

Meeting minutes

WESTERN DISTRIBUTOR COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

Date:	9 March 2017	Time:	5.30pm – 7.30pm
Place:	Maribyrnong Town Hall, 61 Napier St, Footscray	Meeting number:	Ten
Chair:	Jim Williamson	Minutes:	Emily Dooley

Attendees

Name	Organisation
Steven Wilson (SW)	Friends of Stony Creek (FOSK)
Michael Ingram (MI)	Kensington and North and West Melbourne
Simon Birch (SB)	Spotswood
Christine Harris (CH)	Spotswood & South Kingsville Residents Group (SSKRG)
Philip Dearman (PD)	Maribyrnong Truck Action Group (MTAG)
Deidre Anderson (DA)	Maribyrnong City Council
Ian Butterworth (IB)	Hobsons Bay Council (proxy for Stephen Zelez)
Craig Rowley (CR)	LeadWest
Greg Cain (GC)	VTA
Margaret O'Loughlin (MO)	Yarraville
Ash Ellawala (AE)	Brooklyn Residents Action Group (proxy for Bert Boere)
Badge Kurdi (BK)	Observer from Spotswood & South Kingsville Residents Group (SSKRG)
Emily Dooley (ED)	Project team
Jim Carden (JC)	Project team
Samantha Aitchison (SAI)	Project team
Victoria Jessop (VJ)	Project team
Liz Evans (LE)	Project team
Jackie Wright (JWr)	Project team

Apologies

Name	Organisation
Scott Ellerton (SE)	Concerned Locals of Yarraville (CLOY)
Dave Jones (DJ)	RACV
Emma Appleton (EA)	Melbourne City Council
Bert Boere (BB)	Brooklyn Residents Action Group
Stephen Zelez (SZ)	Hobsons Bay Council
Craig Williams (CW)	Seddon
Neil Whiteside (NW)	Brimbank Council
Jessica Christiansen-Franks (JCF)	Footscray

Agenda items

Time	#	Item detail
5.30pm	1	Welcome, introductions and apologies
5.35pm	2	Address previous minutes and actions arising
5.40pm	3	Update from Jim Carden
5.45pm	4	Short presentations by members <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Margaret O'Loughlin, Yarraville
6.00pm	6	Health Impacts Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hear from Jackie Wright who is leading the Health impact assessment for the WD EES. Jackie will explain what is assessed, how it is assessed and what to expect to see in the EES• Facilitated group discussion / questions
6.45pm	7	Feedback from EES workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview of the key themes that were discussed among groups as part of the EES workshop
7.15pm	8	Other items
7.25pm	9	Meeting action summary and close

Minutes

Time	#	Item detail
5.30pm	1	Welcome, introductions and apologies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• JW welcomes group• JW notes apologies as listed above• JW welcomes Jackie Wright
5.35pm	2	Address previous minutes and actions arising <ul style="list-style-type: none">• JW seeks approval of minutes from meeting number 9 in February 2017• ED notes changes made from RM regarding further additions and clarity on a few sentences – no further changes required
5.40pm	3	Update from Jim Carden <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides short update regarding the planning process• Still working with three tenders who are responding to the Reference Design• The tenderer's design will be incorporated into the EES process• The design to be assessed through the EES and the Design and Construct Contractor who will build it will be announced by the Government and Minister this year• We cannot provide any more detailed information at this stage as the project is in a competitive tender process• SB asks if the Government will be announcing the updates to the public• JC advises yes they will announce this publicly. CLG members will be notified of the release of the design and everyone will have the opportunity to view it. JC advised CLG will be briefed following its release. The benefit of this process is that when the EES is exhibited it will be largely what is contracted to be built – pending planning approvals.• CH asks if the project team knows when announcement is going to happen• JC states that as project is in procurement process it is not known when the announcement will happen, however it is understood that the EES will be available middle of the year• PD asks how long there will be between the announcement of tender design and making the EES public• JC explains that it is dependent on timeframes. There are two milestones, the first when the design and the contractor to build the project is announced, and the second in the middle of year when the EES is exhibited.• AE asks if there is an opportunity to amend the design thereafter• JC advises that the opportunity to provide feedback will continue during the EES process• JW explains to the group that involving the community and providing information will be an ongoing process. He noted Melbourne Metro Rail EES had significant changes in responses from community that were made in the panel hearing process• JC explains that this can be viewed online, the Media Statement: http://www.premier.vic.gov.au/environmental-plan-in-place-for-the-metro-tunnel/ and the Assessment: https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0022/9814/Melbourne-Metro-Ministers-Assessment-Final-MP-signature-copied-in.pdf

