

August Meeting Minutes

Community Reference Group



Subject: Yan Yean Road Upgrade – Community Reference Group

Date: Monday 13 August 2018 **Time:** 6.15pm for 6.30pm-8pm

Location: The Gallery, Rivers of Yarrambat - 28 Kurrag Road, Yarrambat

Meeting number: 6

Chair: Warren Bradshaw

Minute-taker: Charlotte Claney

Attendees

Attendees (Name/Organisation)	Apologies (Name/Organisation)
Anne Trueman (AT)	Damian van Dyke (DvD), MRPA
Barbara Marshall (BaM)	Laura Keenan (LK), MRPA
Joanne Jamieson (JJ)	
John Yeomans (JY)	
Milton Embling (ME)	
Neisha Forbes (NF)	
Pam Hoyne (PH)	
Susan Farley (SF)	
Ben Matters (BM), MRPA	
Chinthaka Arachchige (CA), MRPA	
Charlotte Claney (CC), MRPA	
Nerilee Kerslake (NK), MRPA	

Attendees (Name/Organisation)	Apologies (Name/Organisation)
Warren Bradshaw (WB), MRPA	
Steve Grabar (SG), BMD	
Kate Ryder (KR), BMD	

Actions - previous

#	Action	Owner	Due	Status	Update
5.1	Speak to JR (Nillumbik Council) about overhanging tree limbs and debris posing safety risk	CA	13 Aug 2018	Closed	CA spoke with JR and JR has agreed to review a second time if specific location is provided. AT to email CA with specific locations. CA to relay information to JR and provide update at 8 October CRG meeting. New action item created.
5.2	Share Stage 1 draft landscaping plans (if ready) with group at CRG meeting	CC	13 Aug 2018	Closed	Group advised that landscaping plans would not be finalised until end of August. CC committed to circulate landscaping plans to CRG via email ahead of the public release in early October.
5.3	Update group about bus stop lighting and shelters on Stage 1	DvD	13 Aug 2018	Closed	All bus stops will have bus shelters. MRPA are liaising with PTV regarding lighting provisions for bus stops.
5.4	Speak with BT about the facilitator role going forward. Group no longer feel the role is required	WB	Prior to 13 Aug 2018	Closed	WB spoke to BT about his role going forward and WB will now chair and facilitate the CRG. WB told group that BT had wished us all the best for the future.
5.5	BMD to attend October CRG meeting to discuss traffic switches and traffic staging	CC	8 Oct 2018	Closed	BMD presenting at August CRG meeting instead of October CRG meeting.

Key discussion points

Agenda item	Discussion summary
Item 1 – Welcome and apologies	DvD and LK apologies. BaM will arrive late this evening. WB introduced SG and KR to the group.

