

# Meeting Minutes

## North Community Liaison Group (NCLG)

Date	4/03/2022	Time	10am
Chair	Jeni Coutts	Meeting no.	2 of 2022
Location	Via Zoom	Minute taker	Elizabeth Patena

## Attendees

Attendees			
Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Jeni Coutts (JC)	Independent Chair	Sarah Maguire (SM)	Watsonia Traders representative
Stephen Paul (SP)	Community Representative	Adriano Murone (AM)	Community Representative
Allan Hunter (AH)	Community Representative	Michelle Giovas (MG)	Community Representative
Remo Marinucci (RM)	Community Representative	Paul Bellis (PB) Transport Planning & Advocacy Coordinator	Banyule City Council
Michelle Molinaro (MM)	Community Representative	Sydney Philips (SPH) Director of Constructions	Spark D&C
Chris Logan (CL) Stakeholder & Community Engagement Manager	CPB	Matthew Pochroj (MP) Senior Project Engineer	CPB
Glen Preema (GP) Area Manager	CPB	Holly Havers (HH) Director, Communications and Engagement	Spark D&C
Melissa Read Senior Stakeholder and Community Engagement Advisor	CPB	Niall Boyle Senior Manager Communications	Spark D&C
Paul Thomas (PT) Principal Project Specialist, Construction	NELP	Conor Kiernan (CK) Communications & Stakeholder Relations Lead, PPP	NELP

Attendees			
Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Frances Wickerson (FW) Community Design Specialist	NELP	Renato Marnich (RM) Trader Engagement Specialist	NELP
Louisa Rendina (LR) Senior Manager, Community Partnerships	NELP	Natalie Pearson (NP) Senior Manager, Community Partnerships	NELP
John Lopez (JL) Senior Project Engineer, North	NELP	Nic Morton (NM) Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor, PPP	NELP
Christopher Woodroffe (CW) Communications & Stakeholder Relations Lead, North	NELP	Jim Needham (JN) Communications & Stakeholder Relations Manager, Early Works	NELP
Alyce Jeffrey (AJ) Senior Precinct Community Engagement Advisor	Spark D&C	Scott Nicholls (SN) Project Manager	LXRP
Elizabeth Patena (EP) Senior Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor	NELP	Stephanie Eggleston (SE) Communications & Stakeholder Relations Manager	LXRP
Benita Williams (BW) Stakeholder & Community Relations Coordinator	CPB	Ivan Zarezkij (IZ) Communications & Stakeholder Relations Advisor, Graduate	NELP

Apologies			
Name	Organisation		
Simon Chao (SC) Senior Traffic and Planning Engineer	VicRoads	Mark Judge (MJ) Manager Project Integration and Assurance	VicRoads
Kate Zisos (KZ) Stakeholder and Community Relations Advisor	CPB		

## Key discussion points/decisions

Owner	Action
Jeni Coutts (JC)	<p><b>Welcome and outstanding business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JC: Welcomed the group to the second meeting for 2022.</li> </ul>

Owner	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● JC: Welcomed Syd Philips, Spark Director of Constructions and Niall Boyle, Spark Senior Manager, Communications.</li> <li>● JC: Welcomed Louisa Rendina, NELP Senior Manager Community Partnerships. Louisa job shares with Natalie Pearson and will play an active role in the NCLG.</li> <li>● JC: Outstanding issues and actions (see below table).</li> <li>● JC: Confirmed next CLG meeting will be held in person at Montmorency RSL on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2022 10am – 12pm.</li> </ul>
<p>Melissa Read (MR)</p> <p>Glen Preema (GP)</p> <p>Chris Logan (CL)</p> <p>Matthew Pochroj (MP)</p>	<p><b>CPB Works Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● MP: Borlase early works is coming to a close. Greensborough Road finalised. Handover to take place to Spark in May. The reinstatement of the shared user path along Greensborough Road will be completed prior to Spark handover.</li> <li>● MP: Water main works at Borlase completed over 2 weekends in mid-February. DN600 Large gate valve installed 3m deep. Received some minor complaints and these were managed accordingly. Final product has turned out very well.</li> <li>● MP: Reinstatement works are continuing on footpaths and shared user path surrounding the reserve. Still targeting completion for the end of March at Borlase Reserve.</li> <li>● GP: Northern Zone – Telstra on site to complete telecommunications work to relocate its network. This work has been organised by Telstra and it has arranged its own contractors. Work started at Nell Street heading south toward Longmuir Road. Aiming to minimise disruptions to community. Residents impacted by driveway access restrictions are actively being door knocked.</li> <li>● GP: Frensham Reserve site compound – site setup started in February. Works will support the Northern gas main relocations in Watsonia and Greensborough. Intend to have power installed and not a generator. Timber hoarding to be installed along the front of Frensham Reserve site. A crushed rock path is being installed around the site. Very little visibility if timber hoarding goes up. CPB has raised concerns with council regarding safety issues. Evidence of vandalism in the past in the area and a general feeling of being unsafe. Council keen to retain a shared user path connection through Frensham Reserve.</li> <li>● GP: Northern Gas – Watsonia Road. All night works, approximately 6-week duration. Connecting gas main into main network. Start date TBC. NELP and CPB met with Watsonia Traders Association on 3/03 to discuss individual trader impacts and support. Once APA is on board and traffic management plan is available, more details will be shared with the community.</li> <li>● GP: Stage 2 Southern end of Watsonia Road from 7pm – 6am. More complicated works involving laying pipes. This will require road closures. Detours will be for approximately 3 weeks (at night). Currently working with APA to confirm start date.</li> <li>● MR: Communications update: Drainage pit works at Drysdale Street prevented truck access via Greensborough Road to site, upcoming notification being prepared for Watsonia Road gas relocations, email and letter box drops sent to Borlase Street residents about truck route access.</li> <li>● GP: Northern Gas mains – Todman and Grimshaw Streets. If works go ahead, the start date will be mid-year. APA due to get tender back next week. Once works are confirmed to be going ahead, consultation with the community will begin.</li> </ul>