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5.45pm	3	<p>Short presentations by members</p> <p>Margaret O’Loughlin – Yarraville</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MO talks about her background as a Yarraville resident and that she has been coming to CLG meetings for over a year.• MO explains she has a video to show, and that she has been out and about locally asking 23 people their thoughts on the project. She also provided these people with a factsheet about the project• MO acknowledged that the video was edited by Jacob (age 14) by way of editing• During the interviews MO asked the community how they wanted information to be communicated to them and what are their issues and concerns with the project• Video plays to the group and is received warmly
6.00pm	4	<p>Health Impacts Assessment</p> <p>Jackie Wright – Western Distributor Health Impact Assessment (HIA) Specialist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health Impact Assessment video plays – see video here.• JWFr outlines her background and her experience in HIA and different projects she has worked on.• JWFr has been completing assessments for over 25 years. Previously worked on the Moorebank Intermodal Terminal, North and West Connex projects in Sydney which are available online• JWFr states that here in Victoria the Western Distributor HIA is a really comprehensive HIA and it’s the first time it’s been done in this amount of detail in this state• JWFr talks about HIA as looking at the effects on day to day life that you don’t adjust to. There are challenges in doing this because the health of every individual is affected by lots of different things. There is a whole range of things that affect our health, and in a HIA they look at what are the things that we do/experience on a day to day basis.• For the WD HIA They’re looking at how the health of the community is affected by the project.• JWFr says the objectives of the HIA for Western Distributor are to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Evaluate how the project may benefit or impact upon the health and wellbeing of the local community– Facilitate health conscious planning and development– Address the scoping requirements for the EES, that specifically requires health and amenity to be addressed in relation to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Air quality- Noise and Vibration- Social aspects• JWFr outlines the policy, standards and guidelines they follow:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– enHealth:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Health Impact Assessment Guidelines – 2001- Environmental Health Risk Assessment: Guidelines for assessing human health risks from environmental hazards – 2012– CHETRE (University of NSW): Health Impact Assessment: A Practical Guide - 2007– NHMRC: Air Quality in and Around Traffic Tunnels - 2008

