

# Meeting minutes

## WESTERN DISTRIBUTOR COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

Date:	7 November 2016	Time:	5.30pm – 7.30pm
Place:	Maribyrnong Town Hall, 61 Napier St, Footscray	Meeting number:	Seven
Chair:	Jim Williamson	Minutes:	Emily Dooley

### Attendees

Name	Organisation
Dwayne Singleton (DS)	Altona
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)
Geoff Mitchellmore (GM)	Brooklyn Residents Action Group (Proxy for Bert Boere)
Philip Dearman (PD)	Maribyrnong Truck Action Group (MTAG)
Deidre Anderson (DA)	Maribyrnong City Council
Richard Smithers (RS)	City of Melbourne (Proxy for Emma Appleton)
Stephen Zelez (SZ)	Hobsons Bay Council
Craig Rowley (CR)	LeadWest
Jessica Christian-Franks (JCF)	Footscray
Greg Cain (GC)	VTA
Gary West (GW)	Project team
Emily Dooley (ED)	Project team
Sarah Altmann (SAL)	Project team
Jim Carden (JC)	Project team
Samantha Aitchison (SAI)	Project team
Victoria Jessop (VJ)	Project team
Liz Evans (LE)	Project team
Phil West (PW)	Project team
Bruce Dawson (BD)	Project team

## Apologies

Name	Organisation
Scott Ellerton (SE)	Concerned Locals of Yarraville (CLOY)
Margaret O'Loughlin (MO)	Yarraville
Dave Jones (DJ)	RACV
Neil Whiteside (NW)	Brimbank Council
Craig Williams (CW)	Seddon

## Agenda items

Time	#	Item detail
5.30pm	1	<b>Welcome, introductions and apologies</b>
5.35pm	2	<b>Address previous minutes and actions arising</b>
5.40pm	3	<b>Short presentations by members</b>
6.10pm	4	<b>EES study profile – Noise</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Hear from Phil West who is leading the Noise assessment for the WD EES. Phil will explain what is assessed, how it is assessed (including how noise monitoring works) and what to expect to see in the EES.</li><li>Facilitated group discussion / questions</li></ul>
6.50pm	5	<b>WD community engagement update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Update on the WD 'tour of the west' which saw the project team visit suburbs from Geelong to Docklands. Hear about what's been happening.</li></ul>
7.10pm	6	<b>Other items</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Update on December site tour</li><li>Following meeting date - 2017</li></ul>
7.20pm	7	<b>Suggested items for discussion by members</b>
7.25pm	8	<b>Meeting action summary</b>
7.30pm	9	<b>Meeting close</b>

## Agenda items

Time	#	Item detail
5.30pm	1	<b>Welcome, introductions and apologies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• JW notes apologies as listed above</li><li>• JW welcomes Phil West, noise specialists and new project team member Liz Evans, Manager Community Engagement at Western Distributor Authority</li><li>• JW notes that Jim Carden will assist with introductions and timekeeping in Robin Miles' absence.</li></ul>
5.35pm	2	<b>Address previous minutes and actions arising</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• JW acknowledges actions completed since the previous meeting – the CLG consolidated feedback summary was finalised, is available on the project website and was issued to tenderers, specialists working on the EES and key project personnel.</li><li>• JW seeks approval of minutes from previous meeting with the group – no changes noted.</li></ul>
5.40pm	3	<b>Short presentations by members</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>CH – Spotswood and South Kingsville Residents Group (SSKRG)</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– presentation focuses on air quality – specifically Ultra-Fine Particulate Matter (UFPM) explaining what UFPM is and how it is measured by number not weight</li><li>– explains that most standard measures for particulate matter (PM) are PM10 and PM2.5</li><li>– explains why we should measure UFPM, stating that PM is carcinogenic however the health implications are unknown (a study in rats showed UFPM can reach organs such as lungs)</li><li>– outlines view on why UFPM should be measured – they make up the bulk number of particles from combustion engines and have potential to do harm</li><li>– acknowledges that Maribyrnong has one of the highest rates of childhood asthma in Australia</li><li>– explains concerns of SSKRG in relation to Hyde Street ramps being located adjacent to sporting field and within vicinity of Kindergarten</li><li>– states that Europe is starting to look at regulating UFPM but no standards have been developed at this stage</li><li>– notes that there is a company in Australia which can monitor UFPM</li><li>– proposes that community should seek monitoring of UFPM, tree planting, and present to EES planning panel.</li></ul></li><li>• GW confirms that the Western Distributor EES studies will be guided by established guidelines and regulatory standards for PM2.5 and PM10, and:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- notes that there are no standards in Australia and globally for UFPM</li></ul></li><li>• GW states that the project takes advice from regulators and follows standards and guidelines set by those regulators such as EPA Victoria, whose role it is to set appropriate standards. PD asks what the EPA's involvement in the project is</li><li>• BD explains that EPA Victoria is a member of the <i>Technical Reference Group</i> which provides advice through the EES planning process. EPA Victoria is also an approver, with an EPA Works Approval required before the project can go ahead.</li></ul>

