

Meeting Minutes

WEST GATE TUNNEL PROJECT COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

Date:	6 July 2017	Time:	5.30pm – 7.30pm
Place:	Maribyrnong Town Hall, 61 Napier St, Footscray	Meeting number:	Fourteen
Chair:	Jim Williamson	Secretariat:	Lana Dogan

Attendees

Name	Organisation
Jim Williamson (JW)	Chair
Michael Ingram (MI)	Kensington and North and West Melbourne
Steven Wilson (SW)	Friends of Stony Creek
Jess Marnich (JM)	Spotswood South Kingsville Resident Group (proxy Christine Harris)
Philip Dearman (PD)	Maribyrnong Truck Action Group
Greg Cain (GC)	VTA
Peter Sammut (PS)	Western Distributor Authority
Lisa Ryan	Western Distributor Authority
Liz Evans (LE)	Western Distributor Authority
Lana Dogan (LD)	Western Distributor Authority
Tara Larkin (TL)	Western Distributor Authority
Victoria Jessop (VJ)	Transurban
Emily Dooley (ED)	Transurban
Deidre Anderson (DA)	Maribyrnong City Council
Stephen Zelez (SZ)	Hobsons Bay City Council
Melanie Del Monaco (MDM)	City of Melbourne
Greta Grivas (GG)	Planning Panels Victoria
Luisa Tardio (LT)	Planning Panels Victoria

Apologies

Name	Organisation
Jessica Christiansen-Franks (JCF)	Footscray
Craig Williams (CW)	Seddon
Alyson Protetto (AP)	Altona North
Margaret O'Loughlin (MO)	Yarraville
Simon Birch (SB)	Spotswood
Scott Ellerton (SE)	Concerned Locals of Yarraville
Christine Harris (CH)	Spotswood & South Kingsville Residents Group
Bert Boere (BB)	Brooklyn Residents Action Group
Dave Jones (DJ)	RACV
Craig Rowley (CR)	LeadWest
Gary West (GW)	Transurban
Samantha Aitchison (SAI)	Western Distributor Authority
Neil Whiteside (NW)	Brimbank Council

Agenda items

Time	#	Item detail
5.30pm	1	Welcome, introductions and apologies
5.35pm	2	Address previous minutes and outstanding actions
5.40pm	3	Project update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter Sammut, CEO - Western Distributor Authority
5.50pm	4	EES update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lisa Ryan, Director - Planning – Western Distributor Authority
6.05pm	5	Planning Panels Victoria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greta Grivas, Senior Project Officer – Planning Panels Victoria
6.25pm	6	Tea break
6.40pm	7	Project update - Transurban
6.45pm	8	Media and news
6.50pm	9	Input from members
7.25pm	10	Meeting concludes

Minutes

Time	#	Item detail
5.30pm	1	<p>Welcome, introductions and apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JW welcomes attendees and project team members. JW outlines the agenda for the meeting. Welcomes Greta Grivas and Luisa Tardio from Planning Panels Victoria..
5.35pm	2	<p>Address previous minutes and actions arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JW asks the group if there were any questions or changes that needed to be put through to the minutes from the previous meeting. The group agrees upon minutes from previous meeting.
5.40pm	3	<p>Project update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PS outlines the collective team effort in communicating to stakeholders and public during the public exhibition of the West Gate Tunnel Project Environment Effects Statement (EES). The project team hosted 16 information sessions to communicate the design post the 2 April announcement and 13 information sessions to communicate the EES post its release on 29 May. The EES process has been about communicating to the public what is contained within the EES and answering their questions. PS discusses the public information session hosted by Planning Panels Victoria (PPV) at Footscray Community Arts Centre on 16 June 2017, where the project team delivered a presentation to the panel. PS states people may feel pressured by the EES submission deadline and encourages everyone to lodge a submission using the form on the PPV website. It is easy to do and gives an opportunity to be heard at panel. PS says the project team is available to help explain the content contained within the EES and help with understanding the full benefits and effects of the project.
5.50pm	4	<p>EES update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LR provides an update on the EES process and the outcomes of the community sessions. Over 13 information sessions were held within the project corridor, with specialists available at each session to provide people with the opportunity to ask questions. Feedback from participants shows that the majority of people found out about the sessions through advertisements in local newspapers. LR outlines the key topics covered at the information sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noise and vibration (surface and underground, particularly in relation to the tunnel component) Design was a key focus, particularly in relation to urban design concept Traffic (tolls, truck bans, travel times) Property (businesses, council land, sporting clubs) Cycling, particularly how the shared user paths connect to existing trails Air quality (tunnels) Planning and submissions, including key timeframes and process. LR discusses the draft planning scheme amendment, which comprises of six planning schemes and the Development and Urban Design Plans. The

