

Meeting Minutes

Date: 7 September 2023
Program: Suburban Rail Loop
Title: Box Hill Precinct Reference Group
Meeting Number: 8
Chair: Louisa McPhee GHD
Minute Taker: Ryan Parker, Suburban Rail Loop Authority

Attendees	Apologies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Louisa McPhee, GHD, Facilitator, Co-Chair Paul Hamer MP for Box Hill, Co-Chair Bihong Wang, Asian Business Association of Whitehorse David Morrison, Combined Residents of Whitehorse Action Group Helen Harris, Box Hill Historical Society Kevin Earl, Whitehorse Ratepayers and Residents Association Sam Matthews, Box Hill Institute William Ma, Asian Business Association of Whitehorse Leah McGuinness, Whitehorse City Council Andrew Kelly, Suburban Rail Loop Authority (SRLA) Charles Windeyer, SRLA Jesse Overton-Skinner, SRLA Elizabeth Reynolds, SRLA Erin Dale, SRLA Letiesha Jamieson, SRLA Lissa van Camp, SRLA Rebecca McHutchison SRLA Ryan Parker, SRLA Liz Grabham, Laing O'Rourke (LOR) Nicole Ekert, Laing O'Rourke (LOR) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Andrew McCulloch, Community Representative Chris Trueman, Whitehorse Active Transport Action Group Darren Stock, Vicinity Centres Jane Grover, Box Hill Institute Michelle Mayur, Whitehorse Ratepayers and Residents Association

Item	Discussion topic	Who
1.	Welcome and housekeeping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paul Hamer MP (PH) welcomed attendees and opened the meeting PH gave an Acknowledgment of Country Louisa McPhee (LMP) provided an overview of the agenda LMP recapped previous actions and noted recirculation of prior minutes. 	PH/LMP
2.	Suburban Rail Loop (SRL) East tunnelling procurement milestone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRLA provided an update on procurement, noting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The preferred bidder for Works Package C is Suburban Connect, a consortium of global leaders in tunnelling 	SRLA

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The procurement process and model, including upcoming tenders. 	
3.	<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 efficiency of SRL's timeline for structure plan development, with final structure plans in place by early 2026. ○ The consultation and engagement process, highlighting that community and stakeholder feedback remains a vital part of planning. ○ The scope of SRL Community Panels, highlighting Expressions of Interest is currently out for recruitment for seven panels, one per precinct and a youth panel. <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SRLA noted the separation between the Precinct Reference Group (PRG) membership and SRL Community Panels. • David Morrison (DM) queried if SRLA would incorporate previous structure planning work done by Whitehorse City Council (WCC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SRLA noted that SRLA works closely with WCC and will consider all available information in the structure planning process. • DM asked if SRLA planned to make a submission to the Vicinity Centres Master Plan Standing Advisory Committee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SRLA indicated it would not be making a submission and noted that the Department of Transport and Planning is preparing a response. • DM queried if the SRLA structure plan would override any existing structure plans in place for those areas. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SRLA noted two structure plans cannot be in place over the same area, therefore the SRLA structure plan would supersede the current <i>Box Hill Transit City Activity Centre Structure Plan 2007</i>. • Kevin Earl (KE) queried the function of a smaller SRLA structure plan area within the Whitehorse City Council municipality. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SRLA clarified the areas subject to SRLA structure plans would be defined within the 1.6km radius of each SRL station where SRLA will become a planning authority upon gazettal of the SRL planning area. SRLA noted the structure plans and planning scheme amendments will only affect parts of the planning scheme covering the entire Whitehorse City Council and do not replace Council responsibilities. • Leah McGuinness (LMG) asked if the 1.6km radius is up for negotiation in the structure planning process. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SRLA responded that the SRL planning area will be declared by Government and is not something SRLA is consulting on. The structure plan areas may be smaller than the planning area. • LMG queried at which point in the process will the structure plan areas be defined. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SRLA responded the structure plan areas would be defined following the initial consultation phases regarding draft precinct visions occurring in late 2023. • KE raised concerns regarding tree removal for current works <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SRLA noted no trees have been removed which were not approved through the Environment Effects Statement which included a Planning Scheme Amendment approved by the Minister for the Environment and Climate Action. • Helen Harris (HH) queried the effect on heritage sites within the 1.6km radius of the SRL East station 	SRLA

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SRLA noted that the structure plan would not necessarily apply to the full 1.6km radius and any planning scheme amendments within this area would carefully and sensitively consider existing heritage. • PH questioned the effect on areas within the 1.6km radius planning area that are not subject to structure plans. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SRLA noted SRLA would have the authority to prepare planning scheme amendments but noted SRLA would not be the only planning authority, with WCC retaining its planning authority status. ○ SRLA added that SRLA is a referral authority for planning permit applications within the extent of Specific Controls Overlay (SCO) 14 and 15 which relate to the areas affected by construction of the tunnels and station. • SRLA highlighted live surveys on the Engage Victoria website and encouraged PRG members to make a submission. 	
4.	<p>Works update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LOR provided an update on works in Box Hill, noting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Initial and early works underway and upcoming ○ An outline of the tram terminus relocation, including an overview of upcoming disruptions, noting access to all businesses and residents will be maintained throughout the works. ○ The Box Hill Tram Terminus Urban Design and Landscape Plan (UDLP) has been approved by the Minister for Planning. <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SRLA encouraged PRG members to make submissions to future UDLPs • LMP noted all PRG members have been added to the works notification distribution list. • DM commented on changes to cycling paths due to the future realignment of the tram route and Maroondah Highway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SRLA highlighted improvement to the tram and pedestrian interface by moving the tram terminus west, noting the east-west cycling path will continue south of the tram tracks, with enablement of the north-south strategic cycling corridor at Nelson Street. • KE queried if access will be maintained to the Australian Taxation Office car park during disruptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ LOR confirmed that car park access would be maintained down Bruce Street. • KE raised concerns regarding recent communications disruptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ LOR responded that any service outages will be communicated with the affected residents and businesses, noting no telecommunications work has been undertaken by East. • KE noted concern regarding detour signage leading up to Nelson Street on Maroondah Highway eastbound. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ LOR responded U-turn signage at Nelson Street is the last moment for detour ○ ACTION: LOR to follow up to confirm earlier detour signage is in place. 	LOR
5.	<p>Trader support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LOR provided an overview of the trader support program for Box Hill, noting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Positive feedback from traders due to public access being maintained. ○ Upcoming voucher and workforce spending campaigns aiming to increase local spending. 	LOR

6.	Community engagement update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRLA provided an update on upcoming community engagement in Box Hill, noting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunities where SRLA will be engaging with the community, including shopping centre popups, community listening events, Whitehorse Spring Festival and Melbourne Moon Festival attendance and Whitehorse Heritage Week sponsored community tour of the Victorian Tunnelling Centre ONGOING ACTION: PRG members to advise SRLA of any community engagement opportunities. 	SRLA
7.	Questions and actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DM raised concerns about bicycle networks, including the Thurston Street overpass, being disrupted due to other works in the central Box Hill area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SRLA noted SRLA is not a referral authority for planning applications that fall outside the scope of Specific Controls Overlay 14 and 15. PH thanked attendees for their participation and encouraged PRG members to circulate structure planning information to their networks. LMP thanked attendees and closed the meeting. 	All

Item	Stakeholder	Details	Status / due	Owner
Actions				
1.	CROWAG	LOR to confirm detour signage leading up to Nelson Street on Maroondah Highway eastbound	Pending	LOR
2.	SRLA	PRG members to advise SRLA of any community engagement opportunities	Ongoing	PRG members