

Meeting Minutes

WEST GATE TUNNEL PROJECT COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

Date:	3 August 2017	Time:	5.30pm – 7.30pm
Place:	Program Room 2 Newport Community Hub 11-13 Mason Street, Newport	Meeting number:	Fifteen
Chair:	Jim Williamson	Secretariat:	Samantha Aitchison

Attendees

Name	Organisation
Jim Williamson (JW)	Chair
Michael Ingram (MI)	Kensington and North and West Melbourne
Rosa McKenna (RM)	Spotswood South Kingsville Resident Group (proxy Christine Harris)
Greg Cain (GC)	VTA
Peter Sammut (PS)	Western Distributor Authority
Liz Evans (LE)	Western Distributor Authority
Sam Aitchison (SA)	Western Distributor Authority
Greg Meyer (GM)	Western Distributor Authority
Victoria Jessop (VJ)	Transurban
Stephen Zelez (SZ)	Hobsons Bay City Council
Simon Birch (SB)	Spotswood
Craig Williams (CW)	Seddon
Margaret O'Loughlin (MO)	Yarraville
Bert Boere (BB)	Brooklyn Residents Action Group
Craig Rowley (CR)	Leadwest
Jessica Christiansen- Franks (JCF)	Footscray

Apologies

Name	Organisation
Alyson Protetto (AP)	Altona North
Scott Ellerton (SE)	Concerned Locals of Yarraville
Dave Jones (DJ)	RACV
Phillip Dearman (PD)	MTAG
Steven Wilson (SW)	Friends of Stony Creek
Deidre Anderson (DA)	Maribyrnong City Council
Richard Smithers (RS)	City of Melbourne

Agenda items

Time	#	Item detail
5.30pm	1	Welcome, introductions and apologies
5.35pm	2	Address previous minutes and outstanding actions
5.40pm	3	Project update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peter Sammut, CEO - Western Distributor Authority
6.00pm	4	Clarifying project information in the community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paul Smith – WDA Andrew Coleman - Transurban
6.35pm	5	Tea break
6.45pm	6	Social Media Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liz Evans – WDA
6.55pm	7	Input from members
7.10pm	8	Meeting concludes

Minutes

Time	#	Item detail
5.30pm	1	<p>Welcome, introductions and apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair welcomed members and thanked Hobsons Bay City Council for hosting the group this and the next meeting. • Apologies read • Notified members that Christine Harris (Spotswood and South Kingsville Residents Group) has notified of her resignation. Rosa McKenna will attend on behalf of the Group as proxy. • <i>Action: write to Christine Harris acknowledging her resignation and thanking her for her contribution to the Group.</i> • Noted the resignation of Lana Dogan, Engagement Officer at Western Distributor Authority • Welcomed Greg Meyer, newly appointed Director of Communications and Engagement, Western Distributor Authority
5.35pm	2	<p>Address previous minutes and actions arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No actions arising from last meeting minutes. • Minutes adopted.
5.40pm	3	<p>Project update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PS provided a project update • EES Inquiry and Advisory Committee (IAC) has issued directions, that covers procedural matters and includes order of submitters to be heard and time allocated. • EES IAC hearing will be held between 14 August – 19 September (27 business days) including 1 rest day. • Copy of the version 2 was distributed. This is available from PPV online; noting that there may be updates to the timetable. Currently at version 2. • PS spoke to a graph that illustrates the projected population and jobs growth in Melbourne over the next 20 years, particularly the western suburbs, one of the fastest growth areas in Melbourne. • Highlighted that there is a mismatch between population growth and job growth and this will lead to the need for greater travel on all modes. • CR advised that 250 babies are born per week in the area. • JCF noted that with this type of growth there should be consideration given to town planning, not just transportation.