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		<p>This approval relates to the tunnel ventilation system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• BD notes that PM1 is a subset of PM2.5, so when we measure PM2.5 we also capture PM1 / UFPM, and that PM2.5 is largely made up of PM1</li><li>• BD explains that there is robust evidence linking PM2.5-10 with the health impacts CH mentioned, but that this body of evidence does not yet exist for PM1. This is why the WHO guidelines are based on measurements of PM10 and PM2.5 levels.</li><li>• JCF asks if there are there other things the project could do to mitigate impacts and CH states that planting lots of trees is important</li><li>• CH states that she has asked the project to undertake a research study to understand which tree species and age are best for carbon capture in order to contribute to the body of knowledge on this topic.</li><li>• <b>SW – Friends of Stony Creek (FOSC)</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Explains that FOSC established in 1993. There is significant community involvement and effort put into planting, community/corporate partnerships and education programs.</li><li>– Shows ‘before and after’ images and other photos of community planting days, results of revegetation.</li><li>– States the aim of FOSC is to create an urban wildlife habitat, and the biggest concern for the group is impacts to habitat and environment</li><li>– Highlights to the group where the Hyde St ramps will be, with the northern ramp generally to the south of the creek, except for where it connects into Hyde Street</li><li>– Describes the vegetation and habitat corridor that runs along the creek</li><li>– Highlights that southern bank has not been maintained and that there are opportunities to improve this area and open other land close to railway line up to create new open space.</li><li>– Notes that there is indigenous vegetation which could be affected by the project</li><li>– Shows FOSC preferred design, which is in line with the Reference design and highlights opportunities for the project to contribute to:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Implementation of Stony Creek Directions Plan</li><li>▪ Greater connectivity in Park</li><li>▪ Connection through to bicycle structure</li><li>▪ Plantings on south side of creek</li><li>▪ Possible increase in open space.</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>• JC mentions that SW has participated in a workshop with the project team to advise on environmental issues and what the project can do to protect and improve the creek and surrounding Hyde Street Reserve</li><li>• CR notes that community involvement in regenerating Stony Creek and Hyde Street Reserve is part of the reason it is so special and that community stewardship will be important moving forward – the community should be involved in decisions and works/plantings to improve the park.</li></ul>

