|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | Tuesday 21 April 2020 | **Meeting No** | 18 |
| **Chair** | Jeni Coutts | **Time** | 7.30am – 9.00am |
| **Location** | Zoom | **Minutes** | Alana Clarke |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Members** |  |
| *Present** Jeni Coutts [**Chair**]
* Nic Thomas, local resident
* Tennessee Leeuwenburg, local resident
* Gillian Fraser, local resident
* Jonathan Forbes, local resident
* Nadia Ford, City of Stonnington
 | *Apologies** Tom Howgate, local resident
* Ruth Speedy, Toorak Road South Yarra Business Association
* James Robinson, local resident
* Paul Bellette, Café Republic
* Christopher Blain, South Yarra Village Residents Group Malcolm Ninnis, local resident
* Graham Hoy, South Yarra Residents Association
* Kathy Dalton, local resident
 |
| **In attendance** |  |
| *Present** Steve Denton, CYP
* Dan Young, CYP
* Camila Eviston, CYP
* Neil Bracken, CYP
* Dean Valentic, RIA
* Tom Betts, RIA
* Bridget Salvo, RIA
 | * Paula Williams, RPV
* Matilda Tonkin, RPV
* Andrew Nelson, RPV
* Dusk Johnston, RPV
* Sharon Campbell, RPV
* Tim Fullerton, RPV
* Sarah Haines, RPV
* Alana Clarke [**Secretariat**]
 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. | Welcome and introduction |
|  | Welcome from Jeni Coutts (Chair).Matters arising: * The Community Reference Group (CRG) discussed the new format of the meeting.
* The CRG discussed the Outstanding Actions and Issues Register.
 |
| 2. | Presentation from project contractors |
|  | Presentation by Steve Denton (CYP) and Dean Valentic (RIA) on current and upcoming works and COVID-19 update.Presentation by Tom Betts (RIA)\_on community and traffic impacts.Presentation by Camila Eviston (CYP) and Tom Betts on environment.Matters arising:* Tennessee Leeuwenburg queried the scheduled night works for the July occupation. RIA confirmed the occupation will run from the last Saturday train and confirmed overnight works will occur within the rail corridor.
* Nadia Ford queried the location of the vibration monitor on William Street. RIA confirmed the monitor is at 8 William Street.
* Gillian Fraser raised a low-level noise that seems to come from the gantry crane on the CYP site. CYP agreed to investigate the source of the noise and follow up with Gillian.
* The CRG discussed the Osborne Street bridge.
	+ Nic Thomas expressed dissatisfaction that the Osborne Street bridge was not presented as a separate item on the meeting agenda, given the level of community interest in the item and City of Stonnington’s recent withdrawal of support for the bridge. Nic asked whether the bridge would still be built. RPV confirmed construction of the bridge will continue as it remains part of the development plan as approved by the Minister for Planning for the Metro Tunnel Project. RPV confirmed a further development plan amendment process would be required to authorise removal of the bridge from the project.
	+ Nic Thomas raised specific issues with the current design of the Osborne Street bridge, including the wall height and the width of the ramp, and queried the scope of potential amendments to the bridge design to reduce the impact of these elements. RIA confirmed it is aware of resident concerns about these design elements and confirmed it has reduced these elements as much as is possible, while still adhering to legislative requirements around safety and disability access. RIA also confirmed its design team is working to soften the impact of the ramp on the nature strip with green elements. RIA acknowledged that the outcome is not ideal for residents seeking the return of the Osborne Street Reserve as it was prior to the project but clarified it has incorporated as many softening elements as possible into the bridge design.
	+ The CRG discussed the use of the bridge for pedestrians and cyclists, including whether dual access is still required. Nic Thomas asked if there is scope to make the bridge pedestrian-only and asked whether this change would allow for a reduction in the width of the access ramp. RIA confirmed this would require a fundamental design change as the bridge has been designed to accommodate both pedestrians and cyclists. Nic asked whether this option had been discussed at a ministerial level. RPV confirmed discussions at the ministerial level have focused on the overall inclusion of the bridge through the process of the development plan and that a reduction in the size of the ramp to exclude cyclists had not been part of those discussions. RIA agreed to investigate options to limit the bridge to pedestrian access only, and provide advice on whether this would have a material impact on the size of the access ramp.