Time	#	Item detail
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PS noted that efforts have been made for some time to create activity nodes in order to support jobs, houses and transport. • PS spoke to some of the key drivers behind the project. • 200,000 vehicles a day use the M1 and it is therefore sensitive to meeting true demands. Numerous incidents and accidents lead to high and unreliable travel times. • The increase in capacity, and the reconstruction of the West Gate Freeway from 8 through lanes to 12 through lanes (6 in each direction) will increase capacity significantly. • The new tunnels will provide the alternative to the West Gate Bridge, and help people get to their destination quicker, safer and more reliably. • VicRoads have strengthened and increased capacity on the West Gate Bridge by adding another through lane in each direction. However the load rating has decreased to 68 tonne. • Through the WGT project the capacity on the West Gate Freeway will increase to approximately 100 tonne on existing bridges and 160 tonne on new and upgraded structure. This will facilitate improved accessibility for heavy freight vehicles on the West Gate Tunnel Project. • PS noted that industrial development and communities have developed together in the west, and need to co-exist. • Noted the introduction of truck bans to coincide with this project, and the growth in the freight task through the Port of Melbourne, supported by direct links to the east and west side of the Port.. • CR advised his attendance at Western Transport Alliance meeting that noted that the Regional Rail Link is at capacity (2 years since opening). • RM stated that social infrastructure is not keeping up with population. For example, the lack of early childhood services means parents need to drive to available places which is sometimes outside their community. • JCF stated that the project is needed, however the detail is important to her community; ie. How to enhance the community and not erode what has been built over time. • PS spoke to the program slide; • EES process – WDA is currently responding to material requested through the IAC. • Opening submission has been prepared. • PS noted that PPV are in the process of loading EES submissions

Time	#	Item detail
		<p>to their website, once consent has been provided by the submitter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedural and submitted material is available online via PPV website, such as expert witness statements. • PS also noted that some design and investigation activities are occurring in the corridor and will continue. • VJ further advised that with any investigation activities occurring, notifications will be provided to the community and will be available online.
6.00pm	4	<p>Clarifying project information in the community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JW Introduced Andrew Coleman from TU who can answer questions. Paul Smith from the WDA will follow. • Liz advised that an email was sent out asking for questions ahead of time, otherwise can take them without notice. • RM - How much of Donald McLean (DM) Reserve will be encroached on. • AC advised that approximately 1% of DM Reserve will be required to construct the southern Hyde Street ramp. • RM – The elevations of the freeway, on ramp and Williamstown exit ramp relative to the ground near DM Reserve. • LE – noted that the maps that we used during the recent bus familiarisation tour were produced from the EES map book. • AC – advised that southern ramp needs to clear Williamstown Road exit ramp and the Newport Rail line. <u>Action:</u> height elevations to be sent to RM • RM - Alternatives to access construction sites, for example New Street and Hall Street. In particular New Street; how this will intersect with Precinct 15 works as this street is narrow with existing industrial activities. Is there an alternative to managing construction? • PS - noted that Precinct 15 is still subject to public exhibition as well as noting that residents of New Street have made a submission to the IAC. <u>Action:</u> provide more information to residents of New Street on volumes of expected trucks/cars. • How long is the veloway and what are the emergency/safety procedures.

