

Minutes

Subject: July Community Liaison Group Meeting **Date:** Thursday 24 July 2025 **Time:** 5:30pm-7:30pm

Location: WGTP Information Centre **Chair:** (KJ) Kim Jordan

Apologies: Kevin Redfern, Adam Bright, Con Frescos, Shane D'Rozario, Senthill Sundaram, Steve Wilson, Neil Hutchison, Max Burney,

Attendees:

Community Members	Major Road Project Victoria, Victorian Infrastructure Delivery Authority Representatives
(AB) Arthur Bregiannis, Yarraville	(DM) Douglas Morris, Manager Community Relations
(BB) Bert Boere, Brooklyn	(JT) Jordana Thornton, Engagement Coordinator
(DR) Dennis Ryan, Altona North	(JZ) John Zeccola, Senior Advisor, Community Relations
(FA) Fran Araneda, Kensington	Transurban Representatives
(FS) Ferdinand Saliba, Deep Park	(AT) Ashleigh Tomas, Communications & Engagement Manager
(IE) Ilona Elmore, Spotswood	(FSH) Fey Shue, Communications & Engagement Intern
Group/Association Members	Joint Venture Representatives
(GB) Garry Brennan, Bike Network	(DK) Dylan Kunst, Civil & Surface Manager
(GY) Glen Yates, Maribyrnong Truck Action Group	(MM) Melissa Merrett, Community & Stakeholder Relations Manager
(GM) Geoff Mitchelmore, Friends of Lower Kororoit Creek	(SC) Struan Collins, Project Director
Council Members	Department of Transport & Planning (DTP)
(EM) Eloise McGurn, City of Melbourne	(AN) Andrew Newman, Director Policy & Strategy
(MB) Melissa Best, Maribyrnong City Council	(JM) Jess Murdoch, Senior Policy Officer
(IB) Ian Butterworth, Hobsons Bay City Council	

Agenda Items:

Time	#	Item detail	Owner
5.30pm	1	Welcome, introductions and apologies	Chair - Kim Jordan
5.40pm	2	Community engagement update	CPBJH JV
5.50pm	3	Construction update	CPBJH JV
6.10pm	4	Preparing for road opening: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No-truck zone update 	Department of Transport and Planning – Andrew Newman, Jess Murdoch
6.30pm	5	BREAK	All

6.45pm	6	Preparing for road opening: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metropolitan shopping centre activations Awareness building initiatives 	MRPV WGTP - Douglas Morris
7.05pm	7	Member questions	CLG members
7.30pm	8	Meeting closed	All

Introduction

- KJ provided an Acknowledgement of Country, welcomed attendees in person and online, and mentioned apologies for the night.
- KJ welcomed Jessica Murdoch & Andrew Newman returning from Department of Transport & Planning to provide a further update on no-truck zones as well as John Zeccola from MRPV WGTP and Fey Shue from Transurban.

Actions update

Action ALL1: State to follow up on why Arden Structure Plan was removed from VPA work program and provide update on what actions/works have been undertaken as part of the Moonee Ponds Creek Implementation Plan.

- Question raised by FA in May meeting relating to Arden Structure Plan to be made into formalised action.
 - The Arden Structure Plan (approved in 2022) refers to the Moonee Ponds Creek Implementation Plan, which is an initiative funded by the West Gate Tunnel Project as a recommendation of the project's Inquiry and Advisory Committee Report (October 2017). See page 76. The Moonee Ponds Creek Implementation Plan was removed from the Victorian Planning Authority's (VPA) work program last year and the webpage was archived in October. I would like to understand why it has been taken off the VPA work program. I would also like an update on what actions/works have been undertaken as part of the Moonee Ponds Creek Implementation Plan.

Informal action for follow up:

- Question raised by FS in early 2025 meetings regarding security hoops outside Cleanaway site in Brooklyn.
 - DM provided an update on the security hoops that are to be installed back at Federation Trail to question raised by GM & FS in previous meetings. DM noted that WGTP MRPV continues to follow up with relevant project parties on who is replacing security barriers and when.

Community Engagement update – Melissa Merrett

- West Gate Freeway winter works:** MM advised members of the various engagement that took place to prepare the surrounding stakeholders and businesses for the West Gate Freeway outbound disruptions.
- Northern Portal**
 - Worker parking:** MM mentioned that continuous advisement is provided to WGTP contractors on appropriate worker parking locations.
- Southern outbound portal**
 - Worker parking:** MM spoke to a small area closer to site being repurposed for worker parking and noted that more 'no parking' signs were installed.
 - Noise complaint:** MM mentioned a noise complaint received from a resident near southern outbound portal works to which they provided a white noise machine to mitigate the noise.
- Youell Street:** MM advised of weather impacts to a car park which was rectified with gravel.
- Harris Street:** MM spoke to the engagement that was had to businesses and organisations regarding upcoming night works in June and July.

Questions

Q: (GY) Asked if the current works taking place on Cowper Street are by WGTP or council?

