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| **Date** | Wednesday 27 March 2024 | **Meeting No** | 53 |
| **Chair** | Jeni Coutts | **Time** | 7.30am – 9.00am |
| **Location** | Zoom | **Minutes** | Jemma Erickson |

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| **Members and attendees** |  |  |
| *Present*   * Jeni Coutts [**Chair**] * Neil Hutchinson, City of Melbourne * Fraser Read-Smith, G12+ * Petra Glare, Albert Road Clinic * Colin Stuckey, Melbourne Grammar School * Andrea Coote, The Domain * Karen Baynes, Domain Hill * Gary Buck, The Botanica Apartments * Simon Spain, Hallmark apartments * Michael Butcher, Melbourne South Yarra Residents Group * Maree Klein, City of Melbourne * Chris Tsiafidis, City of Port Phillip | *Present*   * Naomi Langdon, DTP * Jane Thomson, DTP * Rob Mair, CYP * Kate Blackwood, Yarra Trams * Alex Cattanach, CYP * Matt Reid, CYP * Minh Le, RPV * Martin Alvarez, RPV * Paula Williams, RPV * Tim Fullerton, RPV * Jemma Erickson, RPV | *Apologies*   * Richard Henley, Hallmark Apartments * Phil Lukies, Melbourne South Yarra Residents Group * Jan Swinburne, The Botanica Apartments * Toni Meath, Mac Robertson Girls High School * Sarah Potter, Entrecote * Clare Hart, Royal Botanic Gardens * Christian Cole, Royal Botanic Gardens * Dean Nightingale, G12+ * Clifford Samson, local resident * Marilyn Wane, G12+ * Gary Brennan, Bike Network Victoria * David MacGowan, Royal Domain Tower * Trevor Sutherland, Hallmark Apartments * Greg Gilmour, Shrine of Remembrance * Christian Lawless, Melbourne Girls Grammar School * Jamie McBride, Domain Road Traders * Andrew Bennett, South Yarra Residents Association * Richard Greig, City of Melbourne |

