

# Minutes

## West Gate Tunnel Project Community Liaison Group – Joint Group Meeting

**Date:** Thursday 20 February 2020    **Time:** 5:30-7:30pm

**Location:** Footscray Community Art Centre (FCAC) - Basement Theatre, Footscray

### Attendees

Name	Community/Organisation	Name	Community/Organisation
Jim Williamson (JW)	Chair	Geoff Mitchelmore (GM)	Friends of Lower Kororoit Creek
Ferdinand Saliba (FS)	Deer Park	Claude Manno (CM)	Brimbank City Council
Bert Boere (BB)	Brooklyn	Ian Butterworth (IB)	Hobsons Bay City Council
Dennis Ryan (DR)	Altona North	Paul Baggeridge (PB)	City of Melbourne
Arthur Bregiannis (AB)	Yarraville	Deidre Anderson (DA)	Maribyrnong City Council
Tony Le-Nguyen (TL)	Footscray	Peter Sammut (PS)	West Gate Tunnel Project (WGTP MTIA)
Con Frescos (CF)	Yarraville	Liz Evans (LE)	WGTP MTIA
Sarah Grace (SG)	Yarraville	Geoff Liu (GL)	WGTP MTIA
Kevin Redfern (KR)	Seabrook	David Clements (DC)	Transurban (TU)
Fran Araneda (FA)	Kensington	Jack Herbert (JH)	TU
Anuj Malhotra (AM)	Spotswood	Alan Platt (AP)	CPB John Holland Joint Venture (CPBJH JV)
Marlon De Leon (MdL)	Tarneit	Sally Pieterse (SP)	CPBJH JV
Victor Ng (VN)	Seddon	Charles Fairbairn (CF)	CPBJH JV
Steve Wilson (SW)	Friends of Stony Creek	David Hake (AV)	CPBJH JV

Name	Community/Organisation	Name	Community/Organisation
Peter Gerrand (PG)	North and West Melbourne Association	Michelle Carroll (MC)	CPBJH JV
Garry Brennan (GB)	Bike Network Victoria	Mario Urban (MU)	CPBJH JV

Apologies			
John Stirk (JS)	BayWest BUG	Martin Wurt (MW)	MTAG
Adrian Ashford (AA)	Brimbank City Council	Peter Kartsidimas (PK)	RACV
Greg Cain (GC)	VTA		

Not in attendance			
Monique Perry (MP)	Concerned Locals of Yarraville	Martin Mlalazi (MM)	Point Cook

### Agenda Items

Time	#	Item Detail	Owner
5.30pm	1	Welcome, introductions, apologies & safety briefing	Chair
5.45pm	2	Maribyrnong River site walk	CPBJH JV
6.15pm	3	Update from Community Members	CLG Members
7.10pm	4	Construction update	CPBJH JV
7.20pm	5	West Gate Project MTIA update	WGTP MTIA
7.30pm	6	Actions update	All
7.38pm	7	Actions arising and close	All

## Minutes

Agenda Item	Item Detail
1	<p><b>Welcome, introductions, apologies and safety briefing.</b></p> <p>Meeting opened</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• JW commenced meeting with Acknowledgement of Country, welcomed members, read apologies and thanked Asylum Seeker Resource Centre for providing catering.</li><li>• JW commented on the need to deliver meeting minutes in a timely manner.</li><li>• GL delivered a safety briefing ahead of the site walk</li></ul>
2	<p><b>Maribyrnong River site walk</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AP led CLG members on a site walk along the Maribyrnong River south of Shepherds Bridge to the construction zone on the riverbanks at Parker/Maribyrnong Streets, to view and discuss works well underway where the West Gate Tunnel Project crosses the Maribyrnong River. Also provided a construction update on the Port to City (East) Zone.</li></ul>
3	<p><b>Report from community members, including discussion on soil management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community members provided feedback about the project and observations from their communities.</li><li>• KR enquired about soil contamination issues that the project is facing</li><li>• PS noted the recent media coverage about a range of matters including soil contamination and management and references to contract termination and other matters.</li><li>• PS noted attendance at a recent community meeting in Wyndham with local MP and Treasurer Tim Pallas and local concerns about the current investigations into a possible temporary backup storage site. This backup site may never be used and is being considered should an extenuating circumstance arise with the availability of a permanent site. A series of permanent sites are also being investigated. No decisions have been made on permanent or any temporary sites.</li><li>• PS advised that the project is actively under construction with over 4,000 people currently employed. He said works are well underway in the west and east zones of the project with major activities taking place as part of the current summer blitz program. There are also significant tunnelling activities underway at the two tunnel portals along the West Gate Freeway.</li><li>• DC explained that some contaminated spoil is expected to be located along the project alignment, and that this was always anticipated in certain areas.</li><li>• DC noted this is a result of the project being built within former industrial land. He explained that low levels of poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) have been identified in some areas.</li><li>• DC noted that the low levels of PFAS identified are not expected to have any direct impact on human health.</li><li>• DC further explained that the project parties are working closely with the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to ensure that the appropriate controls and measures are taken to identify and address contaminated soil issues.</li><li>• PS said that for tunnel boring spoil to be taken offsite, based on current applications to the EPA, this required their approval.</li><li>• DC reiterated that several disposal sites have been identified however no decision has been made on a permanent site.</li><li>• CF asked about the current storage sites in the west zone and whether there are any likely effects from these.</li></ul>

