

# Meeting minutes

**Date:** 21 May 2024 **Time:** 6:00pm – 8:00pm  
**Location:** Quest Moorabbin  
**Program:** Suburban Rail Loop  
**Title:** Heatherton Community Reference Group  
**Meeting Number:** 6  
**Chair:** Kim Jordan

Attendees	Organisation/Role
Kim Jordan	Chair
	<b>Community Members</b>
Giuseppe Sottile (online)	Community representative
Guy Davidson (online)	Community representative
Martin Powles	Community representative
Michelle Hornstein	Kingston Residents Association
	<b>Suburban Rail Loop Authority (SRLA)</b>
Brenton Shaughnessy	Deputy Director, Engagement
Hugh Rutledge (online)	Senior Delivery Manager
Michael Lanigan (online)	Deputy Director, Initial & Early Works
Mitch Getson (online)	Engagement Adviser
Simon Cox	Principal Advisor, Environmental Management and PI
	<b>Suburban Connect</b>
Isolde Piet	Construction Lead - Tunnels
Kelly Marshall	Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Manager
	<b>Laing O'Rourke</b>
Jaye Windsor	Senior Communications and Engagement Advisor
Jenna Brady (online)	Communications and Engagement Manager – South
Nicole Ekert	Senior Community and Stakeholder Manager
	<b>Guests</b>
Anne Molinaro	Residents Against Inappropriate Development
Joanna Prendergast	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Julian Birthisel	Kingston City Council (KCC)
Martin O'Shaughnessy	EPA

## Apologies

Andrew Dawson, Residents Against Inappropriate Development

Andrew Taylor, Kingston Heath Golf Club

Carol Dawson, Residents Against Inappropriate Development

Dishan Rajaratnam, Christway College

Kelsey Southwood, SRLA

Item	Discussion topic
1.	Welcome and housekeeping
2.	Previous actions
3.	SRLA update
4.	EPA update
5.	Tunnels South
6.	Break
7.	Upcoming and current works
8.	Questions and discussion
9.	Meeting close

## Meeting minutes

### Discussion

#### 1. Welcome and housekeeping

- Kim Jordan (KJ) welcomed attendees and opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country.

#### 2. Previous actions

- KCC provided an update on drainage pit action. KCC has investigated and believes it is a downstream issue. KCC is working to access the property and resolve.
  - **ACTION: KCC to provide written response regarding drainage pit action and include in minutes.**
- SRLA provided an update on traffic assessment process. Suburban Connect is working through truck movements related to construction and will be in the position to present at a future meeting.
- SRLA provided an update on behalf of Meng Heang Tak MP:
  - Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) took possession of the 70 ha Henry Street property in early 2023 and is currently ensuring the site is safe for future parkland development by managing gases and slimes and removing leachate.
  - It will take several years of environmental management before the site is safe and able to be developed into public open space.
  - DEECA is working towards identifying a suitable ongoing land manager. In the meantime, Kingston City Council has taken a lead in determining the potential costs to establish the Sandbelt Parklands, including the Henry Street site.
- SRLA advised the Authority is now responsible for the Delta site, including maintenance.

## Discussion

- A community member queried who to contact regarding issues related to the linear reserve.
  - SRLA advised the Big Build contact centre
- A community member queried if there will be clean up of the reserve – claiming there are branches lying on the ground.
- A community member queried if a management plan will be implemented for the linear reserve site, including the frequency of mowing.
  - **ACTION: SRLA to confirm future management of the Kingston Walk Linear Reserve, including clean-up work and maintenance.**
- KJ requested feedback from the CRG regarding the implementation of 'KEEP CLEAR' line marking at Nicholas Grove and Golf View Road.
  - Some community members suggested the introduction of the line marking would not resolve the issue of exiting onto Kingston Road from Golf View Road and Nicholas Grove.
  - After discussion community members agreed marking should be implemented.