Owner	Action
	<p><u>Questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ JC: MG has raised a question about trucks on Borlase Street. Can CPB provide update? <b>CL confirmed there have been issues with the haul road. Turning circle and safety issues were assessed. Speed monitors are in place. There is no longer a need to haul materials out of Borlase. If needed, trucks can now exit onto Greensborough Road. CPB has worked closely with residents along Borlase. Respite has been offered and additional traffic measures put in place. CL agrees with Michelle. This has been extensively assessed and CPB has put in place a number of measures to make the site as safe as possible. Speed detection boards were installed to comply with on-site safety rules.</b></li> <li>○ SM: Can CPB look at pushing work back until later in the evening (9pm)? Some traders are trading beyond 7pm. <b>Understand the disruption for traders is concerning. CPB needs to maintain enough productive hours to ensure work is completed as quickly as possible. If work started at 9pm there would be a two hour loss of work.</b></li> <li>○ SM: Can works be pushed back past 6am? Traffic can find a different way to go. Changes in habits cannot be brought back. Customer habits are the traders' main concern. This is the start of many years of disruptions for traders and the community. <b>CPB will engage with DoT and Banyule Council to explore options. NELP and CPB are liaising with traders to inform impacts and understand trader requirements. Also investigating shift start times and will provide more info when available.</b></li> </ul>
<p>Holly Havers (HH) Sydney Philips (SPH)</p>	<p><b>Tunnelling package design presentation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● HH: Introduction. Very excited to be working on this project. Committed to working with the community and appreciate this is a long journey with many significant impacts to community.</li> <li>● SPH: Package of works Spark has been awarded runs from Watsonia Road to Bulleen Road (just short of Eastern Fwy). It includes a major upgrade of Greensborough Road to a tree lined boulevard, new and upgraded green bridge, and new ancillary infrastructure to support tunnel and freeway network, including cut and cover sections around Borlase Reserve and Manningham Road.</li> <li>● HH: Project milestones coming in the next few months. Work continues with Geotechnical investigations, tree and ecological assessments, trader engagement activities, consultation on construction compounds, Urban Design Landscape Plan (UDLP) public exhibition.</li> <li>● SPH: Construction compounds will be built to mitigate impacts to community. Spark will be there for a long time so will be setting up facilities with this in mind, for example, access will be sealed or asphalted for dust management and amenity, air conditioner motors will be away from residents and light shields will be used to protect from light spill.</li> <li>● HH: Many opportunities await for the Watsonia shopping precinct. Spark is committed to making sure local community want to shop in local area. Spark is working on some great initiatives and will share more details soon. Spark will also be working with BLGs, traders, and trader engagement groups to develop a Trader Engagement Plan.</li> <li>● HH &amp; FW: The UDLP communicates the vision, look and feel for what communities will experience when the project is completed and beyond. Public exhibition will commence after Easter for the whole community to provide meaningful feedback. We will be hosting sessions at NELP Watsonia Hub and Veneto Club. The UDLP directly responds to the project's Urban Design Strategy and Environmental Performance Requirements developed through the EES process. This will be an opportunity to hear community feedback and provide this to Minister for Planning toward the end of year.</li> </ul>