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		<p>development of the project must be carried out generally in accordance with the plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LR states there is lots of useful information contained in the Development and Urban Design Plans, including the Environment Performance Requirements (EPRs). • LR says the key distinction between the West Gate Tunnel Project EES and other large infrastructure EES's is that this project uses the tender design instead of a reference design and is therefore able to provide a greater level of detail. • LR explains that the Environment Management Framework (EMF) outlines the governance framework during construction and operation, including the role of the Minister for Planning, the Western Distributor Authority and the CPB/John Holland Joint Venture, etc. • PD asks if the EPRs are legally enforceable, and JM asks who they are enforceable through. • LR states the EPRs are enforceable and the EMF (contained in chapter 8 of the EES) outlines who is responsible for this. • MDM asks how many participants attended the community sessions. LE states there were around 250 attendees, noting that the project had around 1,500 attendees to the design launch information sessions that were held only a few months ago.
6.05pm	5	<p>Planning Panels Victoria (PPV)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GG introduces PPV, its role and the legislation it works under. • GG states that the West Gate Tunnel Project Inquiry and Advisory Committee (IAC) is appointed. • The IAC is required to review the EES, draft Planning Scheme Amendment, Works Approval Application, public submissions, and consider the environment effects of the Project. • GG introduces the WGTP IAC members and technical advisers, and outlines their background and areas of expertise. • GG outlines the purpose and scope of the Terms of Reference for the WGTP IAC. • GG discusses the submission process. JM asks if someone choosing to present will be asked questions by the IAC. GG states they can be asked questions for clarification purposes but cannot be cross examined. • GG explains that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A submitter is a person that comes along and presents at the hearing. ○ An advocate is someone that is engaged to represent the submitter, e.g. a lawyer. ○ Expert witness is called by the submitter to provide expertise on a particular field. An expert witness can be cross examined at the hearing. • SZ asks if the submission can be spoken or delivered through a PowerPoint presentation. GG confirms yes it can be done through PowerPoint. • JM asks if members of the public are allowed to ask questions to the submitter. GG says only the IAC can ask questions to the submitter. • MI asks if making a verbal submission, does the website advise what documents need to be provided. GG advises that at the directions hearing the IAC will go through a comprehensive list of what the submitters need to provide. The IAC will

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		<p>provide a range of guidance and instructions and, after the hearing, a timetable and letter will be issued with very clear instructions on what to do.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GG encourages everyone to attend the directions hearing as many questions about the EES submission process will be clarified on the day. • JM asks what time directions hearing commences. GG says 10am – all of the information is available on the website. • PPV proposes to have an information session for people wishing to present at the hearing. The session will be by invitation only and will give submitters some general guidance on how to present their submission. The session will be hosted by PPV but not by the IAC specifically. • JM asks GG to clarify what constitutes a verbal submission. GG answers that a verbal submission is if you ask to present at the panel. • GG states that the role of the IAC is to make recommendations and findings, and not decisions. • PD asks GG to elaborate on the scope of the panel and whether it can make recommendations within the ToR and on the EPRs. GG states the EPRs will get discussed at the hearings and IAC can make recommendations. • JM asks where people can find out more about the panel members. GG says the biographies of the panel members are available on the PPV website. • DA comments there is no panel member for health even though it is a key area of concern. GG states that the panel member that is an expert in air quality is highly regarded for their expertise in public health. There is scope to source additional resources if the panel finds an additional expert is required.
6.25pm	6	<p>Tea break</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLG members viewed the large format project map on display.
6.40pm	7	<p>Project update – Transurban</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VJ advises the CLG that over the next few months CPB John Holland Joint Venture will be out in the field to conduct project investigations. This is to enable them to further develop the design and will consist of works including geotechnical, surveys, and utility investigations. • VJ states that further information is available on the project website. • JM says communities will want to know who they are and asks if CPB John Holland Joint Venture will mainly be doing measuring and survey works. VJ states that workers will have contact cards with them in the community and people are always welcome to contact the community the line • JM asks if it is up to CPB John Holland Joint Venture to notify particular areas of site investigations. JV states TU will work with CPB John Holland to notify the communities.
6.45pm	8	<p>Media and news</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LE provides an update on the communications distributed since the last CLG meeting, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ E-news updates regarding the EES distributed to approximately 1400 subscribers to encourage attendance at information sessions and remind people of the EES submission deadline. ○ Media release to advise of the EES submissions date coming to a close. ○ Community update circulated to approximately 64,000 people located in north and west Melbourne and Docklands.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Advertising in the daily papers in addition to the statutory notifications. This included advertisements in a number of multicultural newspapers. • LE refers CLG members to the folder provided to them containing copies of all of the media and communications released to the public. • LE outlines the key topics that have appeared in the mainstream media – truck traffic on Millers Road, traffic in and around North and West Melbourne, and the location and use of the veloway. The project team has been in touch with Bicycle Network Australia and, in conjunction with the tenderers, worked with them during the design phase. • LE says the key discussion topics on social media include understanding the lane configuration on the West Gate Freeway, speed limits through the tunnel and on the freeway, and tolling. • LE states that generally there’s been support of the cycling and pedestrian outcomes that come with the West Gate Tunnel Project. • LE discusses the social media engagement analytics that show a positive trend indicating significant reach during the EES period. • JM asks if a longer term trend can be provided. LE says that these statistics will continue to be reported on at the CLG meetings, which will then enable changes to be monitored. • JW asks if the community update and letters to residents generated enquiries. LE states the loop is through a range of different mediums including calls, emails, attending information sessions, social media posts etc.