### 3. SRLA update, Presentation from SRLA, EPA and Project contractors, including:

- Project-wide update
- EPA role and responsibilities
- Tunnels South including site investigations
- Upcoming and current Initial and Early Works.

#### Discussion:

- A community member queried the status of business acquisition on Old Dandenong Road.
  - SRLA advised the landowner and business support team are working directly with the business to support them before the property is formally acquired.
- SRLA noted the importance of community members submitting enquiries to SRLA directly through the contact centre to ensure they are directed to the correct team.
- A community member queried if an issues log, including responses and actions can be shared with the CRG.
  - **ACTION: SRLA to investigate if an issues log/report can be shared with the CRG each quarter.**

### 4. EPA update

- A community member commented that the government has not designed the project with the EPA.
  - EPA noted they have been extensively engaged by SRLA as the Project developed and continue to be engaged.
- A community member queried where environmental issues are found, does the EPA have the power to make the government respond.
  - EPA advised they work with SRLA to ensure that environmental requirements are followed. It is common for major projects to uncover unanticipated issues as they are developed and delivered. EPA will proceed with enforcement in line with regulations as required.
- A community member queried if the EPA has powers related to light spill.
  - EPA advised they do not have powers for light spill. Concerns should be reported to Big Build contact centre for resolution by the contractor.
  - SRLA added the Environmental Management Framework (EMF) includes Environmental Performance Requirements (EPRs) related to controlling light spill during construction and operation. These requirements are assessed and verified by the Independent Environmental Auditor (IEA).
  - **ACTION: SRLA to provide EMF and EPRs to CRG related specifically to lighting.**

## Discussion

- A community member queried escalation pathway for light spill concerns
  - SRLA advised issues related to construction should be reported through the contact centre. If the community member is not happy with the response, the complaint can be escalated to the Public Transport Ombudsman (PTO). There is no formal escalation point for disagreement with the EPRs themselves.

### 5. Tunnels south update (Suburban Connect)

- A community member queried what construction will occur at Clarinda
  - SRLA advised there will be works to protect the South East Trunk Sewer (SETS) – which would involve excavation – before tunnelling begins. There will also be cross passage works from the surface.
- A community member queried if the sewer is being relocated.
  - SRLA advised the sewer won't be relocated, protective infrastructure needs to be built around the sewer to protect it during SRL East tunnelling.
  - **ACTION: SRLA to provide previous correspondence with CRG related to the Alex Fraser site and South Eastern Trunk Sewer works.**
- A community member noted water has been dirty in Ball Road for a short period around the time site investigation works were undertaken.
  - SC advised dirty water occurred on Byng Avenue because a hydrant was used.
  - **ACTION: SC to confirm if hydrant was used on Ball Road and investigate if dirty water is related to works.**
- A community member noted there has been issues with water being turned off.
  - SC advised works do not require water to be turned off.
  - LOR advised South East Water was doing works in the area which may have been related.
- A community member advised there had been impacts in Pine Lane related to water and power. South East Water and AGL advised that the works were not from them.
  - **ACTION: LOR to confirm there was no impacts to power or water related to LOR works.**
- **ACTION: LOR and SC to update community via SMS for unplanned works (such as those delivered out of hours – concrete pours – or incidents as required).**
- A community member queried if impacts from SRLA contractors as well as water and power suppliers could be included in a combined works notification.
  - SRLA advised notice of upcoming works by SRLA contractors will be provided to the community but unfortunately it would often not be possible to include utility service provider messages in SRL East related notifications due to nature and timing of works
  - LOR advised works notices will include both SC and LOR works going forward
- A community member reported pounding type noises that had been starting between 6am-8am.
  - LOR advised the piling rigs on site do not make banging noises, they are either a grab-style piling rig or an auger-style piling rig.
  - A community member queried if any equipment on site would make these types of noises.
  - LOR advised there is no machinery that makes these noises on site and that noise monitors have not picked up noise outside the allowable limits.
  - A community member noted that piling was occurring at Dingley during construction of a football club facility.
- A community member queried if information regarding the U-turn installation on Kingston Road was shared with the community.
  - SRLA advised a diagram was included in the previous minutes which is available on the SRL website; wider community had also been notified via works notifications. The U-turn is being built as a result of feedback received during the SRL East Environment Effects Statement (EES).
- A community member noted concerns about the safety of the U-turn.
  - **ACTION: SRLA to provide update on U-turn design and safety at next CRG.**
- A community member queried if works were occurring at night.