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| 1. | Introduction and Welcome |
|  | Matters arising:   * Jeni Coutts welcomed members to the meeting of the Domain Community Reference Group (CRG). |
| 2. | DTP presentation – Reintroduction of public transport services to Domain Road |
|  | * Michael Butcher asked for clarification on the intended use of dual-purpose stations planned for construction on Domain Road. Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) clarified the dual-purpose stop will facilitate the operation of tram and bus services and provide an interchange with Anzac station upon completion. DTP noted the dual-purpose stops may also allow for special events tram services in the future. CYP clarified the term “dual-purpose” refers to stops that can be used to facilitate both trams and buses. * Michael Butcher asked if trams will resume servicing Domain Road. DTP advised it cannot currently confirm plans for services along Domain Road. RPV noted the current intention within MTP scope is for trams to continue services via Toorak Road West, and any future changes will occur external to MTP. * Andrea Coote asked when trams will travel via Park Street and Domain Road to St Kilda Road. DTP advised it cannot currently confirm plans for services on Domain Road. * Andrea Coote expressed disappointment from previous actions such as community surveys and asked for clarification on what future surveys are intended to achieve. DTP noted previous community surveys were primarily undertaken by RPV and advised that current DTP questionnaires intend to address a broader scope. * Andrea Coote asked what impact the construction of dual-purpose transport stops would have on outdoor dining spaces on Domain Road. Neil Hutchinson (City of Melbourne) clarified that no impact is expected as the spaces are located in former parking spots. * Fraser Read-Smith asked if DTP intends to restore the tram line connection on the corner of Toorak Road and Park Street and why the connection was initially removed. DTP advised restoration of the connection is dependent on plans for trams to service Domain Road, but that plans are in place to restore the connection should this occur. DTP clarified the connection was initially removed during construction to ensure trams could not accidentally enter Park Street without the means to exit. * Michael Butcher asked if a new survey would be undertaken to reassess traveller load along St Kilda Road to the CBD. DTP acknowledged travel patterns will continue to change with the opening of the Metro Tunnel, and continuously collecting data on travel patterns will be an important task going forward. * Gary Buck raised previous plans from DTP to conduct community consultation and asked about the resulting action. DTP clarified the decision of the government was that it could not undertake the community consult at this stage. * Simon Spain asked if DTP could provide any further information on how various tram routes in the precinct may be impacted. DTP advised it could not provide any further information at this time. * Colin Stuckey asked if construction of the dual-purpose stops would commence prior to a decision on trams servicing Domain Road, and what would occur should trams no longer service Domain Road. CYP advised construction would commence on the dual-purpose stops regardless of tram services on Domain Road, and that the dual-purpose stops are intended to serve as future-proofing for the return of passenger displays for both buses and trams. If trams do not service Domain Road the dual-purpose stops will service buses. |
| 2. | Outstanding actions and issues register |
|  | Matters arising:   * In relation to A52-1, Rob Mair (CYP) presented an update.   + Andrew Bennett advised no perceived change in the speed of trams approaching the pedestrian crossing near Bowen Lane, and noted the planting of trees and shrubs in areas that may further effect line-of-sight to oncoming trams.   + Yarra Trams confirmed the occurrence of regular compliance checks on tram speeds and advised it has requested a focused review of trams passing through the pedestrian crossing near Bowen Lane. Yarra Trams noted the matter has been escalated internally.   + Yarra Trams noted the 15km/hour speed limit only applies to trams travelling northbound on St Kilda Road upon approach to Anzac Station (including at the pedestrian crossing). Outside of the approach to Anzac station the 15km/h limit does not apply and trams have the same speed limit as road traffic.   + In relation to the staggered pedestrian crossing, CYP clarified the intent of the design is to prevent pedestrians from turning their backs to oncoming trams when crossing.   + Petra Glare suggested increased signage in the area to signal the transition from areas where pedestrians have right of way to those where trams are prioritised.   + CYP clarified the purpose of its review is to confirm the pedestrian crossing in its current state is compliant. Now that compliance has been determined, further conversations are to be had regarding additional measures to address concerns raised by the community. |
| 3. | Presentations from project contractors |
|  | Presentation by Alex Cattanach (CYP) on the works update.  Presentation by Matt Reid (RNA) on the Environment update.  Presentation by Rob Mair (CYP) on the Project-wide update.  Matters arising:   * Simon Spain asked if scheduled works on the break-out section of St Kilda Road from 7 – 13 April 2024 will occur on a day shift only. CYP clarified some night shift works will need to occur on Sunday 7 April 2024 to accommodate the sequence of works, however noted the use of profiling rather than hammers. * Colin Stuckey asked what measures had been taken to ensure contingency for inclement weather. CYP advised additional resourcing and night shifts have been factored into the program to mitigate potential delays. * Simon Spain requested clarification on the noise impacts of profiling. CYP advised profiling is less intrusive than the use of hammers and that the noise level will be comparable to recent works on St Kilda Road. * Gary Buck asked where noise impacts are expected to extend to. CYP advised its focus is on the first 60m of St Kilda Road during this shutdown. Once this has been completed the remaining breakout works will occur across day shifts only. * Andrea Coote expressed concerns about the bike lane near the corner of Bowen Lane and St Kilda Road and asked where demarcation will be placed. CYP confirmed additional line markings are to be placed to differentiate the bike lanes from the pavement but agreed to explore additional options and confirm the design intent. * Michael Butcher asked when Edmund Herring oval will be restored and returned for public use. CYP noted personnel are currently housed at Edmund Herring oval and that restoration is dependent on demobilisation. CYP advised the current target is to restore Edmund Herring oval in Q3-Q4 2024. * Michael Butcher asked if arrangements are in place to conceal the chiller plant equipment on St Kilda Road. CYP confirmed the internal chiller plant equipment will not be visible upon project completion and will be concealed by acoustic louvres. Soft landscaping will commence once chiller plant testing and commissioning has been completed and trees will be planted adjacent. * Gary Buck noted residents of The Botanica Apartments have ongoing questions in relation to the chiller plant equipment. Gary requested a representative involved with the ongoing maintenance and operation of the chiller plants to speak with residents. CYP agreed to take this on notice and explore options for an appropriate representative. * Gary Buck asked when parking bays on St Kilda Road will be returned. CYP advised return of the parking bays will coincide with completion of the centre island and asphalting, which is expected in May 2024. * Gary Buck expressed concerns regarding noise levels during recent and upcoming works. CYP agreed to take this on notice. |
| 4. | General feedback and items for future discussion |
|  | Matters arising:   * Andrea Coote expressed disappointment with elements of the planning and design of the project thus far, such as the roadway in front of the Domain. * Colin Stuckey asked for further information in relation to proposed bus services along Domain Road, including service numbers. RPV advised it cannot provide information on bus services at this time. * Gary Buck expressed dissatisfaction with completed works at The Botanica Apartments thus far. * Karen Baynes asked if upcoming works will have an impact on Albert Road and expressed concerns around the efficacy of current traffic controllers. CYP advised the current plan is for Albert Road residents to exit via Kings Way but agreed to look into this issue. Karen noted when entering from Kings Way it is difficult to locate traffic controllers. * Petra Glare raised difficulties experienced in accessing Albert Road South in the recent event of a fire alarm, which resulted in a blockage of Albert Road from the fire trucks attending. Petra noted this has also been raised with Fire Rescue Victoria. * Petra Glare thanked Rob Mair (CYP) for following up the collection of bins on Albert Road. * Neil Hutchinson (City of Melbourne) noted frustration with lack of progress on operation planning for public transport services in South Yarra and advised that the City of Melbourne neighbourhood surveys are currently open. Residents are encouraged to complete the survey to enable the City of Melbourne Council to understand their needs and continue to advocate on behalf of the community. * Simon Spain noted the potential for dual-purpose stations to fall into disrepair if commissioned but not utilised for an extended period. Simon noted tram stops may also confuse passengers who expect services to run through them. RPV advised the project will provide handover of platforms to Yarra Trams for ongoing maintenance and specific measures are currently being discussed. |
| 5. | Meeting Close |
|  | Matters arising:   * Next meeting is Wednesday 8 May 2024. |

**NEW ACTIONS AND ISSUES**

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| # | **ACTION / ISSUE** | **OWNER** |
| **A53-1** | CYP to confirm the design intent of demarcation lines between the bike lanes and footpath near the corner of Domain Road and St Kilda Road. | CYP |