Agenda item	Discussion summary
Item 2 – Confirming the agenda	<p>Agenda confirmed with group. Discussion topic moved to Item 3 to allow BMD to present at the beginning of the evening. NF asked to run through MRPA contact centre process, CC agreed to discuss with her after the meeting.</p>
Item 3 – Contractor presentation	<p>SG ran through locations where BMD have mobilised with the group. SG explained that services relocations are underway for gas, water, electricity and Telstra internet/phone cables. SG confirmed AusNet are the power service providers in the area.</p> <p>SG said water services near the RE wall in Zone 4 have been relocated and the first traffic switch will take place in Zones 2 and 7 in two weeks' time. SG said that the two new sections of road has been asphalted in preparation for the traffic switches. SG confirmed it will still be one lane available in each direction on the new sections of road in Zone 2 and 7 whilst works are undertaken on Yan Yean Road.</p> <p>SG shared that power works are underway in Zone 3 and the retaining walls are taking shape in Zone 4. SG was excited that a lot of project milestones have been achieved over the last month – with the former Plenty Church relocation from Zone 5 to Zone 4, beginning installation of the first retaining wall, and asphaltting the first new sections of the road.</p> <p>SG explained that once the church building has been safely relocated, drainage works can be completed at River Avenue and works can begin at that intersection. NK added that bulk tree clearing is 95% complete and would be fully complete by the end of the month. SG said north of Browns Lane, an embankment has been excavated; opening up sightlines and improved visibility for drivers.</p> <p>SG notified the group that there would be a strategic traffic switch near Kurrak Road in two months' time. SG explained that there would be a temporary roundabout established southwest of the existing one, allowing us to take out the old roundabout and construct a service lane and bus bay.</p> <p>SG continued, stating that watermains are being installed in Zones 9 and 10. SG added that the foundations for retaining walls would also be going in soon, and the sub-contractor will mobilise shortly. SG assured the group that piling rigs would not be used due to low hanging overhead power lines, explaining that excavators would be used instead.</p> <p>SF said she is concerned about rat running near her home and asked what would be done to discourage rat runners during the closure of Yan Yean Road tomorrow. KR explained that access for local residents must be maintained but that traffic management will be in place to manage traffic flow. SG added that the detour route that was advertised was the full detour route, and only local residents received a notification containing a map for the local traffic detour route. SG reassured SF that Yan Yean Road would be closed to all non-local traffic during the church relocation tomorrow. KR agreed that traffic management will not let people who aren't local residents or attending a local business enter Yan Yean Road during the closure.</p> <p>CC reassured SF that only local residents received the works notification containing the local traffic detour map. The wider public received a different detour map and will see the VMS boards promoting the official detour suitable for heavy vehicles.</p> <p>WB asked how complete the job is overall at this point in time, SG said 20-25% overall. JY enquired when Stage 2 would be delivered. WB answered that the SRU northern package includes seven capital projects, of which Stage 2 is one, and a Contractor for package will be on board by December 2019.</p> <p>NF asked SG how power disruptions will be managed when the Diamond Creek Road intersection is being worked on. SG explained that AusNet don't share information with the project about who will be impacted and when due to privacy laws but assured NF that AusNet are meant to be contacting residents in advance of planned services disruptions. KR said she has been telling businesses to get</p>

Agenda item	Discussion summary
	<p>in touch with the project team if they receive a letter from AusNet about a planned disruption and the project team will assist them with generators if required. SG said to NF that the power disruptions she was describing sounded more like operational issues and were not connected with construction works because there hasn't been a planned power shut down to date.</p> <p>NF asked why power poles were being installed and services were not being put underground. WB reminded NF that power services are overhead everywhere else in Plenty and Yarrambat. WB added that it is four to five times the cost to bring power services underground and this is unaffordable for the money allocated to deliver the road upgrade. WB reminded NF that we must be balanced. NF said safety should take priority and argued that people will run off the road and hit the poles. JJ said that wouldn't be the case because safety barriers are being installed.</p> <p>WB told the group that all bus stops will have bus shelters and that MRPA are liaising with PTV regarding lighting provisions for bus stops. CA added that new lighting being installed at upgraded intersections will assist with lighting concerns as well. AT asked about locations of all street lighting, and CA confirmed it will be installed at intersections. ME requested that all bus shelters be fitted with lighting for safety. WB said MRPA have requested a costing from BMD to light all the bus shelters and agreed to explore solar lighting as an option too.</p> <p>JJ asked about proposed closure of Diamond Creek Road intersection. SG and KR said it is being explored as a possibility for a period of a few weeks in January 2019.</p> <p>NF enquired about the colour options for the retaining walls. NF reminded MRPA that the colour of retaining walls was discussed during Flora and Fauna Panel meetings, and the group had requested colours similar to the Plenty Memorial Gates be considered. CA said MRPA are exploring what colours will suit the walls and the area, and will be able to be maintained, and the options will be shared with the community. NK reassured NF that the retaining walls being constructed currently are not the colour they will be. They will be painted once they have been built. NF asked if the community will be involved in choosing the colours for the retaining walls, WB confirmed that the colour options being considered will be presented to the community for input at the upcoming community sessions in October 2018.</p> <p><i>KR and SG left at 7.30pm</i></p> <p><i>BaM arrived 7.30pm</i></p>
Item 4 – Stage 1 project update	Item 4 covered in Item 3. Did not discuss again.
Item 5 – Stage 2 project update	<p>BM has been liaising with AusNet. Due to the low voltage power cables in the area, it is feasible for services to go underground on Stage 2. Logistical discussion will have to take place about space to bury services with the walking and cycling path and steep batter slopes. The area is tight and it is early days but there is a preference to underground services on Stage 2 in spots where it is feasible.</p> <p>BM said DELWP has accepted the EES referral for Stage 2. DELWP will provide independent oversight as they are impartial. The Panel will be convened late this year. JY asked if there is a chance Stage 2 would not go ahead if we had a change of Government. BM responded that scenario would be unlikely given the project funding is already allocated and election results won't change the need to increase capacity and improve safety on Yan Yean Road.</p> <p>WB added that EOI closes on Wednesday next week with the Contractor to be awarded by Christmas 2019 for the SRU northern package. BM said the project won't be acquiring privately</p>