## Discussion

- LOR advised extended work is required at times while D-wall piling is underway for concrete pouring.
- A community member queried if these works would occur every night.
- LOR advised that at this stage extended work would not be required every night.
- LOR explained that concrete pours – once started – need to be completed to ensure the structural integrity of the D-wall is maintained.
- A community member queried what the light mitigations were for extended works.
  - SRLA and LOR advised community to ring the Big Build contact centre if concerned about light impacts at night.
  - **ACTION: LOR to advise what light mitigations are in place for D-wall piling extended works.**
- A community member raised impact to travel time as a result of Old Dandenong closure and the impact on liveability.
- A community member raised that they thought a recent works notification was distributed after the works had started in Ball Road.
  - SC advised this was not the case. A localised letter box drop and doorknock was conducted in these streets ahead of the works starting in addition to the broader works notification being delivered.
- KJ queried what SMS alerts were used for.
  - LOR advised SMS alerts are regularly used for traffic disruptions. In the event there are emergency impacts the SMS alerts will be used to provide updates to the community. LOR is working with SC to share the service.
  - **ACTION: LOR to send SMS alert when extended piling works are occurring.**
- A community member raised issues with a truck that was parked in Ball Road after hours.
  - SC advised they received the report from the contact centre and worked with the contractor to have the truck moved.

## Closing items and next steps:

- A community member asked about discussions between SRLA and KCC regarding an off-leash dog park in the linear reserve.
  - SRLA advised the correspondence has been received and the team is investigating the opportunity.
- A community member noted a resident had purchased a property locally without knowledge of the Project and queried where future correspondence would be sent.
  - SRLA advised information relating to overlays over the property are included in the Section 32. Correspondence is generally distributed to owners and occupiers. SRLA encouraged the resident to contact the Project.
  - **POST MEETING NOTE: SRLA confirmed all Section 32 documents generated after the Planning Scheme Amendment in September 2022 include a disclosure of SCO15 and SCO15 overlays on properties.**
- A community member queried if works in Heatherton were delayed as a result of the recent budget.
  - SRLA advised there was mention of early works in the budget papers and the extended date was due to sequencing of some of the works. There is no impact to the finish date of the SRL East project – which is 2035.
- A community member raised if ground-freezing technology would be used for cross passages – noting they heard about this in the media.
  - SRLA advised technical investigations are underway to improve the way the project is delivered and any changes – including to design and construction methodology – would be communicated to community as soon as possible. This includes investigating ground-freezing opportunities related to cross passages.
  - A community member queried if additional impact assessments would be required.

## Discussion

- SRLA advised there would be a reduction in impacts if this technique was confirmed to be used.
- A community member noted that works notifications could be improved and include more information.
- A community member queried why there is no additional information sessions for Heatherton, specifically about voluntary acquisition. There have been sessions for the other precinct groups.
  - SRLA advised that there have been confidential discussions with the property owners related to VPS in Heatherton. SRLA advised there would be opportunities for an information session from Suburban Connect to discuss their tunnelling works.
  - **ACTION: SRLA to investigate a Suburban Connect information session regarding scope and upcoming works.**
- A community member noted another community member raised pedestrian safety issues with them along Kingston Road as there is no footpath.
  - SRLA advised the member to confirm details of the concern and contact the Project via the call centre for response.