- DC advised that there are strict management processes in place that protect any spreading or migration of contamination to other areas.
- DC said that PFAS is known to move in water and explained the process that tunnel boring machines mix soil and ground water, therefore mixing PFAS through the soil during that process.
- DC said that PFAS is in a lot of common consumer products such as non stick frying pans, scotchgard protection to carpet and goretex clothing.
- DR asked if disposal sites are out in the west because of convenience. DC advised that a range of sites around Victoria have been considered and continue to be looked at.
- Further to a question from DR, PS confirmed that PFAS chemicals can be destroyed by thermal treatment. There are businesses who do this presently including one in Dandenong. However there are limitations to the volume of soil that can be treated this way.
- KR and GM asked if soil contamination information can be given out to the public ASAP. DC and PS noted a lot of work is being done to develop fact sheets and that these will be provided to CLG members soon.
- DC said yes it was referenced in the EES, but the quantities weren't anticipated.
- PB asked whether the project can start tunnelling and progressively move spoil to a specialised facility in Dandenong that can manage PFAS.
- DC advised that a permanent soil storage solution needs to be sourced as there are a range of technical reasons that mean once TBMs are started, they need to keep running.
- PS asked whether this was the facility referred to a few moments ago.
- PB asked about re-use opportunities.
- DC advised that there have been discussions with the EPA regarding re-use proposals. DC noted the need to be a cautious regarding interpretation of the terminology of "re-use" as this effectively covers any option other than disposal in licenced landfill cells. This does not mean the soil is reused as topsoil or some other general purpose. PS commented that the EPA would take a very comprehensive approach to approvals and has always welcomed reuse proposals.
- FS noted the congestion from Deer Park to the M80 and asked for an update regarding the pedestrian bridges. CF advised that two new bridges are being manufactured and that they are around 6 months away from installation. CPBJH are currently working with HBCC on detour options for the bridge.
- AM noted recent media about the impacts of the new pedestrian bridges and advised a meeting between project representatives and residents of Ferguson and Steel Streets. He noted residents seek more communication from the project and noted interruptions to water services for residents for four hours.
- BB raised matter of inconsistencies in pedestrian bridge designs provided to the community and safety concerns regarding truck movements along local streets.
- AM requested more communications to be provided by the Project and that residents were keen to understand outcomes in regard to potential property acquisition.
- BB noted high level of local concern in Brooklyn area regarding soil management/PFAS.
- BB also raised concerns with the Millers Road outbound on ramp to the West Gate Freeway having flow and merging issues. CF advised that the outbound off ramp to Grieve Parade has been closed, requiring the West Gate Freeway left lane to be made into a dedicated left turn lane to. Once the Grieve Parade ramp is opened early next week, the West Gate Freeway will return to four through lanes and the on ramp flow will improve and return to pre-existing conditions
- AB noted that Millers Road surface quality is poor in some place.
- SG requested that a copy of community notifications continue to be sent to relevant CLG members to help info with their communities.
- FA asked why NSW and WA species are listed in the landscape planting plans instead of VIC species. MU encouraged FA to discuss this matter with the CPBJH team directly.
- FA will send questions regarding traffic volumes and will send ahead of the CLG meeting that the Department of Transport will present at. PG also supported hearing further about traffic travelling into the city.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SW raised the removal of established plants under the Hyde Street off-ramp. CF confirmed that the site will be re-established. DA offered to investigate the plans and contact SW.</li> <li>• GM requested an update regarding the West Gate Neighbourhood funds.</li> <li>• CF asked for more community pop-ups and that it would be good to have the WGTP mobile van out and about more often. JH spoke to the festival schedule and it was requested if this could be shared. LE noted that the team advise CLG members of upcoming information sessions in their local areas.</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>Construction Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CF and DH presented on construction activity across the West and Tunnels precincts</li> <li>• CF advised of issues with the manufacturing of the pedestrian bridges over the West Gate Freeway. Installation is expected in the second half of the year.</li> </ul>
5	<p><b>West Gate Tunnel Project, MTIA update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LE provided an update on the West Gate Neighbourhood funds.</li> <li>• Partnerships applications close on 26 February 2020.</li> <li>• LE noted that community grants, up to \$100,000 are scheduled to open in early March.</li> <li>• JW suggested that CLG meetings continue to commence at 5:30pm which was agreed by members present at the meeting. It was agreed that meeting days would be Thursdays on-going for both West and North groups and that feedback on both the starting time and meeting day can be shared with the WGTP MTIA team when draft minutes are reviewed.</li> <li>• The agreed meeting schedule will be circulated when minutes are finalised.</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>Actions from previous meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JW noted an update for AW11, AJ9 and AJ10</li> </ul>
7	<p><b>Actions arising and close</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No new actions</li> <li>• Meeting concluded at 7.38pm</li> </ul>