Agenda item	Discussion summary
	<p>owned property until it is time to use it. Functional land will not be acquired earlier than it is needed.</p>
<p>Item 6 – Enviro update</p>	<p>NK told the group that the last of the bulk tree and vegetation clearing should be completed this week near Worns Lane. NK said some vegetation removal will be occurring as services are being relocated but that BMD aren't allowed to access orange NGZs until they've proven avoid and minimise.</p> <p>NK shared that the former Plenty Church is being relocated tomorrow from River Avenue to Plenty Heritage Park.</p> <p>NK told the group that MRPA had a landscaping meeting last week to provide final comments on landscaping designs and that the plans are back with the landscape consultant now to make amendments.</p> <p>NK said that seeds collected at the beginning of the year have been sent up to nurseries for propagating and will be used in private planting initiatives. If more local seeds are required, MRPA will approach Edendale or La Trobe University. NK said we are looking into a local school initiative too to make seed balls.</p> <p>PH asked how the possum boxes are going? NK wasn't sure exactly how many nest boxes had been installed to date but it was around 40. NK said ground hollows are also being identified.</p> <p>CA confirmed 12 trees had been delivered to Wurundjeri in Healesville. NK added that another one was delivered from Plenty Road too. NK said they use the trees to teach the kids skills so learnings aren't lost with the younger generations.</p> <p>CA told the group that the church would be relocated to behind the Plenty Park carpark temporarily while the footings are put in place in the ultimate location. ME asked if the planning permit had any objections and CA confirmed no, it didn't.</p> <p>NF said the Plenty Community Action Group had questions about timber uses, how many trees would be planted and what species they are, and which community groups have been offered timber. CC responded that all of that information will be provided at the community sessions and encouraged NF and the PCAG to be patient because the communications materials currently being developed answer all of those questions.</p> <p>AT asked if the planned local roads traffic count will proceed in September/October, noting that she did not want it to happen during school holidays as this could skew the results. CA assured AT they would not take place during school holidays. ME asked if the CRG members could nominate streets to be included in the local road traffic count. CC said yes. SF asked that Memorial Drive be included. ME requested that Daviesia Drive be included.</p>
<p>Item 7 – Other business</p>	<p>JY asked for an update on the River Red Gums in Doreen. BM said no further update since last time but the current reference design does impact the two trees.</p> <p>NF asked when the final design will be available online. CC responded that it is currently being developed and would be distributed to CRG members and published online as soon as it is finalised.</p> <p>NF asked if VicRoads or MRPA look after Stage 1 of the Yan Yean Road Upgrade now. CC gestured around the table and responded that we are all MRPA now. WB confirmed that the major projects division of VicRoads is now the Major Road Projects Authority.</p>
<p>Item 8 – Close</p>	<p>The group agreed discussion topic for October meeting would be to discuss landscaping plans, final design, environmental initiatives including timber re-use, and community sessions.</p>

Agenda item	Discussion summary
	<i>Meeting concluded 8.10pm</i>

Actions - new

#	Action	Owner/s	Due
6.1	Provide update to group about overhanging tree limbs revisit with Jonathan Risby (Nillumbik Council).	CA	8 October 2018
6.2	Include Memorial Drive and Daviesia Drive in September/October local traffic count survey	CA	8 October 2018
6.3	Bring local traffic count survey results to October CRG meeting for group to review	CA	8 October 2018
6.4	Supply construction planning information for October CRG meeting	SG	8 October 2018
6.5	Bring final design roll plot to October CRG meeting	CC	8 October 2018
6.6	Circulate materials for community sessions ahead of time to CRG members	CC	Prior to 3 October 2018