Road crossing update

- (ES) Explained to the members the current pedestrian signal arrangement at the Millers / Paringa / freeway entry ramp crossing. The green light runs for at least eight seconds and up to 40 seconds depending on a range of measures including time of day.
- (BB) This is not enough time to get across if you are walking slow or an elderly person and is concerned that some people may get stuck in the middle of the Paringa Road and freeway ramp area. It is 17 metres to cross.
- (SD) We are actively looking for a solution. Understanding when the short phase is activated, a pedestrian head start option and coloured surface treatment is being considered that will distinguish Paringa Road visually
- (BB) Clear signage is required so drivers can distinguish the turn.
- (DR) Semi-trailers travelling south on Millers Road are not following the line to turn right onto the freeway and swing out into the intersection so they can go on the entry ramp.
- (GM) Nathan Whittle from CPBJH was following up the report that was sent to him about this location.
- (SD) The road and intersection are designed to particular road design and safety standards.
- (BB) On the other side of Primula Avenue, the metal frames protruding from the noise walls need to be screened off from pedestrians.
- (CHF) There are temporary water barriers at this location until the permanent works are finished. There will be railing/cladding installed to protect cyclists. This would be subject to a road safety audit being completed. Further and information can be provided at the next meeting.

Member questions and comments

- **Comment:** (GB) In the east zone, notifications are given with short notice and there is a risk of some riders getting caught out, such as when Footscray Road is closed.
- **Comment:** (AH) Graffiti is still appearing (noted that a formal action created).
- **Comment: (GM)** Complimentary of all the work being done at the Kororoit Creek area, looking forward to it opening.
- **Comment:** (BB) Painting the bridge columns white under the West Gate Freeway is a good idea and should be done across the project as it greatly improves brightness and visibility.
- **Comment:** (EM) CoM is spending a lot of time reviewing closures and impacts of multiple walking and cycling paths across the east zone project area. It is getting increasingly difficult for users to understand what's happening and when. CoM wishes to continue discussions with CPBJH and WGTP MTIA to find a way to have a greater level of advance information on the timing and duration for the upcoming program of closures to understand

- **Q:** (GM) Is there a planting schedule in place to ensure there is watering over the warmer months?
- **A:** (CHF) CPBJH engaged a contractor who are spraying, planting, and watering where possible adjacent to the freeway.
- **Q:** (IB) Is there an update on the Indigenous Garden Program planting package at Kororoit Creek?
- **A:** (CHF) Unsure what stage the package is at. However, there is Indigenous interpretive artwork going through reviews. Three sites have been proposed. CPBJH to follow up and provide further information at a subsequent meeting.
- **A:** (SD) CPBJH consulted with Traditional Owner groups and been given a high-level overview so the submission of the package should not be far away.
- **Comment:** (CF) A community sporting group received a grant a few years ago and are concerned they may lose the funding if there is not a resolution to changed conditions. He noted these matters need to be resolved for best community outcomes.
- **A:** (LE) Comment is noted. Conversations are actively underway with council and the community group with a view to reach a resolution.
- **Q:** (IB) What is the current project completion date in 2025?
- **A:** (SD) November 2025.
- **Q:** (KR) Will lighting be installed near Melbourne Road to Williamstown heading north as it is very dark at night.
- **A:** (CHF) The lights are installed, however we are waiting for the connection to the supply. Agreed that lighting needs to be improved for pedestrians at night.
- **Q:** (GM) Is the lighting under Millers Road bridge in operation?
- **A:** (CHF) Ramp lighting is in place however unsure if it is fully operational yet.
- **Q:** (AH) Will ventilation structures at both portals be fitted with air pollution equipment? If so, when will it be installed as this was not mentioned in the Notification.
- **A:** (SD) Air pollution equipment is not being fitted during construction, there is capacity in the design to retrofit. Information in the EES explains this. There was some good material presented to the Air Quality Community reference group, which CPBJH presented to.
- **Q:** (DM) What is the roadside management of rubbish plan up until 2025?
- **A:** (CHF) It depends on the site, once the site is complete, there will be a full clean. There are freeway rubbish maintenance obligations. Safety hazards will be addressed quickly.

Meeting close 7:40

- KJ closed the meeting by thanking members in person and online. KJ confirmed the next meeting is in six weeks' time on 7 September 2023.

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