

# Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 12 March 2025  
**Program:** Suburban Rail Loop  
**Title:** Burwood Precinct Reference Group (PRG)  
**Meeting Number:** 14  
**Chairs:** Emily Box (GHD) & Matt Fregon MP for Ashwood  
**Minute Taker:** Tyson Garlick

Attendees	Apologies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emily Box, Facilitator, GHD (Co-Chair)</li> <li>Matt Fregon, Member for Ashwood (Co-Chair)</li> <li>Graham Ross, KooyongKoot Alliance</li> <li>Graham Scott, Community Representative, Friends of Gardiners Creek</li> <li>Leah McGuinness, Whitehorse City Council</li> <li>Tanya Tescher, Whitehorse Ratepayers and Residents Association</li> <li>Mojib Rashidzadeh, Laing O'Rourke (LOR)</li> <li>Rebecca McHutchison, Suburban Rail Loop authority (SRLA)</li> <li>Sarah Jepsen-Meek, SRLA</li> <li>Simon Wollan, SRLA</li> <li>Tyson Garlick, SRLA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mark Coffey, Melbourne Water</li> <li>Matthew Duke, Presbyterian Ladies' College</li> <li>Tali Borowski, Mount Scopus</li> </ul>

Item	Discussion topic	Who
1.	<b>Welcome and housekeeping</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emily Box (EB) welcomed and introduced attendees, noted previous PRG minutes and actions.</li> <li>Matt Fregon (MF) gave an Acknowledgement of Country.</li> </ul>	EB/MF
2.	<b>Presentation from SRLA and LOR</b> Project update from LOR, noting that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LOR detailed the current and upcoming works in Burwood, with works well underway at the Tunnel Access Structure (TAS) reaching over 50% completion.</li> <li>LOR will continue to keep residents up to date with works in the area.</li> </ul> Matters arising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graham Ross (GR) asked LOR about their water lines. LOR noted the water is treated on site before it is released via stormwater drainage.</li> </ul> Engagement update from SRLA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SRLA gave an update on previous and upcoming engagements in the community.</li> <li>The draft Structure Plans were released early to give the community time to go through the material. The exhibition will commence from 17 March until 22 April 2025.</li> <li>There is a range of engagement activities upcoming to support the exhibition of the draft Structure Plans, draft Implementation Plan, Planning Scheme Amendments and associated documents.</li> </ul> Matters arising:	All

- Tanya Tescher (TT) noted she called Suburban Rail Loop Authority for more information about the draft Structure Plan but is awaiting a response. SRLA acknowledged Tanya's comment, noting an influx of community enquiries have been received.

**ACTION:** SRLA to follow up with TT on the existing draft Structure Plan enquiry.

- TT noted the proposed changes in the draft Structure Plan will have impacts to existing commercial properties in the area, restricting them from carrying out their business. SRLA noted existing employment uses will likely benefit from existing use rights and would therefore be able to continue.

Structure planning update by SRLA, noting:

- Exhibition period to commence from 17 March until 22 April, SRLA allowed a preview of the draft Structure Plans ahead of time.
- From 17 March, the draft Planning Scheme Amendments will be released.
- SRLA noted key engagement phases of the structure planning process.
- SRLA noted that an independent advisory committee will work through the submissions received during the exhibition period.
- SRLA noted the draft Structure Plan is supported by 60 technical reports.
- SRLA advised the Implementation Plan is a key document that outlines the actions that will deliver the vision in Burwood, this is a draft and SRLA is seeking feedback on the document.
- Most significant change is closest to the SRL station at Burwood.
- SRLA detailed how they have responded to feedback previously received and how it influenced the Burwood draft Structure Plan, including building heights.
- There is a range of engagement activities upcoming to support the exhibition of the draft Structure Plans, draft Implementation Plan, Planning Scheme Amendments and associated documents.

Matters arising:

- Graham Scott (GS) queried whether the structure planning material is easy to locate. SRLA advised information is currently accessible on the SRLA website. From 17 March, it will also appear on the Engage Victoria website to take submissions during the exhibition period. This information, including key links will be sent to the Burwood PRG members.

**ACTION:** Provide links related to structure planning engagement to PRG members.

- GS queried what the maximum building heights are within the draft Structure Plan.
- GR advised that the Labor Government are implementing landscape changes across 14 creeks and queried how the structure planning work will integrate these changes. SRLA advised that they are working closely with the Department of Transport and Planning and the Waterways team in relation to the Significant Landscape Overlays. SRLA will aim to align with Waterways strategic objectives to ensure there is no policy conflict.
- GR impressed the importance of natural corridors in Burwood and noted the increased population might impact natural corridors. SRLA noted they are looking to preserve and enhance such corridors, with the aim to enhance biodiversity and protect natural corridors.
- GR queried storm water and whether there will be a push for 'zero water'. SRLA noted there are not any explicit targets in the Structure Plan. However, there is some direction about managing flooding.
- GR noted they would like a 'flythrough' to be developed to show what a person on the ground would see. SRLA noted the neighborhood section within the Structure Plan gives specific details around preferred heights, setback and expected elements.

3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Matt Fregon MP and Emily Box closed the meeting.</li> </ul>	MF/EB
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Item	Stakeholder	Details	Status / due	Owner
<b>ACTIONS</b>				
1.	PRG members	Provide links related to structure planning to PRG members	Complete	SRLA
2.	PRG member	SRLA to follow up with Tanya on her existing draft Structure Plan enquiry	Complete	SRLA