

# Meeting minutes

## WESTERN DISTRIBUTOR COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

Date:	27 July 2016	Time:	5.30pm – 7.30pm
Place:	West Footscray Library	Meeting number:	Four
Chair:	Jim Williamson	Secretariat:	Emily Dooley

### Attendees

Name	Membership
Steven Wilson (SW)	Friends of Stony Creek
Michael Ingram (MI)	Kensington and North and West Melbourne
Simon Birch (SB)	Spotswood
Margaret O'Loughlin (MO)	Yarraville
Christine Harris (CH)	Spotswood South Kingsville Residents Group
Philip Dearman (PD)	Maribyrnong Truck Action Group
Deidre Anderson (DA)	Maribyrnong City Council
Richard Smithers (RS)	City of Melbourne (Proxy for Emma Appleton)
Neil Whiteside (NW)	Brimbank Council
Dave Jones (DJ)	RACV
Stephen Zelez (SZ)	Hobsons Bay Council
Jessica Christiansen-Franks (JCF)	Footscray
Scott Ellerton	Concerned Locals of Yarraville
Greg Cain (GC)	VTA

### Apologies

Name	Membership
Bert Boere (BB)	Brooklyn Residents Action Group
Craig Williams (CW)	Seddon
Craig Rowley (CR)	LeadWest

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## Attendees

Name	Membership
Gary West (GW)	Project team
Emily Dooley (ED)	Project team
Samantha Aitchison (SAM)	Project team
Jim Carden (JC)	Project team
Sarah Altmann (SAR)	Project team
Fiona Warren (FW)	Project team
John Fanstone (JF)	Project team
Andrew Colman (AC)	Project team

## Agenda items

Time	#	Item detail
5.35pm	1	Welcome, introductions and apologies
5.40pm	2	Previous minutes and actions arising
5.50pm	3	Presentation on Western Distributor Phase 3: Reference Design Top Q&As with project team
6:20pm	4	Group workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In groups, explore project requirements and design by section:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- West Gate Freeway widening, southern tunnel portal and Hyde Street access</li><li>- Tunnel, northern portal and bridge</li><li>- Footscray Road, city access and bypass</li></ul></li><li>• Discuss opportunities and concerns</li><li>• Each group to present back on key discussion points / feedback</li></ul>
7.15pm	5	Suggested items for discussion by members
7.20pm	6	Other items
7.25pm	7	Meeting action summary
7.30pm	8	Meeting close

## Minutes

#	Description
	<p><b>Welcome, introductions and apologies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• JW opened the meeting and welcomed the group.</li><li>• JW welcomed the new attendees;<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- SAR new project team member</li><li>- CH representing Spotswood South Kingsville Residents Group</li><li>- GC representing VTA</li><li>- JC replacing MH</li></ul></li><li>• JW noted apologies from CW, CR and BB</li><li>• CH introduced herself and her described interest in the Western Distributor. CH has been a Spotswood resident for 15 years and has lobbied for more involvement from the Spotswood community in the project. CH has a background in community consultation and development and worked on infrastructure projects.</li></ul>
2	<p><b>Previous minutes and actions arising</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Members were asked to endorse minutes and two amendments were raised:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Include the following in suggested items for discussion;<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Minimising impacts on the environment and Stony Creek</li><li>- Bicycle infrastructure</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>• Changes to the minutes were accepted by group and noted for action.</li><li>• JW requested any questions from the floor:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- SAR raised the previous question from the group that there was difficulty navigating the online document library and suggestion that a shared drive be investigated. SAR explained that since the previous meeting a new project website had been published and that this should make finding the latest documents, visuals and plans much easier. Given this, an online file sharing facility should not be needed at this stage.</li><li>- SB noted that there were visuals missing from the website.</li><li>- SAR said she would check with the web team and ensure they were all up-to-date as well as send an email around to all CLG members with links to the new website.</li><li>- SAR also requested CLG members to provide feedback on the new site and its functionality.</li><li>- JW noted the new website will be okay for the group to use now to access documentation</li><li>- JW welcomes GW and FW to present.</li></ul></li></ul>
3	<p><b>Presentation</b></p> <p>GW presented on project status update, reference design and tender process</p>
3	<p><b>Group workshop</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Members split into three groups to explore the Western Distributor project requirements and design by sections, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ West Gate Freeway widening, southern tunnel portal and Hyde Street access</li><li>▪ Tunnel, northern tunnel portal and bridge</li><li>▪ Footscray Road, city access and bypass</li></ul></li><li>• Table groups discussed opportunities and any remaining or new concerns about</li></ul>

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the Reference design. A technical specialist from the project team was available at each table to talk through the design updates and project requirements / guidance to tenderers for each section.

- Opportunities and concerns raised by members are listed below:

### **West Gate Freeway widening, southern tunnel portal and Hyde Street access**

#### Opportunities:

- Creating “pocket parks” and replacing vegetation along the freeway
- Barriers between bike paths and the freeway to improve amenity for cyclists and pedestrians
- Conversations around truck bans/curfews being led by VicRoads could be better integrated with the project team / project development
- Enhancing open space – not just offsetting any losses but improving it to a high standard – reference to Stony Creek / Hyde Street Reserve
- Offering voluntary acquisition to impacted residents
- Great cycling improvements, make the most of them with the right lighting, signage, path width and distance markers
- Improving the environmental quality of Stony Creek (thinking about the local ecology/biodiversity)
- Assessing different options in EES – reference to previous concept option 2 for the Hyde Street connection.
- To ensure EES traffic impact assessment includes truck bans.