Time	#	Item detail
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AC advised that the veloway is 2.5m long and 4m wide with 2 egress points and will also include cctv monitoring. • PS advised that a cyclist going 30 kph, it would take about 5 minutes to travel the full length of the veloway. Also noted that this new infrastructure is in addition to the at grade route that currently exists on Footscray Road, which is a more recreational experience. • MO was concerned about the exhaust fumes that would be emitted from the higher motorway. • MI stated that his community are concerned about safety where speed differences exist and entry/exit points and how they intersect with at grade routes. • RM – Confirmation on working hours for construction sites? • AC advised that it will vary and that there are construction noise requirements to be met. For example off peak and night works will occur more when working within the West Gate Freeway, similar to the construction of City-Tulla Widening project. Further, whilst constructing tunnels and live roadways, it would be the standard construction site operations (ie. New Street) • JCF – would like more information on the detailed elements of the project (eg. plantings etc). • PS advised that the EES does contain more detail than similar projects due to the fact that what is being presented in the EES is not a Reference Design, but a tendered design that reflects much greater detail and certainty to the community. Also included in the EES are the Environment Performance Requirements and Urban Design Development Plan (UDDP). • The Planning Scheme Amendment would refer to the UDDP and EPRs, which will provide greater certainty to the community of what will be built. • The project is in the planning and approval phase. As the project develops in to the detailed design, greater details will become available. This will be shared with the community as it becomes available. There will be many opportunities for the community engage in this development. • MI – concerned about ongoing maintenance of planting and other works. Referenced Citylink planting that had not been maintained. • PS advised that the project team is working through this and determining who is likely to be best placed to manage. • AC advised that Council returned works will need to meet their specifications (ie shared user paths, species of plants, etc)

Time	#	Item detail
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CR sought clarification as to which bridges were being removed at Moonee Ponds Creek. • AC advised that one bridge will be removed and replaced with a new shared use path structure and the others will stay. • CR asked if there was thinking around future proofing for rail access to the Port and if further thought was given to east-west (west) connection . • PS advised that this project is not precluding a rail link to Port of Melbourne. Further noted that all modes are required and that this should not be the only project. Alignment is still a possibility highlighted by the Eddington Study.
6.40pm	5	Tea break
6.50pm	6	<p>Reflection on previous session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members noted that the previous session was useful. • MO appreciated the opportunity to ask questions. • RM would like to know when greater level of detail might be available. Feel that the community have waited through different stages to find out. • JW asked if the IAC process would attract media? • LE advised that the IAC is an open forum, and that the media would be able to attend. A journalist attended and reported on the Directions Hearing. • CR is interested to explore other parallel groups such as the Traffic Management Liaison Group and suggested a future presentation on how these groups work. • PS advised that CLG's are often convened closer to contract award stage. This project convened a group much earlier and that has provided more insights to the community on project development. As the project moved into the detailed design phase, more information will be provided through the regular parties who will be regularly presenting. The group can expect a lot more detail during that phase.
6.45pm	8	<p>Social Media update .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LE advised that social media stats are collected every month and spoke to terminology and what the statistics mean and how to read the data.

Time	#	Item detail
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JCF asked if the project looks at sentiment (including language) LE advised that it looks at high level information
6.55pm	9	<p>General discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PS asked the group what the general level of knowledge is in the community around the project. MO advised that some of her community are very informed and some not at all. JCF stated that her community doesn't know about it in any great detail unless directly affected. BB – some know in detail, most are keen to understand the impact on them directly. Made suggestion that a 1 page document be prepared with statistics and information on the project – not a four page brochure. SB and RM concurred regarding knowledge in their community, however RM stated there are more community members coming to events with little knowledge but interest. MI – as there is no massive loss of park or houses, general knowledge from his community reflect this. LE – noted that Precinct 15 is attracting a lot of interest, in part due to the fact that there may be direct impacts on local community. JW noted that there is a high level of awareness of professional drivers (truck/taxi). CR – business community are aware. They are currently conducting polling in Melbourne's west and happy to share the results as it relates to the project. GC advised that VTA members are conscious of community issues and want things to work in the community. Freight movements still need to be considered and it should be recognised that the flow on effects of any significant impacts to these movements need to be considered carefully. GC advised that one factor affecting community awareness is that it doesn't affect their 'hip pocket'.
7.10pm	10	<p>Meeting close</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7.30pm

Next meeting

Date:	Thursday 7 September 2017
Time:	5.30pm – 7.30pm
Place:	Program Room 2, ground floor, Newport Hub – 11 -13 Mason Street, Newport
Chair:	Jim Williamson

Minutes prepared by:	Samantha Aitchison
----------------------	--------------------

Minutes approved by:	Jim Williamson
----------------------	----------------
