

9 November 2021

# Meeting Minutes

## Bulleen Industrial Zone (BIZ) Business Liaison Group Meeting

Date	9/11/2021	Time	5.30 - 6.30pm
Chair	Mike Marasco	Meeting no.	10 for 2021
Location	Zoom	Minute taker	Nadia Hollins

## Attendees

Attendees			
Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Mike Marasco (MM)	Independent Chair	Bruce Plain (BP)	Bulleen Art & Garden
Joe Mustica (JM)	MFJ Construction	Cam Giardina (CG)	Cam's Greenaway Auto Repairs
Jodi Crocker (JC)	Wonder Pies	Ben Harnwell (BH)	Manningham City Council
Frank Vassilacos (FV)	Manningham City Council	Bryan Yeow (BY)	Department of Transport
Andrew Hocking (AH)	North East Link Project	Jane McIntosh (JMc)	Department of Transport
Rebekah Kober (RK)	North East Link Project	Nadia Hollins (NH)	North East Link Project

Apologies			
Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
none			

## Actions previous

No.	Action	Owner	Due	Status	Update
1	BIZ BLG will consider at our next meeting if we will move to every 6 weeks thereafter.	MM	12/10/21	Completed	BIZ BLG to consider at our next meeting. BIZ BLG members agreed next meeting in 4 weeks
2	JMc, to provide State Revenue Office contact details / point of contact to share with the individual business on tax advise including land tax.	JMc	12/10/21	Pending	JMc, is working with the State Revenue Office to provide details. JMc, is working with the SRO for a BIZ businesses land tax solution process. JMc is working with the SRO to provide details of a direct SRO contact for the businesses.
3	AH to liaise with JM regarding information from this meeting to be shared with all businesses.	AH	27/09/21	Completed	AH to gather information and liaise with JM on information to share with the other businesses.
4	JMc arrange DoT case manager to contact JM regarding the land tax assessment.	JMc	9/11/21	Completed	JMc has contact the DoT case manager (Helen Zenoss) and SRO to provide further tax details to specific cases. JMc and JM to discuss further offline.
5	BH to contact AH on the best ways to deliver the support package to the BIZ businesses.	AH / BH	9/11/21	Completed	As per minutes

## Key discussion points/decisions

Owner	Discussion
Mike Marasco (MM), Chair	<p><b>Welcome and outstanding business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MM welcomes the group, shares apologies and previous minutes.</li> <li>MM reviews the outstanding actions.</li> </ul>
Rebekah Kober (RK), NELP	<p><b>Business and employee support program (BESP)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RK update on business and employee support program.</li> <li><b>Business relocation support</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Property market will slow down mid Dec – late Jan, now is a good time to look at opportunities</li> <li>Good opportunity for auto business to purchase: <a href="#">168 Grange Road, Alphington VIC 3078 - Factory, Warehouse &amp; Industrial Property For Sale   Commercial Real Estate</a></li> <li>CKC weekly property update will pause 20 Dec – 3 Jan.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- **Employee support program**
  - EY Skills and Jobs Centre (SJC) is open in late Nov at Watsonia hub
  - The careers and skills team will be available in Bulleen via appointment from late November
  - Complete the enquiry form to receive a call from the Careers and Skills advisor [here](#)
  - Or email [sjc@northeastlink.vic.gov.au](mailto:sjc@northeastlink.vic.gov.au)
- Q: JM, I would like to know why the JSC is not open at Bulleen, seeing that most of the unemployment or potential unemployment will occur here than in Watsonia?
- A: RK, the Bulleen Hub, is not open to the public in the same way as Watsonia (public interface, more space and access). However, there is the opportunity to have the JSC advisors at Bulleen at least one or two days a week.
- JM commented that the BIZ businesses are more likely to access the JSC services if based at Bulleen Hub than sending them to Watsonia. You need to help these people and be as accommodating and prominent to provide easy access to support for the acquired businesses. Please.
- RK agreed that we should be making sure that we are as accommodating as possible for those employees and businesses. I will make sure that we will do everything we can do to support those impacted businesses. I will be based at Bulleen once a week and can meet with the businesses and employees at their workplace or Bulleen Hub to inquire about the support they need.
- **Digital marketing**
  - EY Online workshops are available via Digital Solutions for businesses in BIZ. If you are interested, please contact [businessengagement@northeastlink.vic.gov.au](mailto:businessengagement@northeastlink.vic.gov.au)
    - Christmas Online: Festive Email Marketing — Tue, Nov 16
    - How to undertake a digital audit on your own business — Tue, Nov 23 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM
    - Apps that will boost your productivity — Thurs, Dec 2 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM
    - Engage real followers on Instagram — Tue, Dec 7 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM.
- The business and employee support team are available to meet with businesses and employees to discuss support needs. Please contact Rebekah Kober, Acting Business Support Manager, m: 0427 376 949, e: [rebekah.kober@northeastlink.vic.gov.au](mailto:rebekah.kober@northeastlink.vic.gov.au) to make an appointment.
- MM thanked RK for the business and employee support program update.