## 9. Meeting closed at 8.20pm

## Actions

#	Previous Actions	Owner	Due	Status
1.	SRLA and Kingston City Council to discuss ownership of drainage pit mentioned in the CRG. <i>KCC to provide written response regarding drainage pit action and include in minutes.</i>	SRLA	Future CRG	Ongoing
2.	Future presentation opportunities: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 631 bus route – Department of Transport and Planning - DTP</li> <li>2. Traffic assessment process</li> <li>3. Urban Design Advisory Panel</li> <li>4. Public Open Space offset process and timeline</li> </ol>	SRLA	Future CRGs	Pending
#	New Actions	Owner	Due	Status
3.	KCC to provide written response regarding drainage pit action.	KCC	Before next CRG	Open
4.	SRLA to confirm future management of the Kingston Walk Linear Reserve, including clean up work and maintenance.	SRLA	Before next CRG	Closed
5.	SRLA to investigate if an issues log/report can be shared with the CRG.	SRLA	Before next CRG	Open
6.	SRLA to provide EMF and EPRs to CRG related specifically to lighting.	SRLA	Before next CRG	Closed
7.	SRLA to provide previous correspondence and rationale for the Alex Fraser site.	SRLA	Before next CRG	Closed

8.	SC to confirm if hydrant was used on Ball Road and investigate if dirty water is related to works.	SC	Before next CRG	Closed
9.	LOR to confirm there was no impacts to power or water related to LOR works.	LOR	Before next CRG	Closed
10.	LOR and SC to update community via SMS for unplanned works (such as those delivered out of hours – concrete pours – or incidents as required.	LOR/SC	As required	Ongoing
11.	SRLA to provide update on U-turn design and safety at next CRG.	SRLA	At next CRG	Open
12.	LOR to advise what light mitigations are in place for D-wall piling extended works.	LOR	Before next CRG	Closed
13.	LOR to send SMS alert when extended piling works are occurring.	LOR	As required	Ongoing
14.	SRLA to investigate a Suburban Connect information session regarding scope and upcoming works.	SRLA/SC	Before next CRG	Closed

### Actions & responses

1	<p><b>Action:</b> SRLA to confirm future management of the Kingston Walk Linear Reserve, including clean up work and maintenance.</p> <p><b>Response:</b> A monthly maintenance schedule has been developed based off the previous 5 years of maintenance of the site. CRG feedback regarding the downed branches has been passed on and will be addressed in the next maintenance period. If the community has immediate safety concerns, they should contact the SRLA contact centre.</p>
2	<p><b>Action:</b> SRLA to provide EMF and EPRs to CRG related specifically to lighting.</p> <p><b>Response:</b> The Environmental Management Framework (EMF), including the Environmental Performance Requirements (EPR) can be accessed here: <a href="#">SRL East - Environmental Management Framework</a>.</p>
3	<p><b>Action:</b> SRLA to provide previous correspondence and timelines related to the Alex Fraser site.</p> <p><b>Response:</b> During the first Community Reference Group meeting on 7 March 2023, SRLA was asked by members representing Residents Against Inappropriate Development (RAID) and Kingston Resident Association (KRA) about the proposed use of the Clarinda Material Recycling Facility and Transfer Station (Alex Fraser Group) for the SRL East project. SRLA responded via email following the meeting with the below:</p>

**7. Confirm why Alex Fraser has been included in project land boundary.**

Consistent with the Minister's assessment of the EES, in preparing the project's Planning Scheme Amendment (PSA), SRLA provided information to the Minister for Planning to outline the nature of the anticipated project facilitation works at the Alex Fraser site, so that the Minister for Planning could further consider the appropriate project boundary for the site.

