

Meeting Minutes

North Community Liaison Group (NCLG)

Date	19/08/2022	Time	10am
Chair	Jeni Coutts	Meeting no.	6 of 2022
Location	Online: Zoom Meeting	Minute taker	Jacqui Weedon

Attendees

Attendees			
Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Jeni Coutts (JC)	Independent Chair	Shaarang Bandekar	DoT - VicRoads
Stephen Paul (SP)	Community Representative	Adriano Murone (AM)	Community Representative
Michelle Molinaro (MM)	Community Representative	Sarah Maguire (SM)	Watsonia Traders representative
Luke Minton (LM)	Spark, Precinct Lead Communications and Engagement	Kathleen Petras (KP)	Banyule City Council - Team Leader Transport Planning
Natalie Pearson (NP)	NELP - Senior Manager, Community Partnerships	Charlotte Wang (CW)	NELP - Manager, Sustainability
Jane Couchman (JCO)	MTM – Communications Advisor	Jim Needham (JN)	NELP – Manager, Communications and Stakeholder Relations
Michael Maloney (MMA)	MTM – Senior Project Manager	Scott Lambert (SL)	NELP – Senior Communications and Stakeholder Relations Advisor
Ivan Zarezkij (IZ)	NELP - Graduate, Communications and Stakeholder Relations	Nic Morton (NM)	NELP - Communications and Stakeholder Relations Advisor
Mark Judge (MJ)	DoT - VicRoads	Abdullah Mohammed (AMO)	DoT - VicRoads
Apologies			
Allan Hunter (AH)	Community Representative	Remo Marinucci (RM)	Community Representative
Michelle Giovas (MG)	Community Representative		

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Key discussion points/decisions

Owner	Action
Jeni Coutts (JC)	Welcome and outstanding business
	Jeni welcomed the group and acknowledged apologies
	• Introduced new presenters for today: Jane Couchman (MTM) and Charlotte Wang (NELP)
Luke Minton (LM)	Tunnelling package presentation
	• LM welcomed feedback from the NCLG members about what they are hearing from the community and how future communications can be improved.
	Site Establishment Activities
	• Site establishment activities including Greensborough Rd re alignment have begun and will continue throughout August and September
	• Starting in September through to December piling to begin for TBM launch box near Lenola St and cut and cover at Lower Plenty Rd with tunnelling to begin in 2024
	• Internal haul road is being built on the east side of Greensborough Rd so Spark can move around the site internally minimising disruption to traffic
	• Ground is being levelled in Borlase Reserve to prepare for piling to begin around October
	• Media event held on July 14 at Borlase Reserve with then Acting Premier Jacinta Allen to kick off works and launch the North East Community Fund
	Indigenous Design Response:
	• Community feedback has shown that planting of indigenous species is important for a number of reasons including local character
	• The planting palette is inspired by the landscapes of Ridgeline, Yarra River Valley and Kooning Creek Valley
	There is an indigenous design lead working on the project
	Trader Engagement
	• The Trader engagement team will continue to help support local business and, where possible, SPARK will use local businesses as suppliers
	Tree Repurposing and Seed Collection
	• Spark is continuing to work with Councils, residents and traders to see what opportunities are available for the repurposing of trees
	• A seed collecting video is available on-line via social media channels and a link will also be shared with the minutes
	Questions and comments raised:
	Site Establishment Activities
	AM: There is a confusing VMS on the east side of Greensborough Highway south of Grimshaw St.
	JC: What does OSOM mean? SM: Oversize, over mass vehicle LM: This will be raised with our traffic team to see if it can be changed.
	AM: Where is the access point to the haul road? LM: The access gates are being built on Greensborough Road at Lenola Street and just north of Yallambie Road. A gate will also be built on Greensborough Road, north of Blamey Road.

