

# Meeting minutes

**Date:** 18 February 2024      Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm  
**Location:** Quest Moorabbin/Teams  
**Program:** Suburban Rail Loop  
**Title:** Heatherton Community Reference Group  
**Meeting Number:** 10  
**Chair:** Kim Jordan

Attendees	Organisation/Role
Kim Jordan	Chair
<b>Members</b>	
Andrew Dawson	Residents Against Inappropriate Development
Carol Dawson	Residents Against Inappropriate Development
Martin Powles	Community representative
Romina Atai	Kingston City Council (KCC)
<b>Suburban Rail Loop Authority (SRLA)</b>	
Adam Greenberger (Online)	Senior Manager, Environment & Planning
Brenton Shaughnessy	Deputy Director, Engagement
Hugh Rutledge (Online)	Senior Delivery Manager
Mitch Getson	Engagement Adviser
Sarah Moss	Senior Engagement Adviser
<b>Laing O'Rourke (LOR)</b>	
Joanna De lotto	Senior Community Relations Manager
Tom Hastings	Project Manager
<b>Suburban Connect (SC)</b>	
Patrick Rafferty	Construction Manager
Richard Landrigan	Communication and Stakeholder Engagement Manager – Cheltenham and Heatherton
Gareth Glover (Online)	Planning and Approvals Manager
<b>Apologies</b>	
Michelle Hornstein	Kingston Residents Association
Meng Heang Tak	State Member for Clarinda
<b>Non-attendance</b>	
Andrew Taylor	Kingston Heath Golf Club
Guy Davidson	Community representative

Item	Discussion topic
1.	Welcome and housekeeping
2.	Previous actions and community questions
3.	SRLA update
4.	Communications and engagement summary
5.	Upcoming works summary
6.	Initial and Early Works
7.	Break
8.	Tunnels South update
11.	Forward program
12.	Other business
13.	Questions and discussion
14.	Meeting closed

## Meeting minutes

### Discussion

#### 1. Welcome and housekeeping

- Kim Jordan (KJ) welcomed attendees and opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country
- SRLA noted future meetings have been scheduled for the entire year and will not clash with Parliament sitting days to allow the Member of Parliament (MP) to attend.

#### 2. Previous actions and community questions

- SRLA noted the previous DTP action regarding route 631 has been closed and advised members to contact DTP directly through their contact centre if they require further information about bus route changes.
- SRLA advised updated target dates for future presentation opportunities.
- SC advised there is a process already in place to notify the community in the unlikely event of an asbestos exceedance. SMS alerts will not be used for asbestos updates.
- SC noted they are still confirming if Kingston Walk Linear Reserve fences can be replaced and will provide an update in a future meeting.
- KCC noted they have received some community enquiries related to dust in the area and Alex Fraser operations. Council is investigating if they have enforcement powers and will keep the community updated. KCC has been in contact with SC regularly regarding SRL East works.
- SRLA advised there will be soil testing in the northern portion of the Stabling Facility over the coming weeks. These works will be like previous site investigations with some scrub being removed to allow test pits to be excavated. Works will start in the north-west corner of the Stabling Facility and progress across the site.

## Discussion

### 3. SRLA presentation, including:

- Project progress
- Out of hours works process

#### Discussion

- Q: Can you provide more information about the Independent Environmental Auditor (IEA) auditing process?
  - A: The SRL East Environmental Management Framework outlines the auditing process. The IEA conducts routine monthly audits to ensure the controls in place on-site are in accordance with the management plans and are implemented appropriately. The IEA also completes quarterly audits which review the SRL East Environmental Performance Requirements (EPRs) depending on the work underway. EPRs will be audited within the cycle if they've been triggered. A 6-monthly audit report is also uploaded to the SRLA website.
- Q: Are baseline readings measured out of hours?
  - A: Yes, the baseline measurement is generated over a minimum of 7 days. This includes measurements at daytime hours, early evening, true night and early morning to develop the baseline reading. Contractors noise modelling is building on what has been measured since the Environmental Effects Statement (EES) and adding more data. Any measurements must be undertaken when there are no SRL East works occurring. Contractors cannot reestablish baseline levels as they rely on past modelling. The baseline levels were modelling during COVID and are lower than normal noise levels in the area as a result.
- Q: Is there a point of appeal for the contractor or community?
  - A: If the IEA rejects an out of hours proposal the contractor cannot start the works. The contractor must reassess the proposal with stronger controls or changes to the methodology and resubmit the proposal for assessment.
  - SRLA advised if community is unhappy with proposed work they can contact the Big Build contact centre, if they are still unhappy with the outcome, they can contact the Public Transport Ombudsman (PTO).
- A community member noted they had previously contacted the PTO and they advised they couldn't assist as SRL was not operational.
  - SRLA confirmed the PTO will consider SRL East related complaints and they address concerns about major public transport infrastructure projects.