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6.50pm	9	<p>Input from members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SZ states that Hobsons Bay City Council has finalised its position regarding the project. The council hosted three well attended consultation sessions. The council took on a lot of views from community groups that were very forthright in their wants. SZ advises that if any CLG members didn't receive a technical briefing from the council's technical officers the opportunity exists to meet with them to discuss the council's position. • MDM says the City of Melbourne submission was approved at a recent committee meeting and is available to download from the council website. The council's position is that there are a number of deficiencies in the EES and the key impacts are not adequately assessed. The council recognises there is a need to get better access to the city from the west however it doesn't consider the WGTP design meets this. Concerns were also noted about increased traffic impacts on West Melbourne and Wurundjeri Way; reduced amenity along Moonee Ponds Creek and E Gate; and interface with trams to the north and west. The submission incorporated feedback received from a consultation session held with community after the EES release and an online survey. • DA states that the Maribyrnong City Council has put their submission through, with the term 'endorsed' removed from the 15 page submission. A key concern for the council is the urban design. From the council's perspective the timing of the EES release coincided with other priorities such as finalising the council's four year strategic plan. • JM says the Spotswood and South Kingsville community is a little stressed due to the EES submission deadline. People have been encouraged to make a submission with the best information they have. There is a relationship emerging between Spotswood South Kingsville Resident Group and Millers Road group. • JM states the council has advised that any new developments, e.g. Precinct 15 comprising of 3,000 dwellings, were not incorporated in the traffic modelling for the EES. PS states that Precinct 15 was included in the EES modelling. • MI says it is disappointing the EES doesn't contain traffic statistics for Kensington or information on noise from extra traffic coming from CityLink as this limits the ability to respond to the EES. Also disappointment at the lack of opportunity to develop Moonee Ponds Creek and the trail, rather than just including some additional open space. • SW says the Friends of Stony Creek EES submission will focus on the opportunity for community input into the landscape plan for Hyde Street Reserve. • MI states the key issues are traffic flow out of Millers and Williamstown Roads. Truck flows on Blackshaws Road are also a concern. • PD states that putting a submission together has been a difficult process for their community group. The submission will focus on traffic flows, particularly on Williamstown Road, and questions about air quality. • GC states that tolling, ramp metering and some of the engineering aspects related to getting in and out of the port are primary concerns to be incorporated into the EES submission.
7.25pm	10	<p>Meeting close</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JW thanks everyone and states that the next meeting is 3 August with a decision to be made regarding the venue location.

Next meeting

Date:	Thursday 3 August 2017
Time:	5.30pm – 7.30pm
Place:	Program Room 2, ground floor, Newport Hub – 11 -13 Mason Street, Newport
Chair:	Jim Williamson
Minutes prepared by:	Lana Dogan
Minutes approved by:	Jim Williamson