Owner	Action
	There will be further info on access points ahead of the start of September works.
	SP: Were NELP people notified of the media event? LM: Yes, NELP was there with Spark. Typically these type of events are led by NELP and supported by Spark, which is a great opportunity to come together and kick works off.
	SP: Jeni were the NCLG members notified of that? JC: No, it doesn't normally happen that way, the Government dictates when they are going to do press conferences and members of the public are not usually notified.
	Tree Repurposing and Seed Collection
	MM: Has anyone been able to contact a chainsaw artist? LM: Yes, Spark is working with one in the south to get a proposal together. MM: It would be nice to have some of that artwork along the way. LM will follow up
	AM: It looks like the majority of the wood is being converted to mulch meaning much of the embedded carbon is being released, I would encourage NELP to keep using as many logs as possible rather than mulching. LM: We are working with 4-5 Councils to provide them with logs as well. LM Spark understands that repurposing is preferred to mulching.
	AM: Suggested that Creswell Forest in Bundoora that is managed by Parks Victoria may be worth reaching out to
Jane Couchman (JC)	Grimshaw St Site Establishment
Michael Maloney	Establishment works commence in September
(MM)	Notification to local residents will go out within the next fortnight
	Grimshaw St Site Establishment
	AM: Why are these works being done when the Northern Package hasn't been finalized yet? SL: Similar to early works there are a number of preparatory works that need to be completed before North East Link is built over the Hurstbridge Line. Doing this work now will allow us to have everything in place for the construction of NEL
	AM: Does that mean there will be restrictions on changes that can be made to the reference design? SL: No, this is just about getting the rail line prepared for a bridge to go over the top.
	AM: Which rules out the possibility for a longer tunnel? SL: This has been ruled out for a number of reasons in this location.
	SP: Do these works include upgrading Watsonia Station including the ramp which currently doesn't meet the standards for people with limited mobility. MMA: At this stage there are no plans to upgrade the station
	SB: Will trucks be turning right out of the compound? JN: We can take this on offline as this forum is more for community information MMA: The compound design has been designed in conjunction with DoT
Charlotte Wang	NELP Sustainability
(CW)	• NELP has six sustainability themes with specific, measurable targets which were developed from community and stakeholder feedback and policy context as well as scientific and technical project feedback
	Questions and comments raised:
	AM and SP complimented the presentation



Owner	Action
Jeni Coutts (JC)	Open Forum:
	SP: Had Banyule Council contacted Spark or North East Link prior to going to the media with the 'Lid the Link' campaign? JN: No, NELP was not contacted re: the design or details.
	KP: The Council is continuing to work with NELP. Kathleen will continue to be our contact until further notice
	MM: Thanked Charlotte for her presentation
	LM: Would you like to see Spark sustainability present at a meeting?
	MM: Yes, that would be great
	SM: thanked Charlotte for her presentation
	AM: Yallambie Road has lots of workers vehicles parked on the side of the road causing traffic to bank up. LM to raise with traffic team and make sure workers park onsite
	AM: The community wasn't really notified of tree removal in the area of the Greensborough Rd realignment near compound being built LM: Spark will take this feedback on board for upcoming works.
Jeni Coutts (JC)	Other business
	NP: Reminded members that NECF applications close on Sunday
	• MM: Will there be further funding rounds? NP: Yes, The NECF runs for the life of the NEL project
	• NP: CLG Refresh - Next meeting on Sept 30 th likely to be the last for this group. CLG will start recruitment for new members soon with new members announced potentially in October. Current members are welcome to re-apply, more information to come
	 JC: Confirmed next NCLG meeting will be held in person at Montmorency RSL on 30 September 2022 from 10am – 12pm.
	• JC: Thanked NCLG members and presenters and closed the meeting at 11:09 am.

Actions and issues register

No.	Date raised	Action/Issue	Owner	Status	Date closed
N1-2	12 November	Greensborough Historical Society (GHS) to present to CLG-North in a future meeting,	NELP	OPEN NELP will arrange Potentially to be put on hold. JW to send out EOI email to NCLG members	
N1-7	21 January	Request for traffic numbers to be shown at a future meeting.	NELP	OPEN More traffic data provided to the	



				group when available.	
N2-2	4 March	JC requested future presentation on Sustainability	NELP	CLOSED Presented in meeting 19/08/22	19/08/22
N5-1	1 July	LM to investigate temporary lighting solution or can curb and channel be installed to enclose the space and prevent people from using 'goats' track in Watsonia	LM	CLOSED Space can't be enclosed, area fencing has been cleaned up and extra signage installed, there isn't enough space to install temporary lighting along path	19/08/22
N5-2	1 July	MG requested update on Matted Flax Lily transplanting	NL	CLOSED Approx 100 Matted Flax Lilys have been re planted with up to 450 to be re planted in the area	19/08/22
N5-3	1 July	AM would like to know why there is a distinct indigenous palette and not exotic species in the UDLP	LM	CLOSED LM to present as part of tunnels package presentation today	19/08/22
N6 - 1	19 August	LM to contact Spark traffic team and request VMS signage on Greensborough Highway near Grimshaw St wording to be simplified	LM	OPEN LM to contact Spark traffic team	
N6 - 2	19 August	Unable to view Matted Flax Lily planting video during meeting	NELP	CLOSED Link sent with minutes	31/08/22
N6 - 3	19 August	Spark sustainability team to present at a future meeting	LM	OPEN LM to arrange	
N6 - 4	19 August	Worker vehicles parking on Yallambie Rd	LM	OPEN LM to contact supervisors to remind team where to park	
N6 - 5	19 August	Link to be sent to members of UDLP references to Indigenous design response	LM	CLOSED Link sent with minutes	31/08/22
N6 - 6	19 August	Luke to follow up status of chainsaw artist proposal	LM	OPEN LM to provide further info at next meeting	