### 4. Communications and engagement update, including:

- Communications and engagement update

#### Discussion:

- Community members noted that there have been significant dust impacts in the area recently and noted concerns with the trigger level for management.
  - LOR advised there are multiple dust monitors on site and the air quality is reported on monthly. These reports are available on the SRLA website.
- A community member requested maps of the dust monitor locations.
- SRLA advised a link can be provided to the monthly air quality reports that include maps of monitor locations when the presentation is circulated.

## Discussion

- **ACTION: SRLA to provide a link to the monthly air quality reports with the meeting slides.**
- Q: Does the air quality report include averages?
  - A: Yes, the air quality report includes the 24-hour average.
- SRLA added the report includes technical detail related to the monitoring process, instances of exceedances and the reason the air quality monitor may have been triggered. The report also includes how the contractor responded.
  - **ACTION: LOR and SC to provide a presentation on the trigger levels for air quality monitoring and response protocols at a future meeting.**
- Community members noted they are concerned about response to dust issues outside of working hours when crews are not on-site.

## 5. Upcoming works summary, including:

- Works lookahead
- Kingston Road impacts: February to April
- Truck haulage routes

## Discussion

- Q: Is there an updated tree removal plan?
  - A: Tree removal within the boundary of the Stabling Facility Western Tunnel Entrance (WTE) is complete, with some trees along Kingston Road to be removed.
  - **ACTION: SRLA to recirculate previous tree removal slide for the.**
- A community member requested information about the trees that have been removed for the Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) launch site, Clarinda.
  - **ACTION: SC to provide information about trees being removed from the TBM launch site.**
- A community member noted the trees and bund at the TBM launch site were part of the mitigations included in the previous Alex Fraser Group permit to operate and queried if the business is now operating outside of their permit conditions.
  - SC noted that they cannot comment on Alex Fraser operations. SC works will include asphaltting and hoarding installation to minimise impacts from their works. Once tunnelling works are complete the area will be revegetated.
  - SRLA added that Alex Fraser Group is required to operate within agreed conditions and operate independently to SRL East works within a reconfigured site.
  - **ACTION: SRLA to investigate Alex Fraser permit requirements post site reconfiguration.**
- A community member noted that you can see dust coming off the Alex Fraser site from their operations.
  - SC noted they have proactively raised the dust items with Alex Fraser Group.
- SC advised the TBM launch site will have hard surfaces, including concrete hardstands, asphaltting of internal roads and spoil sheds in future once the site is fully established.
- A community member noted the temporary lighting on the corner of Old Dandenong Road and Kingston Road impacts visibility because of its brightness.
  - **ACTION: LOR to investigate adjustments to temporary lighting on the Old Dandenong Road approach to Kingston Road.**
- Q: What hours are trucks operating for LOR excavation works at the Eastern Tunnel Entrance site?
  - A: LOR truck movements will occur 24/6, Monday to Saturday for a short period from mid-March for the first stage of excavation of the Eastern Tunnel Entrance (ETE). These works will occur in stages, with excavation works initially for a week and strut install to

## Discussion

follow. Future stages will have similar timing of alternating excavation work and strut install.