Owner	Action
	<p><u>Questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ AM: Will Spark be prioritising use of recycled cement/asphalt for surfaces to improve broader sustainability goals? <b>Not just in the compound but the whole project will comply with Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia guidelines (version 2.1). Some things being targeted include recycled glass to replace sand in concrete and use of recycled rubber. There is a huge range of initiatives in place. Further guidance will be provided in future meetings. Absolutely committed to achieving substantial rating from ISCA from delivery of this project. Measured during the 25 years of operation.</b></li> <li>○ MG: Who reviews the tree and ecological assessment? <b>Spark will advise in next meeting. HH will look to get a subject matter expert to explain.</b></li> <li>○ SM: Traders want to be consulted and participate as much as possible. SM noted that patience is wearing thin because the community feels information is not being provided. <b>HH confirmed that Spark is resourcing staff and preparing detail to share with the community.</b></li> </ul>
<p>Stephanie Eggleston (SE)</p> <p>Scott Nicholls (SN)</p>	<p><b>Hurstbridge Line Duplication Project (LXRP)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SN: The Victorian Government is delivering further improvements on the Hurstbridge line, including more train services, less crowding on peak trains, better connectors to public transport in Melbourne's north-east.</li> <li>● SN: Works include duplication of 2km of track between Greensborough and Montmorency, building new modern stations at Greensborough and Montmorency, duplication of 1.5km of track between Diamond Creek and Wattle Glen, upgrades to platform 2 at Diamond Creek Station and new pedestrian connection near Diamond Valley College.</li> <li>● SE: We are communicating and mitigating impacts and ensuring we streamline communications with Vic Big Build projects.</li> </ul> <p><u>Questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ SP: What is happening with the Eltham Copper Butterfly and the impact on the Montmorency Station? <b>We will avoid impact to the habitat of the Eltham Copper butterfly in the local area.</b></li> <li>○ SP: Will there still be duplication through Montmorency? <b>Yes, duplication will be up to Montmorency Station. Due to the Eltham Copper Butterfly, we will no longer be duplicating after Montmorency Station and underneath the Mountain View Road bridge.</b></li> <li>○ SP: Diamond Creek is a huge bottleneck and I expect it will get worse with traffic congestion during NELP. Is Diamond Creek Station part of the works? <b>There is potential for it to be considered in the future.</b></li> <li>○ RM: Fantastic to see Greensborough Station improvements. Carpark capacity at Watsonia Train Station is an issue – are any upgrades planned for Watsonia Station? <b>This is not in the scope for the Hurstbridge Line Duplication Project. Network and Planning is a question for Department of Transport.</b></li> <li>○ MG: Watsonia Station - the community is concerned with accessibility at Watsonia station with its steep ramps. With billions of dollars of work around the station how is this not being upgraded? <b>This is not currently in NELP or LXRP's scope of works. CLG members are encouraged to raise concerns with DoT and local MP's.</b></li> </ul>

Owner	Action
Chris Woodroffe (CW)	<p><b>Northern Package update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CW: The works include: a seamless interchange between M80, Greensborough Bypass and new North East Link, new and upgraded walking and cycling paths, new Yando Street walking and cycling underpass, new Grimshaw Street interchange improving traffic flow and local access, new Nell Street walking and cycling overpass, direct connections for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians at Elder Street and Watsonia Road, new Watsonia Station car park and better bus connections, new planting and landscaping including Ring Road wetlands.</li> <li>• CW: NELP continues to refine planning. Timeline 2022 – seeking project builders, design and planning continues, 2023 - successful bidder to be appointed, opportunity for community feedback, 2024 - major works start for roads to open in 2027/28.</li> </ul> <p><u>Questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ RM: Where are things at with contractor? <b>We are in the procurement process for the rest of 2022 and expect to appoint a contractor in 2023.</b></li> <li>○ JC: Watsonia Station and DDA compliance. <b>Best to direct enquiries to the Department of Transport.</b></li> <li>○ AM: Why has the timeline already blown out? Government mentioned it will be a 7year construction timeline. This is way beyond 7 years.</li> </ul>
Louisa Rendina (LR)	<p><b>Upcoming Community Engagement Events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LR: We are working with local councils and other MTIA projects to plan for more events in 2022:</li> </ul> <p>Knox Festival – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March</p> <p>Watsonia Heights Primary School Fete – Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March</p> <p>Binnak Park – Community Open Day – Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March</p> <p>Ford Park – Community Open Day – Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March</p> <p>If you know of any events coming up, please let Louisa or Natalie know.</p>
Jeni Coutts (JC)	<p><b>Open Forum:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SP: Watsonia Station was built in the 1970's. <b>Upgrades are not in the NELP or LXRP scope to deliver. People should speak with DoT and local MP Colin Brooks.</b></li> <li>• SP: Need better maps available to better understand traffic management. <b>Spark are working on better maps that will be provided soon.</b></li> <li>• RM: Nothing to raise.</li> <li>• SM: Watsonia Traders Association has been actively lobbying local MP to improve Watsonia Train Station. We encourage others to continue to lobby.</li> <li>• AM: If we don't make changes to Watsonia Train Station the UDLP desires will be irrelevant. It is a poor urban design outcome. AM wanted to reiterate it is important for community members to feel like they are being heard. First phase felt like community were not heard and ignored by the Minister in final determination. <b>CLG members encouraged to raise upgrades to Watsonia Station with their local MP and Department of Transport.</b></li> <li>• PB: Nothing to raise.</li> <li>• MM: Nothing to raise.</li> <li>• MG: Fully support comments made by AM and SM today.</li> </ul>