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">– NEPM– International guidance and publications relevant to the assessment of various health impacts• JW r talks about how the project is assessed, considering how it could alter air quality and how this will impact on the community. The assessment considers:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– both impacts and also reductions in air concentrations– exposures to changes in air quality from ventilation and changes in road traffic– evaluating key health effects, including mortality, respiratory and cardiovascular health (asthma)– changes in individual risk to evaluate the magnitude of the change in air quality– changes affect overall community health in the project area• JW r talks about how the project is assessed, considering how noise and vibration may impact on the community. Their assessment considers:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– changes in noise predicted in the community and effects on sleep disturbance, annoyance, cardiovascular effects and mortality– changes in individual risk to evaluate the magnitude of the change in air quality– how these changes affect overall community health in the project area• JW r talks about how other changes associated with the project may affect health and well-being in the community including, traffic, pedestrian and cycle, green space, community cohesion and economic aspects• JW r says that they also look at equity aspects, including how fair is the project for the community as a whole or does the project unfairly burden any area of community• RM runs facilitated discussion and opens questions up to the group• CH asks if Ultra Fine Particulate Matter (UFPM) is being monitored• JW r states that UFPM will not be monitored. There are studies on big population's where they look at measurement of Particulate Matter (PM) 10 and PM2.5 as well as cardiovascular and respiratory diseases. There is a clear association between health impacts and PM10 and PM2.5 and these measurements include UFPM ie. its already captured in the studies we consider. There is no standardised way to measure UFPM, or properly assess its direct impacts as yet.• CH explains that she has been speaking to a top expert in UFPM who has undertaken research in this area• JW r explains that she is aware of research building in this area, however there are clear national standards that are set by our regulators that are what assessments must be based on.• VJ asks on behalf of her group, once the project is in place, if there are health impacts that are found to be unsatisfactory, what is the process• JW r describes that health issues are not standard, the key things that may affect health are air quality and noise. There are ongoing requirements to assess these and if there are complaints, they are directed to Department of Health who would respond.• SW asks what tools do you use to calculate factors of noise and air quality• JW r clarifies we use a range of different exposures, we look at existing health of population and the impact the project will have on health risks• CH expressed a view that asthma levels in Spotswood were probably more aligned with Maribyrnong levels than Hobsons Bay levels, she is concerned it's going to increase. She asked if there were any levels that could be obtained just for Spotswood as they were concerned that asthma levels in Spotswood would rise as a

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		<p>result of this project and that looking at Hobsons Bay as a whole, would not capture a change in Spotswood.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JWFr says that we don't have specific data for suburbs, however that concern will be noted and the HIA will look at how the assessment would change if a higher level of existing level of asthma in the community were assumed • PD asks what is the relationship with different specialist studies in relation to the HIA • JWFr explains that she draws on other studies including Air Quality, Noise and Vibration and the Social Impact assessment. These studies are completed first and their findings are incorporated into the HIA. • MI asks if the HIA study follows that same format as everyone else's from start until end of project • JWFr states that they follow the same format and are bound by how the project is assessed, looking at difference between if project is built or not built • GC thanks JWFr for overview, and asks her to elaborate on mortality and if they take in the demographics when there is a huge drop of jobs in one area • JWFr explains that the social part is more challenging to assess. The way the assessment is done is to look at what is going to happen for the project and what jobs will be available. What she can't do is look at changes that haven't been predicted as part of the project, such as a big company closing and people losing jobs. Through Medicare reporting system rates of drug overdoses are just coming out now and this is one of the few ways we could use to monitor changes in community affecting the way a local suburb is doing. • IB asks if in her experience where an HIA has been done in NSW have there been changes to the project because of this • JWFr states that yes there definitely has been, because she comes at the end of the process when they often haven't through the implications of the project design on health. If in undertaking my assessment I find the impacts to be unacceptable, she advises that the project can't be put forward because of the following reasons. They will then go away and change elements of the project to meet the requirements. • MI asks if there are noise and air quality meters, what is the measure for community wellbeing • JWFr explains that there is no tool to measure it, it's influence on the community through complaints and admissions. There are also social surveys that can be done. • CH states that HBCC have employed a consultant that's saying that air quality will be worse in the area and asks how you justify that in a health impact assessment • JWFr explains that they will use robust science to look at the changes and impacts to determine what's an acceptable risk and what's not. • JWFr explains that people have always been exposed to particles and it's about understanding if this project is going to change the levels there currently or make the risk to health better or worse. JWFr also advises that this is based on guidance that comes from our health authorities who have made decisions for our population and what levels are determined as acceptable and unacceptable.
6.45pm	5	<p>Feedback from EES workshop – previous meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LE thanks everyone for participating in the EES workshop • LE reiterates the purpose of the workshop was to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Gain a better understanding of how well the community understands the EES – To receive feedback on past and future communications methods – To assist project team in communicating the EES to enable participation