- SC noted their excavation works will be to level the WTE site and removal of spoil will occur during normal working hours, Monday to Saturday.
- Q: Why does the works notice include 24-hour works for the whole year?
  - A: There will be works happening throughout the year at times in the Stabling Facility. Noise modelling and respite requirements still apply.
- Q: Where do trucks go when they reach Dingley Bypass?
  - A: They can go in either direction once they reach the Dingley Bypass, the majority will turn left.
  - SRLA added trucks will only use arterial roads for haulage.
- Q: What facility is being used for LOR spoil disposal?
  - A: Spoil will be sent to Bulla for these works.

### 6. Initial and Early Works (IEW) update, including:

- Current works
- Key milestones
- Noise monitoring update

#### Current works and key milestones discussion:

- Q: Are power works in the Stabling Facility impacting power supply to residents?
  - A: All power works at the Network Support Facility (NSF) are off-grid so any impacts are not related to NSF works.
- Community members noted there has been occurrences of what they believe to be vibration impacts in the area recently.
  - **Post meeting update:** SC investigated these complaints and confirmed the impact is caused by low-frequency noise related to a roller machine being used on the site. SC is working with community – offering respite and relocation in some instances – while they work to reduce the impact of the machinery.
- Community members noted when they call the contact centre they feel like they are passed between contractors and they don't get a resolution to their concerns.
  - SC advised if community members call the contact centre and request to speak to a member of the project team, SC will reach out to the stakeholder even if they don't have an answer and will work through the issue directly.

#### Noise monitoring update discussion:

- SC noted a noise monitor will be in place from April at the WTE. **Post meeting update:** SC installed noise monitors at the WTE site and select neighbouring homes in late February 2025.

### 8-10. Tunnels South (SC) update, including:

- Asbestos Containing Material (ACM)
  - Monitoring and results
  - ACM update
- Western Tunnel Entrance (WTE), Heatherton
  - Current works
  - Boundary fencing
  - Kingston Linear Walk Reserve southern entry temporary changes

## Discussion

- TBM launch site, Clarinda
  - Current works
- Clarinda Network Support Facility

### ACM discussion:

- Q: Is the asbestos monitoring ongoing?
  - A: Yes.
- Community members noted they would like the asbestos monitoring to be reported on at each meeting and were happy with the information format shown in the presentation.
  - **ACTION: Contractors to include an asbestos monitoring slide at each meeting.**
- Q: Where are monitors located?
  - A: Multiple monitors are used for ACM removal including on the boundary, on equipment and personal monitors.
- A community member noted concerns about impacts to Christway College and concrete crushing.
  - SC noted they regularly engage with Christway College regarding ACM removal and the school is comfortable with the removal methodology. SC cannot comment on concrete crushing operations at Alex Fraser but confirmed they are coordinating with Alex Fraser Group to collectively work through reducing impacts of neighbouring businesses to the SRL East site at Clarinda.

### WTE discussion:

- Q: Will the existing chain-link fence along Kingston Linear Reserve be removed
  - A: Yes, the old chain link fence will be removed to enable the permanent hoarding to be installed.
- Q: How high will the hoarding be?
  - A: Around 3 metres
- Q: Will the trees near the existing southern entrance to Kingston Linear Reserve be removed?
  - A: No trees will be removed within the reserve. There will be some minor tree trimming to make sure the trees don't rub on the hoarding but no removal is planned.
- Q: Will the hoarding come all the way to the curb of Kingston Road and block pedestrian access?
  - A: There will be a small setback between the hoarding and Kingston Road. Once the western heavy vehicle entrance is open the area won't be suitable for pedestrians and the signalised pedestrian crossing will allow pedestrians to cross to the other side to move around the area safely.

### TBM launch site discussion:

- Q: Will piling involve noise and vibration?
  - A: There will be some noise and vibration associated with these works however bored piles are less disruptive than a driven pile, for example.
- Q: Could these works include night works?
  - A: Yes, subject to IEA verification of any out of hours work proposal.
- SC noted there will be D-wall works, similar to previous works at the ETE, later in the year.

### Clarinda Network Support Facility

- Q: Will there be disruptions to power for United Energy works.
  - A: No.



## Discussion

### 11. Forward program, including:

- Works lookahead

#### Discussion:

- Community members noted the updated works lookahead slide is a good format to present the information.