#### Concerns:

- Rat running during construction (what happens where there is an incident on the M1)
- Increases in truck traffic through Brooklyn area, including traffic changes on Paringa Road
- Air quality near parkland (with suggestion that vegetation could help)
- A robust process for managing complaints during construction is needed
- Traffic noise – desire for noise standards to go above and beyond the minimum requirements
- Locality of Hyde ramps north and south
- Detailed traffic modelling needed regarding trucks at Grieve parade
- Need ensure EES explains impacts on all residents - not just those living next to the project
- Location of vent structures, design and filtration.
- Land acquisition in Brooklyn area, confirmation that widening is in existing footprint.

### **Tunnel, northern portal and bridge**

#### Opportunities:

- Cycling bridge over Whitehall Street
- Upgrades to Maribyrnong River waterfront
- Minimise the visual impact of the bridge over the Maribyrnong River – avoid large screening above the bridge or urban design art that could increase the visual

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	<p>impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Connecting and upgrading the arts precinct along Maribyrnong River waterfront, using a utility tunnel as a cycle route (London tunnels)</li><li>• Consider open space and public realm improvements as a series of small projects each with challenges and opportunities</li><li>• Consultation with the community around each location can provide spaces that meet the unique local needs - if community consultation about open spaces doesn't occur during the tender process there needs to be spaces given in the program for these designs to be finalised with the preferred tender</li><li>• Sound barriers to protect nearby businesses and residents, designed to reduce visual impact</li><li>• Historical areas need to be protected and upgraded.</li></ul> <p>Concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Location of ventilation structures</li><li>• Relocating businesses who work near the port and are currently located in the proposed lay down areas for construction of the northern portal,</li><li>• Where would businesses be relocated and if temporary do they get to return to their previous location after construction?</li><li>• Construction impacts on residents nearby and how construction activities will be communicated to residents</li><li>• How spoil will be transported and disposed of</li><li>• Lay down areas for construction and how long they would occupy spaces before it can be used by community</li><li>• Current urban design requirements are too high level and could lead to generic and impersonal spaces for the community</li><li>• Portal location close to park used by families and children.</li></ul> <p><b>Footscray Road, city access and bypass</b></p> <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improve bike crossings for areas that are subject to flooding</li><li>• Removal of crossings over roads for cyclists</li><li>• Pedestrian and cycle connections from Docklands to E-gate to North Melbourne station (Costco area much closer to North Melbourne station than Southern Cross)</li><li>• Not replicating poor amenity under CityLink at Moonee Ponds Creek</li><li>• Making improvements to Moonee Ponds Creek</li><li>• Clear and simple direction signs with meaningful names to help drivers navigate complex ramps and roadways</li><li>• Look at off-road experiences regarding urban design, displacement of traffic (needle choke points)</li><li>• Investigating a lagoon within the E-gate site (reinstatement of Batman's Lagoon)</li><li>• Improving gradient west bound for large trucks</li><li>• Noise walls to protect communities in Kensington and North and West Melbourne</li><li>• Rectification of the current poor urban design between Arden Street and Dynon Road</li><li>• Raising the bike path heights or creating alternative routes between Arden Street</li></ul>

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	<p>and Footscray Road as they regularly flood</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reasonable gradients for cyclists to ensure an easier commute into the city</li><li>• Alter viaducts position so that they do not cross over Moonee Ponds Creek</li><li>• Redesign city connections links so that residents are protected from excessive noise and overshadowing.</li><li>• Urban forest rejuvenation</li></ul> <p>Concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How are the seven crossings going to minimise the impact on Moonee Ponds Creek?</li><li>• Traffic flow increase in North and West Melbourne</li><li>• Clarification on how traffic moves from elevated Footscray Road to Burnley Tunnel</li><li>• Potential bottleneck at Footscray Road</li><li>• Volume of cyclists on shared user paths could become unsafe if it reaches high levels so separate facilities would be better</li><li>• Seems to be no more options left for the city end of the project and community has no more involvement in design process</li><li>• Presence of seven new viaducts across Moonee Ponds Creek will degrade remaining quality of the open space and amenity for local residents</li><li>•</li></ul>
4	<p><b>Suggested items for discussion by members</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• JW asked CLG members to raise any items for inclusion on future meeting agendas. Suggestions included:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The EES process and which topics / impacts are being assessed</li><li>- Timing of the tender process</li><li>- Traffic modelling, traffic management and what the traffic 'master plan' is</li><li>- How feedback received by the project team is used</li><li>- Expectations of CLG members and their role as a group</li><li>- Benefits to the community as a result of the project</li><li>- Noise standards and mitigation</li><li>- Minimising environmental impacts, particularly in relation to waterways where the Western Distributor crosses</li><li>- Bicycle infrastructure</li></ul></li></ul>
5	<p><b>Other items</b></p> <p>The next meeting date was agreed: Thursday 1 September 2016</p>
6	<p><b>Meeting action summary</b></p> <p>Outlined below (page 5)</p>
7	<p><b>Meeting close</b></p> <p>JW closed meeting at 7.30pm</p>

## Actions

#	Action detail	Owner
1	Send a link to new project website, document library and visuals	Secretariat
2	Two amendments noted for meeting minutes for meeting three	Secretariat

## Next meeting

Date:	1 September 2016
Time:	5.30pm – 7.30pm
Place:	City of Maribyrnong Town Hall, 61 Napier Street, Footscray VIC 3011
Chair:	Jim Williamson

Minutes prepared by: Emily Dooley

Minutes approved by: Jim Williamson



*Approval signature*

11/08/16

*Approval date*