Owner	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MG: Can we please see a list of NELP attendees and their roles? Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. <b>Titles have been included in the attendee list</b></li> <li>• JC: acknowledged MG's email to NELP received on 2/3 with questions.</li> <li>• MG: We should have been notified of the Bulleen Park and Ride Planning Scheme Amendment. LR advised project advertised via NELP social media channels and an email to the subscriber list. Encouraged NCLG members to subscribe to all of the NELP channels. LR committed to sharing the links to these channels in the meeting minutes. <b>Southern CLG will discuss these matters. Northern CLG is not the platform to discuss.</b></li> <li>• MG: In the past used to have joint CLG's. Community is interested in the whole project, not just the Northern part of the project. <b>Information is available on the Project website and through Newsletters and social media. The links to various sites are below:</b></li> </ul> <p>Facebook <a href="https://www.facebook.com/nelpvic/">https://www.facebook.com/nelpvic/</a></p> <p>LinkedIn <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/north-east-link-project/">https://www.linkedin.com/company/north-east-link-project/</a></p> <p>Twitter <a href="https://twitter.com/nelpvic">https://twitter.com/nelpvic</a></p> <p>Instagram <a href="https://www.instagram.com/nelpvic/">https://www.instagram.com/nelpvic/</a></p> <p>Subscribe to e-newsletters <a href="https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/projects/north-east-link-program/about/contact/subscribe">https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/projects/north-east-link-program/about/contact/subscribe</a></p> <p>Link to CLG information, including meeting minutes, on our website: <a href="https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/projects/north-east-link-program/about/community-liaison-groups">https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/projects/north-east-link-program/about/community-liaison-groups</a></p>
Jeni Coutts (JC)	<p><b>Other business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JC: We will be refreshing the NCLG membership in the middle of the year. Will undertake a recruitment process.</li> <li>• JC: Thanked NCLG members and presenters and closed the meeting at 12.00pm.</li> </ul>

## Actions and issues register

No.	Date raised	Action/Issue	Owner	Status	Date closed
N1-1	12 November	Is there interest in a Presentation from the Greensborough Historical Society (GHS) to CLG-North.	NELP	OPEN – NP has contacted the Greensborough Historical Society for further information on the historical traffic study. NP will provide details to Steven Paul to follow up with GHS.	
N1-2	21 January	Request for traffic numbers to be shown at an upcoming meeting	NELP	OPEN More traffic data provided to the	

No.	Date raised	Action/Issue	Owner	Status	Date closed
				group when available.	
N1-3	21 January	Will Gabonia be used as a construction laydown area?	NELP	CLOSED CW confirmed the site will be offered up to contractors as part of the alliance. NELP will be communicating with impacted residents ahead of time if it is to be used.	4 March
N1-4	21 January	When will the street trees be reinstated at Borlase?	NELP	OPEN– CK confirmed currently working through when this might be possible.	
N1-5	4 March	MR to provide more details to MG on the Frensham Reserve shared user path. MG will request Council revisit this issue	CPB	OPEN	
N1-6	4 March	JC requested future presentation on Sustainability	NELP	OPEN	
N1-7	Complaints management process	Provide details of complaints and issues resolution trends.	NELP	OPEN	
N1-8	Watsonia Train Station upgrades	Provide MG with contact details for the Department of Transport	NELP	OPEN	