### 12. Other business, including:

- CRG dates
- Kingston Walk Linear Reserve hoarding

#### Discussion:

- Q: Will the design go the full length of the Kingston Walk Linear Reserve?
  - A: The design will go the complete length of the hoarding in the Kingston Walk Linear Reserve, however the hoarding won't extend to the Henry Street end at this stage. **Post meeting update:** It is likely permanent hoarding will be built along the length of the Kingston Linear Reserve beyond the Suburban Connect site in the south-west corner soon – exact timing is to be confirmed.

### 13. Questions and discussion:

- A community member noted the traffic setup on the corner of Nicholas Grove and Kingston Grove makes turning left into Nicholas Grove dangerous.
  - LOR advised this traffic setup will be removed in early-March and the Traffic Management Plan outlines a specific distance required to safely merge traffic into one lane.
  - **ACTION: LOR to investigate amending the traffic setup on the corner of Kingston Road and Nicholas Grove.**
- Q: Why isn't real time air-quality data published?
  - The project publishes monthly air quality reports on the SRL website.
  - **ACTION: SRLA to advise why real-time air-quality monitoring isn't available.**
- A community member advised dust is obvious in the area and was confused how this didn't trigger an exceedance.
  - SRLA advised when construction related dust triggers an exceedance it is responded to by the contractor. The monitoring is in place to ensure the project is doing everything in its power to ensure controls are in place to minimise construction related dust.
- Q: If dust impacts occur on a weekend will there be action?
  - A: Generally, interventions will not occur out of hours. SC will proactively monitor weather and wet the ground and areas around the site in the lead up to hot or windy weather to prevent dust as much as possible.
- Q: Does SC use street sweepers and water carts?
  - A: Yes, SC has both on site full-time.
  - **ACTION: SC to provide a summary of water truck and street sweeper movements and controls in place at the TBM launch site.**

### 14. Meeting closed at 8:10pm

## Actions

#	Previous Actions	Due	Status
1.	Future presentations <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Traffic assessment process including Kingston Road traffic assessment (April)</li> <li>2. Urban Design Advisory Panel (August)</li> <li>3. Public Open Space offset process and timeline (August)</li> <li>4. Ground improvement scope update (October)</li> <li>5. Updated scope for each work package since the EES. (October)</li> <li>6. Air quality monitoring, trigger levels and response protocols</li> </ol>	Future CRGs	Pending
#	New Actions	Due	Status
2.	SRLA to provide a link to the monthly air quality reports with the meeting slides.	Closed	Closed – see below response.
3.	LOR and SC to provide a presentation on the trigger levels for air quality monitoring and response protocols at a future meeting.	Future meeting	Open
4.	SRLA to recirculate previous tree removal slide for the WTE.	Closed	Closed – see below response.
5.	SC to provide tree removal plan for the TBM launch site.	Closed	Closed – see below response.
6.	SRLA to investigate Alex Fraser permit requirements post site reconfiguration.	Closed	Closed – see below response.
7.	LOR to investigate adjustments to temporary lighting on the Old Dandenong Road approach to Kingston Road.	Closed.	Closed – see below response.
8.	Contractors to include an asbestos monitoring slide at each meeting.	Closed	Closed and agreed
9.	LOR to investigate amending the traffic setup on the corner of Kingston Road and Nicholas Grove.	Closed.	Closed – see below response.
10.	SRLA to advise why real-time air-quality monitoring isn't available	Closed.	Closed – see below response.
11.	SC to provide a summary of water truck and street sweeper movements and controls in place at the TBM launch site.	Closed.	Closed – see below response.

### Actions & responses

**Action:** SRLA to recirculate previous tree removal slide for the WTE.

**Response:** Refer to slide 26 in the November CRG presentation:



Business

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## Tree Removal | December 2024 to January 2025



- Some tree removal is necessary for safe construction works
- Trees being retained will be protected by Tree Protection Zone fencing on advice from the Project Arborist
- A qualified ecologist will assess all habitat-bearing vegetation prior to any tree removal
- Qualified wildlife handlers will be present during tree removal for additional fauna spotting. Any affected fauna will be relocated to nearby suitable vegetation



**Action:** SC to provide information about tree removal for the TBM launch site.

**Response:** Refer to slide 31 from the November CRG presentation:

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## Tunnel Access Structure, Clarinda | Key activities