	+ Jonathan Forbes raised commencement of bridge foundation construction, specifically that this activity had not been flagged in the overall program at previous CRG meetings for this time and was instead announced to community members via a construction notification. Johnathan queried the decision-making process behind starting works on the bridge and asked if these works had been brought forward in the program. RIA confirmed that opportunities to enable early RIA access to the CYP site were identified in mid-February. From this, a proposal was put forward to commence construction of the bridge foundations before the CYP tunnelling team is mobilised at South Yarra, which enables significant time savings later in the program. RIA explained this was subject to a commercial agreement between RIA and CYP, which needed to be confirmed prior to any works announcement. Works on the bridge foundations then proceeded on the basis that they were approved as part of the RIA development plan and form part of the Metro Tunnel Urban Design Strategy. RIA confirmed these works were briefly halted to accommodate discussions arising from the City of Stonnington’s reversal of its position on the bridge but have recommenced at the direction of RPV and the Minister’s Office.
	+ Nic Thomas raised the bridge’s original purpose as a construction access route rather than as a pedestrian route. RPV confirmed the bridge’s original purpose was as a construction access route but clarified its updated purpose has been incorporated into subsequent scope documents.
	+ Jonathan Forbes commented that he was not satisfied the development plan process has delivered an appropriate outcome in this case. Johnathan Forbes and Nic Thomas expressed the view that if the process maintains that the bridge must be constructed despite the original purpose for the bridge being no longer required and City of Stonnington as a major stakeholder withdrawing its support for a pedestrian and bicycle bridge, then the process is not sufficient or appropriate. RPV acknowledged that the outcome of the bridge design is not satisfactory to some residents but reiterated that removal of the bridge from the project entirely would require an entirely new development plan amendment process.
	+ The Chair queried the most appropriate avenue for community members to make formal submissions about the bridge design, including regarding the option to reduce the bridge to pedestrian access only. RPV agreed to bring this information to the next CRG meeting.
	+ Nic Thomas asked when construction on the ramp and steps would commence. RIA confirmed this stage is likely to commence in 2021 and confirmed there will be adequate time for community members to provide comment prior to commencement.
	+ The CRG discussed the amended RIA development plan. Nic Thomas raised that community members were only invited to make comment on the amended elements of the development plan in the recent engagement process, not on fundamental elements such as the inclusion of the bridge itself.
	+ The Chair asked if there would be value in having the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) present to the CRG on the planning approvals for the bridge. RPV confirmed DELWP could only provide advice on the development plan process and confirmed that DELWP intends to adhere to that process regarding the issue of the bridge.
	+ The City of Stonnington stated it is open to discussing desired outcomes for the bridge design with community members and representing these desires in its engagement with the project team.
 |
|  S18-1 | Investigate options to limit the Osborne Street bridge to pedestrian access only, including whether this would have a material impact on the size of the access ramp |
| S18-2 | Confirm the most appropriate avenue for community members to make formal submissions about design elements of the Osborne Street bridge and approximate timing for these submissions.  |
| 3. | General feedback and items for future discussion |
|  | Matters arising: Nil.  |
| 4. | Meeting close |
|  | Matters arising:* The next meeting will be held on 9 June 2020.
 |

**OUTSTANDING ACTIONS AND ISSUES REGISTER**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| # | ACTION | OWNER | STATUS |
| S18-1 | Investigate options to limit the Osborne Street bridge to pedestrian access only, including whether this would have a material impact on the size of the access ramp. | RIA | Open |
| S18-2 | Confirm the most appropriate avenue for community members to make formal submissions about design elements of the Osborne Street bridge and approximate timing for these submissions. | RPV | Open |