

26 May 2025



Meeting Minutes

Southern Community Liaison Group

Date	2/05/2025	Time	10am – 12pm
Chair	Jeni Coutts	Meeting no.	3 of 2025
Location	Manningham Hotel and Club	Minute taker	Tanya Mehta

Attendees

Attendees		Apologies	
Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Jeni Coutts (JC)	Chair	Glennys Jones (GJ)	Community Representative
Frank Freschi (FF)	Community Representative	Andrew Mangan (AM)	Manningham City Council
John van Delft (JV)	Community Representative	Clare Davey (CD)	Boroondara City Council
Joe Carbone (JCa)	Community Representative	Niamh Kenny (NK)	NEL
Judith Voce (JV)	Community Representative	Nic Morton (NM)	NEL
Nic Moore (NM)	Community Representative	Ros Magee (RM)	Community Representative
Otto Sargent (OH)	Community Representative		
Alexander Law (AL)	Community Representative		
Mahesh Buchade (MB)	Manningham City Council		
Leah McGuinness (LM)	Whitehorse City Council		
Josh Ribarich (JR)	NEL		
Sam Doyle (SD)	NEL		
Hamid Peimany (HP)	Spark		
Mia McMahon (MM)	Spark		

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Attendees		Apologies	
Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Tom McCann (TMc)	Spark		
Lauren Watson (LW)	Spark		
Helena Vun (HV)	NEL		
Tanya Mehta (TM)	NEL		
Michael Hobbs (MH)	NEL		
Jaimie Ledwidge (JL)	EBTA		
Dennis Joyce (DJ)	EBTA		

Actions – Short Term

No.	Action	Owner	Due	Status	Update
SC252-1	RM: Suggested a slide detailing the types of compliments received be added to future presentations.	MMc/JL	02/05/2025	CLOSED	Included in presentation

Actions – Long Term

No.	Owner	Topic	Status
SC14-1	MHi	MHi to investigate potential for installing radar crossings for pedestrians	CLOSED Won't be built as part of this project. Ped crossing timing set according to DTP standards factoring in number of lanes to cross
SC246-8	MH	OS requests if a meeting can be scheduled upon the completion of the Doncaster Park and Ride UDL to include a PTV representative	Pending Doncaster Park and Ride approval and DTP availability
SC251-5	JL	Will provide a presentation on noise walls, covering the impacts and the noise levels the community is currently experiencing	CLOSED
SC255-10	SD	RM raised safety questions about non-functioning light towers on the Eastern Freeway	Written response from DTP provided to RM. Lights cannot be repaired due to age. However, DTP undertake regular safety reviews of Eastern Freeway. Lights to be replaced as part of Eastern Freeway Upgrade, Hoddle to Burke package. MRPV to revisit after contract awarded for this package.

Key discussion points/decisions

Owner	Discussion
Jeni Coutts (JC)	Acknowledgement of Country
Jeni Coutts (JC)	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>Short term actions JC said that short term action SC25 2-1 has been adopted and is in presentation. Action closed.</p> <p>Long term actions SC14-1: MH provided an update on action. There are no plans for these specific radar detection type crossings, but pedestrian crossing light timing will be designed to Department of Transport (DTP) standards which are based on number of lanes to cross. Action closed.</p> <p>SC252-5: JL provided information on noise walls in presentation. Action closed</p> <p>SC255-10: Written response from DTP provided to RM. Lights cannot be repaired due to age. However, DTP undertake regular safety reviews of Eastern Freeway. Lights to be replaced as part of Eastern Freeway Upgrade (Hoddle to Burke package). MRPV to revisit after contract is awarded for this package. Action ongoing.</p>
Sam Doyle (SD)	<p>Independent Environment Auditor (IEA) summary report <u>Presentation covered IEA 6-month summary report May 2024-October 2024, the auditing process and summary of findings</u></p> <p>JV asked for further clarity around the now-closed Trinity dam issue</p> <p>LW said sometimes wording in audit can be confusing and clarified it was an administrative process that updating.</p> <p>JV said medium and low risks identified in an audit (such a water quality) should be presented and updated straight away.</p> <p>SD said the Project will aim to provide more real time updates of the audits at future CLG meetings.</p> <p>JV said there are trucks leaving worksites with mud or dust on them, which is also an environmental issue.</p> <p>SD said this had been identified in previous audits, which resulted in improvements to controls at site exits, including the use of wheel washers.</p> <p>FF said there was an issue in the Project following up with residents on their concerns. FF said there was a resident with a dust issue who had called the 1800 number six weeks ago.</p> <p>JR confirmed Spark had contacted resident, however there may have been miscommunication as to what action was required. Post meeting note: Spark has since followed up with resident. .</p>
Tom McCann (TMc)	<p>North East Link tunnels construction update <u>Presentation covered worksite updates, SEM breakthrough update and TBM update.</u></p>

