

Meeting Minutes

Date: 4 September 2023
Program: Suburban Rail Loop
Title: Burwood Precinct Reference Group
Location: Deakin University, Burwood; Zoom
Meeting Number: 8
Chair/s: Louisa McPhee (GHD), Matt Fregon MP for Ashwood
Minute Taker: Letiesha Jamieson

| Attendees | Apologies |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matt Fregon, Member for Ashwood Louisa McPhee, GHD David Solly, Whitehorse Ratepayers and Residents Association (proxy) Mark Coffey, Melbourne Water Yvonne Yip, Deakin University John Wilson, Community representative Leah McGuinness, Whitehorse City Council Adam Mellino, Suburban Rail Loop Authority (SRLA) Erin Dale, SRLA Charles Windeyer, SRLA James Tonkin, SRLA Jesse Overton-Skinner, SRLA Rebecca McHutchison, SRLA Letiesha Jamieson, SRLA Liz Grabham, Laing O'Rourke (LOR) Nicole Ekert, LOR | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graham Ross, KooyongKoot Alliance Graham Scott, Community representative Mark Joel, Mount Scopus Matthew Duke, Presbyterian Ladies' College Michelle Mayur, Whitehorse Ratepayers and Residents Association |

| Item | Discussion topic | Who |
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| 1. | Welcome and housekeeping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Louisa McPhee (LMP) welcomed attendees and opened the meeting, noting that David Solly (DS) was in attendance on behalf of Michelle Mayur. Matt Fregon (MF) gave an Acknowledgment of Country. LMP recapped previous action items, noting the recirculation of prior minutes and the ongoing progression of the Gardiner's Creek naturalisation. | LMP / MF |
| 2. | Works update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LOR provided an overview of current and upcoming works in Burwood noting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The formal launch of the new park, with a community event celebrating the official opening on 21 May. Around 250 community members attended, with activities for children and coffee and crepes provided. The formal site establishment works in Sinnott Street Reserve are concluding, with ground levelling and hoarding to mitigate dust and noise complete. The tunnel access shaft will be completed in three stages planned over 18 months. | LOR |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Day works are planned, with some overnight work required for equipment deliveries. Formal notices will continue to be given to residents, including door knocks, as well as engagement with key stakeholders. Future works for the end of 2023 will include utility relocations, network support facility installation, as well as cable removal - including along Burwood Highway. | |
| 3. | <p>Suburban Rail Loop (SRL) East tunnelling procurement milestone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRLA provided an update on procurement, noting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recent announcement of a preferred bidder for the first tunnelling contract from Cheltenham to Glen Waverley. The contract is expected to be formally awarded in late 2023 to Suburban Connect. The two remaining bidders will progress to procurement of the second tunnelling contract, from Glen Waverley to Box Hill Tunnelling will commence in 2026. | SRLA |
| 4. | <p>Structure planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRLA presented an overview of the structure planning process, noting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role of SRL precincts, noting the need for appropriate planning to cater for Melbourne's population growth. SRLA's efficient and engaging approach to structure planning. Program outputs, with the recent release of the Precincts Discussion Paper. Structure planning timeframes with final Structure Plans in place by early 2026. The role of SRL East Community Panels. The purpose of the Precincts Discussion Paper, with the community encouraged to have their say via online Engage Victoria survey and upcoming events. Upcoming community consultation opportunities, including shopping centre pop ups and community listening posts. <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MF enquired on behalf of his constituents about the SRL station names, explaining the potential confusion with the existing Burwood Station <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRLA confirmed they are aware of potential confusion. SRL East stations do not have official names yet, and this will be discussed in future. | |
| 5. | <p>Community engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRLA provided an overview of recent and upcoming engagements including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recent Gardiners Creek Community Project Fund (CPF) planting day. Recently published online articles including a piece on the vegetation donated to Melbourne Zoo and the 'Let's explore Burwood' feature. Upcoming opportunities where SRL will be engaging with the community, including shopping centre pop-ups, community listening posts, Whitehorse Spring Festival, Melbourne Moon Festival and Whitehorse Heritage Week sponsored community tour of the Victorian Tunnelling Centre ONGOING ACTION: PRG members to advise SRLA of any community engagement opportunities MF mentioned that while at Saturday's tree planting event, he spoke with a contact at Friends from Gardiners Creek about historical archives and photos of the creek. MF suggested SRLA could get involved with this, stemming from SRLA calling out for suggestions on future engagement opportunities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACTION: SRLA to consider opportunities to utilise Gardiner's Creek archival information. SRLA noted the sign to be erected at the new park and playground includes historical information and photos of the Sinnott Street Reserve and the Drive-In, provided by the Box Hill Historical Society. | |

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| 6. | <p>Questions and actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Solly (DS) asked if there are any plans to link up the cycling paths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRLA acknowledged there is a gap in the current pedestrian and bike path routes and SRLA and Whitehorse City Council are aware and considering this. SRLA advised the current station plans have three new connections across Burwood Highway, two for pedestrians and one for cyclists. SRLA are prioritising active transport to make it easier to walk and cycle to the stations. John Wilson (JW) advised that the Gardiners Creek Trail can be dangerous due to some cyclist's behaviour and asked if there are plans to separate cyclists and pedestrians <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRLA advised sections of the new paths would likely be separated as part of the plan to naturalise Gardiner's Creek. LMP thanked everyone for attending. MF added that while at the announcement in Burwood last Tuesday 29 August he observed the new hoarding at the Burwood site. He said it put into perspective how easy it will be for future Deakin University students to travel to campus. SRLA advised the next PRG will be between late October and early-November TBC | All |
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| Item | Stakeholder | Details | Status / due | Owner |
|----------------|-------------|---|--------------|-------------|
| Actions | | | | |
| 1. | SRLA | Consider opportunities to utilise archival information regarding the history of Gardiners Creek | Pending | SRLA |
| 2. | PRG Members | PRG members to advise SRLA of any community engagement opportunities | Ongoing | PRG members |