The information provided by SRLA stated:

*The proposed surface works at the subject site are ground improvement, piling and excavation works to support a) construction of cross passages between the two SRL East tunnels and b) protecting the [South East Trunk Sewer](#) owned by Melbourne Water. The precise location of the cross passages will be determined in detailed design of the Project, which makes it difficult to define the locations of the supporting areas and vehicle access required. Additionally, Alex Fraser's existing operations means that the activities on any part of the site are dynamic and subject to change.*

SRLA is continuing to work with Alex Fraser to agree how best any works and access can be facilitated, and to provide maximum flexibility for any options. The PSA was approved by the Minister for Planning, and the entire Alex Fraser property has been included in the final Specific Control Overlay 14 (Project Land) which allows for use and development of the land for the purposes of SRL East.

SRLA notes the CRG member expressed concerns regarding the use of the land for other project purposes, such as spoil management. Any use of the Alex Fraser property for the purposes of the project would be required to be conducted in accordance with the EPRs, including the suite of EPRs related to spoil and contaminated soil management, as well as all laws, including the General Environmental Duty which requires activities to be managed to reduce the risk of harm to the environment and human health, so far as reasonably practicable.

In the most recent CRG meeting, RAID and KRA representatives questioned if the protection of the South Eastern Trunk Sewer (SETS) – a critical piece of infrastructure serving a large part of Melbourne's population – was transparently considered in the Environment Effects Statement (EES) process in 2021.

SRLA confirms the SETS were considered and discussed during the EES process. The asset was mentioned in technical assessments that were put on public exhibition and during the Inquiry and Advisory Committee hearing.

For example, the SETS was mentioned in the Land Use Planning Assessment as a key public infrastructure asset to be considered during planning and development of the SRL East project (Refer to page 136 of [Technical Appendix N.2](#) of the EES).

Further, SRLA engaged with Melbourne Water (MW) – the SETS asset owner – in the lead up to and during the EES to confirm the works that might be required to protect the sewer pipe.

Once they were satisfied with the engagement outcomes MW tabled a document in the IAC hearings confirming they no longer needed to be part of the EES as they had worked directly with SRLA regarding the works required to protect the asset. Refer to [Tabled Document 412](#) in day 15 of the SRL East IAC hearing.

The IAC Chair did seek clarity from SRLA about the use of the Alex Fraser site – and why the whole site was included in the SRL East project area. As requested in the Ministers assessment of the EE, SRLA submitted further details on the use of the site to the Minister for Planning for consideration in decision making related to the SRL East Planning Scheme Amendment. This wording was provided to the CRG following the 7 March meeting as included above.

SRLA awarded the first major works contract in late 2023 which includes delivering 16km of twin tunnels between Cheltenham and Glen Waverley. Suburban Connect – the contractor awarded the works – subsequently worked with SRLA to improve the design and delivery method of the SRL East project including a change to the Tunnel Boring Machine pathway and spoil management. This change will see some of these activities being delivered in the Alex Fraser site, in addition to the protection of the SETS which were already planned to be delivered at this location.



4	<p><b>Action:</b> SC to confirm if hydrant was used on Ball Road and investigate if dirty water is related to works.</p> <p><b>Response:</b> A local hydrant was used in Byng Avenue which likely dislodged existing material in the pipe. A hydrant was not used in Ball Road, however, the hydrant in Byng Avenue may have impacted other local streets. SC confirmed with the community member that there was no longer a dirty water issue at the property.</p>
5	<p><b>Action:</b> LOR to confirm there was no impacts to power or water related to LOR works.</p> <p><b>Response:</b> LOR confirmed South East Water attended Old Dandenong Road to repair a South East Water asset after a leak was reported on two occasions. LOR confirmed the leak was not caused by or due to any LOR works. Additionally, LOR confirmed there was no impact to power as a result of LOR works.</p>
6	<p><b>Action:</b> LOR to advise what light mitigations are in place for D-wall piling extended works.</p> <p><b>Response:</b> When D-wall works are taking place during extended hours, lighting is minimised if safe to do so and lighting towers are positioned facing away from nearby residences and occupied properties.</p>