A: (MB & MM) Confirmed works are from Maribyrnong City Council (MCC).

Construction Update – Dylan Kunst

- West Gate Freeway winter works:** DK spoke to current works taking place on West Gate Freeway (WGF) involving outbound ramp and lane closures to install cladding on the outbound ventilation structure. DK stated

from mid-August works will change to inbound lanes which include final freeway barriers, kerbing, drainage installation and barrier painting.

- **Tunnels:** DK advised of remaining works taking place inside the tunnel, including electrical works which involve commissioning activity and testing to the control centre. DK stated over coming weeks both tunnels will be cleared out and cleaned to prepare for asphaltting works.
- **Northern portal:** DK advised works on the basin near the northern portal remain ongoing. Crews have been completing remaining works on the shared use path bridge over Whitehall Street such as the installation of balustrades, touch up painting on defects and tidy up works.
- **Landscaping & open spaces:** DK noted that landscaping works are being undertaken around the northern portal area, with works ongoing through until the end of the project to complete the new wetlands.
- **Harris Street:** DK noted that works are being finalised on the shared path over Whitehall Street including final cladding and handrails.
- **Maribyrnong River bridges:** DK explained that crews have been completing finishing works such as fixing defects and painting on the bridges over Maribyrnong River.
- **Veloway:** DK stated that lights have been turned on inside the veloway. DK advised that there are still some areas of the veloway floor that requires anti-slip coating which is currently being completed. Crews have been completing final works like polishing handrails and fixing defects, and CCTV still needs to be commissioned.
- **Footscray Road:** DK spoke to closures in place on Footscray Road to resurface sections of the road. DK noted the west bound service road from Dock Link Road to McKenzie Road is open for use. CPBJH will be working closely with DTP to finish up works and hand over Footscray Road.

Member questions

Q: (FS) Asked if there are plans to place a white line in the middle of the veloway to assist with delineation of lanes.

A: (DK) Answered yes, there will be a white line placed in the middle to determine inbound and outbound lanes.

Q: (GY) Asked if the top of the ventilation structures between the cladding and the structure if there will be a top section to avoid things going in between like birds, debris etc.

A: (DK) Advised it won't be open and there will be something there to avoid things falling through.

Q: (GY) Asked if it has been determined what vehicle types can use the veloway?

A: (DK) Advised it will be for bikes and like e-bikes however up to Transurban to confirm.

Preparing for road opening update

No-truck zones update – Andrew Newman & Jessica Murdoch (DTP)

- AN spoke to the group about the no-truck zone regulations that were confirmed in late May.
- AN explained that exemptions are in the legislation and provided some examples of possible exemptions: If trucks are going within the no-truck zone to do maintenance, perform a delivery inside the no-truck zone, a resident who lives in the zone and hires a truck to park at their residence.
- AN reminded members that some vehicles are exempt from the no-truck zones such as smaller trucks (two axle) typically performing grocery deliveries, parcel deliveries, construction, furniture removals or landscaping services.
- AN stated that the exact locations of cameras and the no-truck zones are currently being determined.
- AN spoke to the infringement process which will be done by NHVR (National Heavy Vehicle Register). If a vehicle or journey type is lawfully permitted within a no truck zone this will be identified by the NHVR and no further action will be taken. AN stated that penalty units are currently sitting at \$610, however this can change in the future.
- AN spoke to the engagement DTP that has been done in the inner west. DTP are meeting with as many freight businesses as they can within the inner west to advise of the new regulations. AN mentioned there have been a few industry sessions that have taken place recently to spread education awareness on the new regulations.
- AN stated there are some businesses along Whitehall Street and Hudsons Road that will not be exempt from the no-truck zone on Francis Street and will need to travel around the no truck zone. DTP have advised these businesses of the routes their trucks will need to take if they are heading to the eastern suburbs.
- AN noted DTP is finalising the gazetted zones within the no-truck zone streets, AN mentioned that if a logistic or freight business is inside the no-truck zone then they would be exempt in that zone.
- GY mentioned that wind affects the accuracy on the camera already on Sommerville Road. AN stated they are not aware of any inaccuracy to camera recognition due to winds.

Member questions:

- **GY sent in questions prior to the meeting (to be followed up by DTP)**
 - Requesting a map showing exactly where the cameras will be placed and what the zones look like?
 - How much the fines will be?
 - Confirmation that fines accrued will be isolated in a separate fund within the State government accessible by a Minister to use towards the Better Freight Initiative.

- Provide feedback on Paddock to Port's planning application to open an ECP in the heart of West Footscray?
- Will dispensation be given to the Tasman Logistics / QUBE/ Chalmers ECP opposite Richards St or will the no truck zone simply start from Roberts St?
- What was the outcome with Somerville Servo, and will they be given dispensation in line with the current arrangement where trucks can utilise the service station providing they enter via Williamstown Road and they leave via Williamstown Road. This is because of the strategic placement of the current no truck VMS sign as trucks are not passing it. If dispensation is not being granted, how will the state government be compensating this business?

