

Meeting Minutes

WEST GATE TUNNEL PROJECT COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

Date:	14 December 2017	Time:	5.30pm – 7.30pm
Place:	Maribyrnong City Council Hyde and Napier Streets Footscray	Meeting number:	Nineteen
Chair:	Jim Williamson	Secretariat:	Emily Pedley

Attendees

Name	Organisation
Jim Williamson (JW)	Chair
Michael Ingram (MI)	Kensington and North and West Melbourne
Steven Wilson (SW)	Friends of Stony Creek
Rosa McKenna (RM)	Spotswood South Kingsville Resident Group (proxy)
Simon Birch (SB)	Spotswood
Bert Boere (BB)	Brooklyn Residents Action Group
Phillip Dearman (PD)	MTAG
Craig Rowley (CR)	LeadWest
Ian Butterworth (IB)	Hobsons Bay City Council
Bill Millard (BM)	Hobsons Bay City Council
Deidre Anderson (DA)	Maribyrnong City Council
Peter Sammut (PS)	Western Distributor Authority (WDA)
Greg Meyer (GM)	Western Distributor Authority
Liz Evans (LE)	Western Distributor Authority
Margaret O'Loughlin (MO)	Yarraville
Victoria Jessop (VJ)	Transurban
Jessica Christensen-Franks (JCF)	Footscray
Tim Faragher	Environment Protection Authority (EPA)
Paul Torre	EPA

Apologies

Name	Organisation
Neil Whiteside (NW)	Brimbank City Council
Craig Williams (CW)	Seddon
Dave Jones (DJ)	RACV
Richard Smithers (RS)	Melbourne City Council
Greg Cain (GC)	VTA
Stephen Zelez (SZ)	Hobsons Bay Council
Scott Ellerton (SE)	Concerned Locals of Yarraville
Samantha Aitchison (SA)	Western Distributor Authority
Not in attendance:	
Alyson Protetto (AP)	Altona North

Agenda items

Time	#	Item detail
5.30pm	1	Welcome, introductions and apologies
5.45pm	2	Address previous minutes and outstanding items
5.50pm	3	Project Update - Latest news - Planning Minister's Assessment - Project approvals
6:25pm	4	Tea break
6.35pm	5	Presentation from EPA - Tim Faragher, Manager, Development Assessments (EPA) - Paul Torre, Senior Applied Scientist and Principal Expert Air (EPA)
6.55pm	6	Members feedback
7.25pm	7	CLG Next Stage
7.45pm	8	Action summary and close

Item	Item detail
1	<p>Meeting opened at 5.35pm</p> <p>Welcome, introduction and apologies</p> <p>JW welcomed members, mentioned apologies and positively noted that a CLG is not normally involved in the planning phase and that this group has had the advantage of being formally involved in the development phase.</p>
2	<p>Previous minutes, outstanding items</p>
3	<p>Project update</p> <p>PS provided a detailed overview of the project, including key steps, milestones since the last CLG meeting, design changes and improvements in response to community feedback.</p> <p><u>Design changes and responses to community feedback – see circulated presentation 22/12/17</u></p> <p>PS confirmed that the West Gate Tunnel Program Development and Urban Design Plans were approved by the Minister for Planning and that the new requirements could be found on the West Gate Tunnel Project (WGTP) website.</p> <p><u>Environmental Effects Statement (EES) requirements, and initiatives – again refer circulated presentation from 22/12</u></p> <p>PS also discussed the EES initiatives by highlighting the monitoring of air quality through construction, noting that the WDA would work with the Environment Protection Authority (EPA).</p> <p>PS also mentioned the lowered Wurundjeri Way extension, the inclusion of transparent panels on the MacKenzie Road ramp bridges, investigation of traffic impacts in North Melbourne, West Melbourne and Docklands, truck ban enforcement, VicRoads Traffic Noise Policy review and the masterplan for the linear reserve Moonee Ponds Creek.</p> <p>JCF asked when works would commence and when certain plans would be in place to ensure information was accurate. It was advised that there was only a short time until construction commenced and that there would be further information provided to the community, led by CPB/ John Holland Joint Venture. Plans are currently being developed in readiness.</p> <p>The presentations at the CLG meeting of 14 December, and circulated 22/12, provide a comprehensive list of (1) design changes and responses to community feedback, and other project initiatives, as well as (2) a list of EPR's and other EES initiatives. Also included is the presentation from the EPA, and Comms.</p>
4	<p>Tea break</p>
5	<p>Presentation from EPA</p> <p>Information was given about EPA's role in the project, works approval assessment, air quality and noise.</p>