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• LE talks about the following key themes for each question that came out of the workshop:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– <i>Does your community know about the EES? And do they understand it's purpose and the process? What are the knowledge gaps?</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">- People want to know more about what specialists' reports will contain. The outcomes we have taken away is simple messaging, how can we be clear and to the point? We'll look to use graphics and simple language. Also conversation with members of the community.- How do we talk about the rigour of the EES? The EES is a very rigorous process so we need to ensure people understand the role it plays in a major project,- Level of awareness is generally linked to level of impacts. We need to communicate all of the aspects in a particular area, so we have divided information into locations to draw out the interest into your area- How to get involved and accessing info? We're looking at how we use social media and newspapers to raise awareness, as well as our other communications including face-to-face conversations through information sessions- Why get involved? We're all here to input into something and we want people to take the opportunity if they wish and have their say and we want to give them as much confidence in the process as we can.• VJ talks about the following key themes for each question that came out of the workshop:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– <i>Based on previous communications materials and methods, what has worked well? And where can we do better?</i>– Pop-ups are great – set expectations. Continue with pop-ups as these are working well and ensure we manage expectations around what will be available at these locations.– Providing impacts upfront. Particularly what's in the EES, show impacts and mitigation– Explaining complex information. Trying to find ways we can turn this info into something that people can understand, using the right language and visuals to breakdown complex information– Understanding overall project. People want to know what's happening in others areas, and understand the project as a whole. We need to balance localised information with project information– Advertising. Making sure people know we are engaging and where they can get information from. We will look to use a combination of social media people and digital and press advertising.– <i>Ensuring complex information is simply communicated</i>– CALD, Important that we addressing barriers to communications. Ways we will look to do this are through translated information, interpreter and NRS services and tapping into existing advisory networks– Quantity of information. There is a lot of information so we'll look to draw out and target technical information that is applicable to an area/stakeholder– Complexity of information. Recognising that the project is quite complex so we'll be finding ways to explain information in ways that make it easy to understand– Not enough time. The project is large and it is complex so we will distribute information as early as possible to provide people with as much time as possible

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAI talks about how the project team is addressing barriers to engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>How has the Project Team recognised and addressed potential barriers to participation?</i> – We have a series of strategies to address barriers to engagement – Recognition of the diversity of communities within the project area: including CALD, Vulnerable and Hard to Reach – We recognise ways in which we can address some of these barriers and overcome them using the interpreter service and the national relay service, we also go to where the people are, not just relying on them to try and find us. We recognize that it's not one size fits all and we understand that. – SB states that it sounds like a huge task to do – SA explains that it is, however we started doing this in July last year, we have used interpreter service at festivals and information sessions. In terms of other work, it takes up a lot of time and its really valuable and we know we are reaching other networks. – DA states that its very useful using those current networks and it's surprising how great you can get information out there using existing networks through councils. – LE reiterates how we will communicate the EES through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statutory requirements (councils, libraries, letters) - Newspaper advertisements - Meetings - Website (Project/DELWP) - Information factsheets - Videos - Pop-ups - Community info sessions - Social media
7.20pm	6	<p>Other items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JW asks the group whether Thursday 6 April is suitable for the next meeting date – group agrees • JW thanks the project team for the great work • JW states that considering today's discussion maybe we could have more dedicated time in coming meetings to discuss when the tender comes out, and also have someone speak about the social impact assessment. He also reminded meeting of importance of robust but respectful discussion.
7.30pm	9	<p>Meeting close</p> <p>7.30pm meeting closes</p>

Actions

#	Action detail	Owner	Status
1	Send link to Melbourne Metro EES media statement	Secretariat	Complete
2	Send link to Melbourne Metro EES Ministers assessment	Secretariat	Complete

Next meeting

Date:	Thursday 6 April 2016
Time:	5.30pm – 7.30pm
Place:	Maribyrnong Town Hall
Chair:	Jim Williamson

Minutes prepared by: Emily Dooley

Minutes approved by: Jim Williamson



Approval signature

28/03/17

Approval date