Ben Harnwell  
(BH),  
Manningham  
City Council

#### **Manningham City Council Relief Fund**

- BH had discussions with AH about the \$50k Manningham City Council (MCC) Relief Fund support package and its implementation.
  - The (MCC) Relief Fund support package survey has been emailed to the BIZ business
  - MCC Engagement Officers will visit the business as from Wednesday 10 November with the survey.
- So far, eighteen surveys completed by the BIZ businesses. The survey showed good feedback, and those businesses have access to the \$500 MCC Relief Fund support package.
- MCC encourages all BIZ businesses to fill out the MCC Relief Fund support package survey, which will remain open to the business as long as required.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MM thanked BH for the MCC Relief Fund update.</li> </ul>
Jane McIntosh (JMc) & Bryan Yeow (BY), Department of Transport	<p><b>DoT Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JMc is organising a meeting with the State Revenue Office (SRO) to clarify the tax payment to business owners of a single holding or multiple holding basis and how that impacts the individual business owners.</li> <li>• JMc will speak further with JM offline regarding 30 September payable tax.</li> <li>• JMc is continuing to work with the SRO to provide details of a direct SRO contact for the BIZ businesses.</li> <li>• <b>COVID19 Rent Relief Scheme</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There is general COVID19 relief for commercial tenants of DoT managed properties which we are able to roll out on Land Acquisition &amp; Compensation Act 1986 (LACA) occupations after the rent-free periods.</li> <li>○ In the case of commercial tenants, subject to evidence of reductions in turnover and small business requirements, a tenant may be eligible for a waiver (up to 50%) and if drop in turnover exceeds 50%, the balance is deferred. Example: If business demonstrates 60% turnover reduction and meets other criteria, DoT currently would provide 50% relief (waiver) and 10% deferral.</li> <li>○ The current scheme covers the period from 28 July 2021 to 15 January 2022 and requires an application to be made prior to 30 November 2021 to be eligible for the full period.</li> <li>○ If businesses are interested in applying for this scheme, please reach out to your DoT case manager for further details.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• MM thanked BY and JMc for their DoT update.</li> </ul>
Andrew Hocking, AH	<p><b>Project design update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AH apologies for not being able to discuss the project design update with BIZ BLG members, due to experiencing technical IT problems.</li> <li>• An email will be sent to BLG BIZ members with information regarding the design update. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A PDF which provides information comparing the reference design and the new project design and project timeline for the different packages.</li> <li>○ A fact sheet which provides an overview of the NELP design update</li> <li>○ A North East Link project map</li> <li>○ For project design images you can visit <a href="https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/projects/north-east-link-program/design/project-design">https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/projects/north-east-link-program/design/project-design</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• There are a range of images across the NEL alignment- images 12 onwards are for the area south of Manningham Rd.</li> <li>• Regarding the BIZ and the Manningham Rd interchange, the design has been made simpler. People who want to use the North East Link tunnels to bypass Bulleen Road between Manningham Road and the Eastern Freeway will still get in and out using ramps at Manningham Road which is similar to the reference design. The two ramps on the reference design which were positioned opposite Avon St have been moved down to Thompsons Rd roughly where the tennis centre is now.</li> </ul>

- The tunnel boring machines (TBM) will extend further into the BIZ and will be retrieved from here. The tunnels to the south of the BIZ will be constructed using mine tunnelling techniques and portals for these machines will be constructed within the BIZ as well.
- If you have any questions or wish to discuss, please let AH know.



NEL-Project-Update-  
October-2021.pdf



NEL-Project-Map-October-2021.pdf



BIZ LG  
Presentation.pdf

- Q: JM, it is ironic that they have spent \$2B on upgrades to the Greensborough end and when you read through all the literature, listen to the press releases, BIZ, local area, and the south side did not get a mention unless you heard or saw it somewhere MM?
- MM commented, no, I don't think so, I didn't hear or see anything.
- JM comments that the politics are obviously on the north side. The BIZ businesses comment that they haven't even received their compensation and spending \$2B on upgrades in the north to buy votes. So, BIZ businesses are fighting for an extra \$25,000 or whatever and can't get it.
- BY replies, respectfully, if you hear comments like that JM from the BIZ businesses, please refer them to their DoT case managers as we will not be bloody-minded of \$25,000. If that is the case.
- JM said he understands and knows it's up to the BIZ business to work with their lawyers.
- MM apologies that AH was unable to present. AH will send an email out tomorrow.

Mike Marasco,  
MM

#### Other business

- MM, BIZ BLG members agreed next meeting in 5 weeks' time.

Next meeting, 14 December 2021.

## Actions – new

No.	Action	Owner	Due	Status	Update
1	AH will email BIZ BLG members the project design update	AH	10/11/21		
2	RK to ensure EY skills and job centre (SJC) has adequate presence at the Bulleen Hub to support businesses	RK	14/12/21		