Item	Item detail
	<p>Further information and the full assessment report can be found on the EPA website.</p> <p>EPA assessed that filtration was not necessary but has required provision be made for future installation if necessary. New South Wales (NSW) trials showed no demonstrable improvement and experience at other tunnels in Melbourne show no significant changes in local ambient air quality.</p> <p>A graph detailing air quality (for PM10) against the standard and showing minimal contribution of tunnel ventilation systems is included in the presentation circulated to all members on 22 December. TF confirmed that the peaks in the graph represent conditions such as dust storms or fires.</p> <p>PT provided information on the definition of local areas, that Footscray refers to inner west, Northern Portal is Yarraville Gardens. Kensington would use Footscray as the general monitoring site.</p> <p>CR commented on the data shown to the CLG, noting that it suggests the bigger issue behind the high baseline levels is the air pollution from the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct, and that focus of government investment and effort on reducing that may be more prudent and have better outcomes than spending on WGT vent filtration to deal with marginal air pollution increases from the WGT project. PT stated that pollution is generated from companies involved in transport and demolition. Sealing the roads has and will continue to help to reduce the impact. TF reiterated that this information, in greater detail can be found on the EPA website.</p>

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6	<p>Members feedback</p> <p>CR observed that the length of tunnels, in contrast to the original plans, appeared to be twice as long.</p> <p>MI then took the opportunity to speak to and outline the contents of a letter that had been prepared and signed by the community members of the CLG and not all members. In that letter which was sent to the Chairperson a series of concerns were raised about the current designs and plans for the project.</p> <p>RM then read sections of the statement and clarified that not all members contributed, but the Community members agreed to what was included. Their main concerns, she noted, were based on health issues and risks in the future. RM advised that contributors were keen to table the document for information and that a response was not required.</p> <p>MO raised concern that after 18 months of CLG meetings there were still issues yet to be addressed.</p> <p>JW acknowledged receipt of the letter and indicated that he expected it to be tabled by the community members who signed it at the meeting. He also noted that in reviewing the project overview that had been prepared by all members of the CLG in October 2016 about project priorities and opportunities with relation to the design and delivery of the project did identify approximately 138 concerns under 5 themes.</p> <p>JW further indicated that when he reviewed the October 2016 CLG endorsed report that 102 issues have been met in reasonable amounts or in full, 20 have to do with construction, therefore have not been considered yet, and there would appear to be some 7 or 8 are items that have not eventuated.</p> <p>JW expressed his view that every member of the committee should receive a copy of the letter from the community members to himself (and this was subsequently circulated to all members along with the presentation on 22 December) for their information.</p> <p>RM confirmed that a response is not required.</p> <p>DA then expresses concern that the letter was not representative of all members of the group and that this placed some members in a difficult position.</p> <p>JW also clarified that if members of the group wished to take up outstanding issues outside of the committee then according to our code of conduct issues must be done so independently of their role within the CLG, and through respective action groups rather than as individuals represented on the CLG.</p> <p>CR noted that the letter had already been quoted in the local media and the Chair JW expressed disappointment that the letter to the Chair had been released to the media without authorisation from the Chair.</p> <p>JW reiterated that media coverage of the letter had put members in a difficult and awkward position. MO stated that it was surprising that the letter had gone to the media.</p> <p>Discussion then ensued about what next for the CLG given that the planning phase</p>

Item	Item detail
	<p>had concluded. PS reiterated that while the planning phase had effectively finished and that the project was now officially in the design and construction phase, the current CLG had been established for the duration of the planning phase.</p> <p>There will be, he said, a CLG for the design and construction phase and the WDA will now need to consider the CLG requirements for the next phase. This will be discussed further at the February 2018 meeting and all members of the current CLG were encouraged to consider how that may proceed</p>
	<p>Close of meeting</p> <p>JW thanked everyone for their attendance, particularly thanking the EPA for attending and providing a detailed presentation including some of the key issues that members have concern about. PS and the team were also thanked for their efforts in the community involvement and their exceptional work output over the last few months was noted.</p> <p>A meeting will be held in February to discuss the next phase of the CLG.</p>
	<p>Meeting closed at 7.45pm</p>

Next meeting

Date:	8 February 2018
Time:	5.30pm – 7.30pm
Place:	Maribymong Town Hall
Chair:	Jim Williamson

Minutes prepared by: Western Distributor Authority

Minutes to be endorsed as a true and accurate record of the meeting by the Chair and CLG members at the next meeting.