Time	#	Item detail
6.10pm	4	<p><b>EES study profile – Noise</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Video plays – available <a href="#">here</a></li><li>• <b>Phil West – noise specialist</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- outlines purpose of presentation, which is to provide information about how noise is measured, modelled and reported on in the EES</li><li>- explains that noise is measured in decibels (dB) and provides examples of noise levels and audibility, noting that a change of 3dB is not noticeable to the human ear</li><li>- outlines characteristics of noise, including that a doubling or halving of traffic volume does not double or halve noise volumes, but results in around 3 dB(A) decrease or increase</li><li>- discusses contributors to traffic noise, including number of vehicles, type of vehicles, speed, road surface and weather conditions</li><li>- explains how existing noise is measured using the La10 (18hour) measure, which looks at the average peak noise level (average of the top 10% / peaks in noise, from 6am to 12am)</li><li>- explains that elevated structures with safety barriers can help reduce noise as it blocks the 'line of sight', meaning that noise needs to 'bend' to reach ground-level and this reduces its energy/loudness</li><li>- noise is measured onsite at homes and community assets. Measurement locations include about 35 residential dwellings and 9 community assets</li><li>- outlines the policy, standards and guidelines applicable for the Western Distributor, noting that the Western Distributor project is currently working to the VicRoads Noise Reduction Policy as it applies to new and improved roads (policy available here: <a href="https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/planning-and-projects/environment/noise">https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/planning-and-projects/environment/noise</a>)</li><li>- notes that this is a more stringent policy than what is currently in place for the West Gate Freeway</li><li>- outlines EPA construction noise regulations which will apply to the project during construction to minimise impact to the community outlines vibration guidelines which will inform the EES study, which are from NSW, UK and Germany</li><li>- outlines inputs to the noise model, which is used to predict future noise. These include: current noise levels, future traffic volumes (and % of heavy vehicles), speed limit, terrain) and shows example outputs from a different project which includes results of existing noise monitoring model inputs and example outputs</li><li>- talks about how construction noise can be managed, such as through noise barriers and their requirements i.e. around 15kg per square metre</li></ul></li><li>• MI queries PW statement that elevated road helps minimise noise, using CityLink as an example. PW explains that CityLink is currently meeting noise requirements; however noise can reflect off other structures or be caused by the elevated structure.</li><li>• JCF asks if the buildings that surround CityLink can amplify the noise levels?</li><li>• PW explains that anything that breaks the line of sight will break the noise travelling so as it bounces around it gets quieter and quieter, also multi-level buildings would not get the same benefit as those at ground level.</li><li>• PD asks where noise levels are measured from?</li><li>• PW explains that the measure is taken at the most exposed habitable room</li></ul>

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		<p>window, at the most exposed house on the most exposed street.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MI asks are there any requirements to minimise noise in open spaces such as Hyde Street reserve. PW confirms that the VicRoads guidelines do not require noise attenuation for open spaces and notes that Hyde Street ramp is not expected to increase noise noticeably.</li> <li>• JCF asks if noise monitoring/modelling picks up structural noise and how does it get mitigated?</li> <li>• PW says it can be built into the model, and there are various ways to minimise overall, either through attenuating for traffic noise or changes to the structure.</li> <li>• JCF asks about trees and what they would do for noise. PW explains how trees can decrease noise in some ways, but not as effectively as barriers</li> <li>• GW clarifies that noise is complicated – we have set out to apply to the current standard set for new roads however if standards are revised through the EES process, they will need to be applied to this project. The outcome for noise and perception will be different right across the corridor. The core opportunity for formal comment is via the EES process.</li> <li>• CH asks whether two designs will proceed through EES process</li> <li>• GW mentioned that the pathway is not determined at this stage.</li> <li>• GW states that ultimately, the noise standard for this project will be set by the Minister for Planning. His decision will be informed by the EES, advice from the EES panel inquiry and regulators.</li> </ul>
6.50pm	5	<p><b>WD community engagement update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on the WD 'tour of the west' which saw the project team visit suburbs from Geelong to Docklands. Hear about what's been happening.</li> </ul>
7.10pm	6	<p><b>Other items</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SA provides an update on the CLG site tour and the benefits of this</li> <li>• JW asks the group whether Thursday 1 December is suitable for the next meeting date and if Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2017 is suitable for the first meeting of 2017</li> </ul>
7.20pm	7	<p><b>Suggested items for discussion by members</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JW asks the group is there are any items for discussion they would like to talk about when we meet in February</li> <li>• PD asks if we can discuss the timing of EES</li> <li>• GW explains that March to June is expected timeframe of EES</li> <li>• CH asks if there is any idea when final design will be released</li> <li>• GW states that this will be in conjunction with the EES</li> <li>• JW states that the group seem to be interested in social impacts so can we have a group discussion around social impacts</li> </ul> <p>CH asks if we can request to hear from the project's health expert JC suggests we can have an EES update as well and add these items into the agenda</p>
7.25pm	8	<p><b>Meeting action summary</b></p> <p>ED to let the group members know about the locations for the CLG site tour</p>
7.30pm	9	<p><b>Meeting close</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7.25 meeting closes</li> </ul>