Construction activities planned to begin from 02/12/2024

Description	2024		2025	
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Dewatering of ponds	■			
Tree Removal	■	■		
Water Connection Works		■		
Permanent fencing installation		■	■	
Earth works including bund removal and creating hard stand		■	■	■
Building of Bentonite plant		■	■	■
Mobilising piling machinery		■		
Piling works commence			■	
D-Wall rigs set up and start work			■	■



**Action:** SRLA to investigate Alex Fraser permit requirements post site reconfiguration.

**Response:** The Alex Fraser Group site is now operated in accordance with the Materials Recycling Facility and Transfer Station, Clarinda Incorporated Document (July 2024) which contains conditions similar to the previous planning permit (KP-2007/881). These conditions outline the requirements of Alex Fraser Group in mitigating any impacts to the community such as dust and air quality, including through the development of a

site management and environmental improvement plan (SMEIP) developed in consultation with Kingston City Council and the EPA.

The Incorporated Document also requires Alex Fraser Group to operate their facility in accordance with the endorsed Stage 2 Site Layout Plan. This plan demonstrates that some of the existing earth bund, trees, and vegetation on the perimeter and within the site would be removed and replaced with fencing to a minimum height of 2.5metres. A draft of this plan was included on the [Engage Victoria](#) website as part of the consultation process for the Clarinda Materials Recycling Facility Planning Scheme Amendment in 2024.

Following the removal of trees and vegetation at the site for SRL East construction, Suburban Connect will install hoarding in these locations to provide a visual screen. Amenity impacts such as dust and noise will be managed in accordance with the SRL East Environmental Management Framework and the Environmental Performance Requirements (EPRs). Once SRL East construction is complete, the operation of the site will revert to existing planning permit (KP-2007/881).

Final rehabilitation of the Alex Fraser Site will occur in accordance with a Final Rehabilitation Plan, prepared to the satisfaction of Kingston City Council, consistent with the conditions set out in the existing planning permit (KP-2007/881)

**Action:** LOR to adjust temporary lighting on the Old Dandenong Road approach to Kingston Road.

**Response:** Temporary lighting on the corner of Old Dandenong Road and Kingston Road has been reviewed by the team, including driving through the area at night to ensure lighting is positioned in a manner which does not hinder driver visibility.

**Action:** LOR to investigate amending the traffic setup on the corner of Kingston Road and Nicholas Grove.

**Response:** The bollards near Nicholas Grove as part of the traffic management set up are required for the safe operation of the temporary pedestrian crossing lights on Kingston Road. To ensure that road traffic has adequate time to respond to the changed traffic conditions associated with the temporary lights, the bollards must be placed within a minimum distance to allow traffic to safely reduce to one lane and comply with approved traffic management plans. As a result, we are unable to move the bollards from their current position.

**Action:** SRLA to advise why real-time air-quality monitoring isn't available

**Response:**

Real-time monitoring is a useful tool on construction sites but does have limitations when the raw data is viewed by the public before it has been analysed. Limitations of real-time monitoring include:

- When published, the data is yet to be reviewed and interpreted by acoustic and air quality specialists to determine the cause of the noise or dust.
- The monitors that measure dust concentrations and noise are located within the construction site close to the nearest homes. However, the measured levels at homes and beyond are usually less than what is measured by the monitor. This is due to the monitor being located closer to the noise and dust source.
- Other factors such as sensor outages, instrument errors, technical issues or removal of sensors during non-working periods to ensure the security of the equipment can impact live monitoring.

Contractors will continue to measure air-quality and respond to any irregularities in real time on-site.

At the end of each reporting month, SRL East contractors will continue to provide a summary report of the 24-hour average PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations, compared with the EPA air quality objectives. As is standard on most major transport infrastructure projects, these will continue to be available on the [SRL website](#).

**Action:** SC to provide a summary of water truck and street sweeper movements and controls in place at the TBM launch site.

**Response:** SC has a water cart wetting down stockpiles on average every 20 minutes. SC are also currently investigating installing a water mister along the fence boarding the Alex Fraser. The Street sweeper runs daily.