Owner	Discussion
Jamie Ledwidge (JL)	FF asked about what flood mitigation would be in place post-construction.
	TMc said flood mitigation measures have been factored into the final design and that surfaces are not completely flat but consistently have a gradient.
	JV asked how members of the Marcellin College community will get across the land bridge.
	SD said updated UDLP information had been presented to CLG earlier in the year that showed how pedestrians would access the land bridge. Post meeting note: SD showed JV artist impressions from previous presentation that showed stair and ramp access to the land bridge near Marcellin College.
	FF asked when the tunnel roof will be constructed at the Trinity worksite.
	TMc said construction will occur in approximately the next 18 months.
	FF asked if there is an incline or rise in soil at the Trinity worksite and was concerned about changed flooding characteristics.
	SD said there is a lot of work across the project to consider flooding, and there may be opportunity to provide more information around this in a future presentation.
	Eastern Freeway construction update <u>Presentation covered worksite updates, three-month lookahead and media coverage video.</u>
	FF asked about ramp opening dates at the Doncaster interchange.
Mia McMahon (MM)	JL said the Doncaster temporary citybound ramp opened on April 30.
	FF raised concern around communication and driver behaviour for the new temporary citybound entry ramp (T4), particularly for Greythorn residents.
	JL said driver behaviour will need to adjust to the change, but so far, the change for T4 has been going well.
	FF asked about the shared user path (SUP) in this area.
	JL said it's closed. The detour is up onto Doncaster Road and down a temporary SUP that runs alongside that ramp. We have also moved the bus stop, that was on the old ramp, onto the new ramp.
	FF requested images of current work and final design to be presented in the worksite update slides in future CLG meetings to show what will be returned after the project for the community.
	JC said the project team will endeavour to meet this request in future presentations where possible.
Mia McMahon (MM)	North East Link Tunnels traffic update <u>Presentation covered upcoming changes to Bulleen Road for 2025, including a weekend closure in May.</u>
	NM asked if access into Bulleen Park will go back to the current arrangement.

Owner	Discussion
	<p>HP said access will return to current arrangement from 21 July.</p> <p>NM asked if Bulleen Park access road will be a signalised intersection.</p> <p>MM said it won't be signalised between May and July, however Veneto Club to the north will be signalised.</p> <p>SD added traffic lights will be reinstated from July following the realignment of Bulleen Road.</p>
Jamie Ledwidge (JL)	<p>Eastern Freeway traffic and noise wall update</p> <p><u>Presentation covered changes to Doncaster interchange, planned noise walls along the Eastern Freeway and community engagement.</u></p> <p>FF asked about graffiti management on weathered steel.</p> <p>JL said a number of strategies will be in place to deter graffiti including anti-graffiti coating and textured surface on the walls, as well as landscaping and planting around the walls.</p> <p>JC asked About current 2 metre timber walls in place and if they would be removed before noise wall installation.</p> <p>JL said the timber wall won't be removed until the new noise wall is installed.</p> <p>JC asked what measures will be added to the noise walls to prevent balls going over the wall and onto the busway.</p> <p>MH said the noise walls will be much higher to mitigate this.</p> <p>JV raised concern about proximity of the shared user path SUP to the noise wall near Belle Vue Primary School.</p> <p>JL said the SUP will remain as is for now and the eventual realignment will be similar, but barrier protection to the freeway will be improved.</p>
Mia McMahon (MM)	<p>North East Link Tunnels worker parking</p> <p><u>Presentation covered measures to mitigate worker parking on local street.</u></p>
Hamid Peimany (HP)	<p>North East Link Tunnels and Eastern Freeway community engagement update</p> <p><u>Enquiries and complaints across the project over the last 6 weeks included construction noise and dust impacts, as well as worker parking issues.</u></p>
Jamie Ledwidge (JL)	<p>Spark received 27 compliments over the past six months. 11 of these were related to project engagement and the timely, detailed information provided through six-month lookahead meetings, coordination meetings with key stakeholders or emails to residents. Eight compliments were about the services delivered to highly impacted residents, including respite and relocation support. The remaining compliments covered various other topics.</p>

Owner	Discussion
Mia McMahon (MM)	North East Link Tunnels and Eastern Freeway environmental update <u>Presentation across the project covered water and air quality, noise management including attended monitoring, relocation, dust and vibration.</u>
Jamie Ledwidge (JL)	
Jeni Coutts (JC)	<p>Questions and open forum</p> <p>JV Requested meeting agenda be sent out earlier to give members time to prepare questions and feedback.</p> <p>MH said this is something the project team can work towards.</p> <p>OS asked about traffic flow in relation to the Bulleen Road and Thompsons Road intersection left turn after the July realignment.</p> <p>JL to provide more information on the traffic arrangement when available.</p> <p>Action: JL to provide more information about the traffic arrangement post-realignment for the left turn at Bulleen Road and Thompsons Road intersection.</p> <p>JCa asked if water quality testing is performed for the Trinity dam.</p> <p>MM said that quality testing is performed and showing up consistent.</p> <p>NM asked about worker parking on local streets.</p> <p>MB said council consultation regarding parking on several streets closest to the Project's Bulleen worksite is complete. Permanent two-hour parking restrictions will be implemented on both sides of these roads.</p> <p>SD said the Project is continually working with Manningham Council to manage worker parking on local streets through a number of measures including recent Council enforcement of parking restrictions on some streets close to the Bulleen worksite.</p> <p>JV requested a list of contact numbers of community group members to enable improved communication between meetings.</p>

Actions – new

No.	Action	Owner	Due	Update
SC256-1	JL to provide more information about the traffic arrangement post-realignment for the left turn at Bulleen Road and	JL	27/06/2025	

No.	Action	Owner	Due	Update
	Thompsons Road intersection.			

Future Presentations

Scheduled Date	Date Raised	Topic	Owner	Update
2025	2/5/2025	Flooding considerations across North East Link	SD / MHi	SD and MHi to present more information on flood mitigation in future presentations when more information becomes available.
SQ2	2/5/2025	Noise wall community engagement	JL	JL to provide an update on how the community is responding to noise wall engagement in future presentation

Additional information