Q: (IB) Asked a question on terminology, is it no-truck zones, or are they no-truck roads? Do you have a map that shows the exact zones of the streets?

A: (AN) Stated that is currently being finalised in the gazette, no-truck zone is what it is legally called.

Q: (IE) What about trucks that look to avoid the tolls and no truck zones? Won't that cause further congestion on Millers and Williamstown Road.

A: (DM) The Environment Effect Statement (EES) Technical Report A Transport considers toll avoidance in the traffic modelling numbers.

Q: (GM) Asked if Millers Road can be a no-truck zone?

A: (AN) Replied that if you start restricting access to those two main roads (Millers Road & Williamstown Road) then trucks can't access the freeway. If you restrict one, then the other gets busier and vice versa.

Q: (GM) Asked DTP if they often receive backlash from freight businesses when presenting these new regulations?

A: (AN) Replied yes, this is a big change for the freight industry and as with all changes there are some who are not happy, however it is a great outcome for the community.

Q: (IE) Stated concerns about the north-south impacts which is already happening around Officeworks with the trucks banking up from the freeway. IE asked what is it going to look like when these trucks are using these roads every day to access the freeway?

A: (AN) Replied that Williamstown Road will be continuously monitored including all roads that access the freeway.

A: (DM) Stated that numbers on additional trucks at Williamstown Road when project opens is provided in the EES traffic modelling which is publicly available [here](#).

Q: (GY) Asked about SPVs and noted a lot are currently moving out of northern portal area. They are not exempt under no-truck zones. On the truck curfew inner west guide, it says they are exempt. Which is correct?

A: (AN) Replied that the cranes are under exemption permits. If you have a permit, you are exempt from a curfew. The only reason they can get a permit in the future is if that is the only route they can take.

Q: (DR) Asked if there are any current statistics for the traffic that is crossing Millers Road intersection. Noted that the original traffic study is inadequate. Asked if there are any figures on traffic today and what will be in 5 years' time? DR noted all the traffic issues are usually related to traffic incidents and not WGTP works.

A: (DM) Stated this information can be made available to the group.

Q: (DR) Noted the road connections that bypasses the freeway and M1 is all local roads - Grieve Parade and Blackshaws Road. DR noted that some days he cannot get out of his residential street due to the traffic through those streets banking up to get onto the WGF. DR noted the purpose of this project is to get the industry through, but people have forgotten about the people living in these areas. Blackshaws Road trying to get onto the freeway is tough.

A: (DM) Reminded members that there will be traffic monitoring for 2 years after the project opens. It will provide the project parties to look at traffic performance and if changes might need to be made once it all settles after 6 months.

Q: (KJ) Is there anything stopping a business from moving their business into a no-truck zone?

A: (JN) No, that would be subject to other planning considerations but is not part of the no-truck zone regulations.

Q: (IE) In your engagement, the smaller businesses may move because of the effect on their small business. Have councils thought no one will move in there because of the no-truck zones? This could potentially affect the local economy.

A: (JN) Reminded members of the exemptions that are available in the regulation.

Break (6:45pm)

Metropolitan shopping centre activations – Douglas Morris (MRPV WGTP)

- DM advised members of the various education engagement taking place in regional and metropolitan shopping centres across the outer and inner west of Melbourne.
- DM advised members of the great resources being handed out to community members including information on how to use the project when it opens, plan your journey and also information for freight industry.
- DM noted 25,000 people have been engaged with so far and they aim to speak to approximately 100,000 people by the end of the year.
- DM explained the upcoming metropolitan shopping centres WGTP will be at in the coming months,

Awareness building initiatives – Douglas Morris (MRPV WGTP)

- DM spoke to the Explore Your Journey tool, which is a great online tool for drivers to plan out their journey and assist them on how to use the new road network once the project is up and running. DM explained there is a freight toggle for truck drivers to populate their journeys, stating the preferred routes when the no-truck zones are in place.
- DM handed out information packs to members including WGTP Road User Guides for both general vehicles and freight industry, DTP no-truck zones fact sheet and the WGF disruptions notification. DM encouraged members to share it on within their networks and if this were something they would like more of to please reach out to him to arrange.
- MB noted that active transport community are keen for this detail.

Member questions

Q: (GM) Asked where the artwork along Kororoit Creek is located?

A: (DM) Advised that Tim Spawton is attending the next CLG meeting to provide an update on this.

Q: (IE) Asked for the agenda to be sent out earlier and to have prior notice on what information will be presented so members have time to think of questions. IE also requested for the content to be more community focussed.

Member comments

- FS made a comment on the rubbish piling up near the Federation Trail.
- FS also noted the veloway and cable stay bridge are two pieces of amazing infrastructure and said “well done” to all project parties involved.
- FA noted the landscaping plans for MPC were very brief. MPC may ask for further information and will advise.

Meeting close (7:30PM)

- (KJ) Closed the meeting and thanked members.
- Confirmed the next meeting will be taking place Thursday 4 September 2025.