### Open Actions – West Group

#	Action	Owner	Update	Status
AW11	Updates on design and property de-valuation concerns for Ferguson Street residents will be provided to the relevant CLG member.	WGTP MTIA	Ongoing discussions with Anuj. Utility works currently being completed. Ferguson St was door knocked where impacts were discussed, notifications and DL updates which will continue.  <b>Update:</b> Residents from Ferguson Street, Steel Street and members of Better West including Anuj met with representatives of the project parties. Concerns were raised around, design, community impacts, property acquisition and the construction program.	Open

### Open Actions – Joint meetings

#	Action	Owner	Update	Status
AJ9	CPBJH to provide updated shared user path construction schedule to JS	CPBJH JV	John Stirk requested AJ9 to be tabled at the West CLG meeting in April	Open
AJ10	WGTP MTIA to invite DoT to present at a CLG meeting in 2020	WGTP MTIA	WGTP MTIA have met with Department of Transport who agreed to present at an upcoming CLG meeting	Open

### Open Actions – North Landscape meetings

#	Action	Owner	Update	Status
LN6	WGTP to respond to concerns by members on the use of Moonee Ponds Creek active space and consideration of tree planting.	WGTP MTIA	WGTP landscape plans for Moonee Ponds Creek have been reviewed by the Victorian Planning Authority (VPA). VPA is satisfied that the design of public open space at this location aligns with the objectives of VPA's Moonee Ponds Creek Implementation Plan. In summary, significant effort has been placed on incorporating a recreational opportunity adjacent to the veloway and the Capital City Trail. This will add significant value to the community and aligns with the Moonee Ponds Creek future plan.	Open

### Open Actions – West Group Landscape Workshop

#	Action	Owner	Update	Status
LW7	Opportunity to have CLG members input into a priority list for landscaping offsets with HBCC	CPBJH	In August 2019, CPBJH JV undertook initial meetings with relevant councils and other landowners to discuss opportunities regarding offset planting in areas outside the project boundary.  CPBJH JV are currently updating the proposed plans based on feedback from these initial meetings. The offset tree planting plans will be issued to the relevant stakeholders for comment at preliminary design.  These plans will also be provided to West CLG members to provide feedback for consideration.	Open
LW8	HBCC requested that Federation Trail in Brooklyn to be added as a factsheet for landscaping.	CPBJH	The Project is currently consulting on the offset planting areas outside the project – which includes the Federation Trail section in Brooklyn, also known as Pipeline Reserve.  Once this has been finalised, the Project will create a landscaping factsheet for this section.	Open  <i>(To be closed when factsheet is published)</i>

