

Brunswick Terminal Station Upgrade Community Reference Group Inaugural Meeting Minutes D14/227998

Date 29 July 2014

Venue: Merri Creek Primary School, Fitzroy North

Time: 6:30 to 8:00pm

Attendees:

Peter Brown, CEO Moreland City Council (Chair)
Kirsten Coster, Director Planning & Economic Development
Phillip Priest, Group Manager City Development
Darren Camilleri, Planning Coordinator City Development
Alice Badcock, SP AusNet
Denis McCrohan, SP AusNet
Bret Fleming, Urbis on behalf of SP AusNet
Ramon Collodetti, resident
Chris Black, resident
Anne Voss, resident
Ray Radford, resident
Craig Burton, resident
Fatima Alisak, resident
Apologies – John Langer, resident

Welcome & Introductions

Members of the CRG were welcomed and introduced each other.

The Chair summarised the nomination interests and concerns expressed by residents at today's meeting during a discussion held prior to the start of the meeting. These included lack of trust a desire to monitor SP AusNet activities and to improve the outcome for the surrounding community, including better clarity around safety and emergency procedures, achieving genuine consultation through the CRG and ensuring SP AusNet do what is required i.e. meeting planning permit conditions.

CRG communication

There was a discussion about a potential CRG newsletter for the local community. This could be derived from the Minutes of the meetings. Concern was raised that SP AusNet could send out communication under their banner which included views that were not that of the CRG, but which could be perceived as such. SP AusNet advised that they will be conscious of this matter to ensure

views referred to in communication were made expressively clear whom they belonged too. SP AusNet also wished to maintain their project update responsibilities to the broader community and stakeholders not part of the CRG, and not divest this responsibility to the CRG.

Action: SP AusNet to respond to the CRG at next meeting with their view on a separate CRG newsletter and how this will be resourced.

CRG Terms of Reference (TOR)

The draft TOR was discussed. The following key areas were discussed:

Community initiatives

The 4th dot point under Section 3 which reads 'provide an opportunity for advice on community initiatives' was queried. Alice advised that this referred to having CRG input for opportunities to improve the site and surrounds i.e. beyond minimum requirements i.e. permit conditions. Examples given included funding from SP Ausnet for certain projects i.e. heritage interpretation.

Chair

An independent facilitator would Chair future meetings. The Chair would be funded by SP AusNet but selected by Moreland City Council to ensure neutrality.

Action: An independent Chair to be selected by Moreland City Council as soon as possible, preferably ready for next meeting.

Membership

The extent of notification of invitation to the CRG was queried. Council advised that invitations were sent to all people who registered their interest at the public meeting held 9 May 2014 as well as all submitters to the planning application.

Chris Black, Ramon Collodetti, Ray Radford, John Langer and Anne Voss had submitted an application to join CRG. Fatima and Craig handed their application at the meeting.

There was discussion about extending invitations via a mail out. Concern was expressed about the CRG becoming too large to achieve optimal effectiveness. It was agreed that CRG members who knew of anyone who had a special interest could encourage them to place an application for consideration.

Special guests

There was a discussion about 'special guests'. Special guests would be invited as appropriate. There was discussion whether CitiPower should be a member of CRG. It was agreed CitiPower would be invited as a guest, preferably to the next meeting.

Action: SP AusNet to invite CitiPower to next meeting as a special guest.

Proxy

If a member was unable to attend and wished to have another person, a proxy could be nominated up to two meetings per year, as outlined in the draft CRG.

Action: Council to prepare and send a proxy form to CRG members.

General Business

It was agreed that a 'General Business' item would form part of each Agenda.

Meeting times and location

The meeting location was discussed. It was agreed Tuesday nights would be preferable. Brunswick was also preferable and enquiries would be made to the availability of the Merri Creek Primary School.

Action: Council to contact Merri Creek Primary School for availability.

Minor wording changes

Other minor wording changes were agreed. These will be reflected in a revised version of the TOR to be circulated before the next meeting noting reference to "project" rather than "construction" in particular under the functions of the CRG, and removal of "community" under responsibilities to embrace all CRG members.

Action: Revised Terms of Reference to be circulated to all parties for adoption at the next meeting.

Project Overview and activities

David advised that the project was expected to take 2 years to complete. September 2014 was the tentative start date, noting some uncertainty with the current VCAT application.

In mid August cut and fill works would be undertaken on site to 'ready' the site and fill the holes left from the demolition. This work fell within current approvals.

Chris informed the CRG that on 3 September a public forum, organised by Merri Creek Association and MEFL, 'Power to the People' would be held with speakers organised i.e. to talk on climate change etc.

Future Site Tour

Carried to next meeting.

General Business

Ray informed SP AusNet that he had called their general number and received message that the number was 'no longer in service'.

Action: SP Ausnet to address and report back to the CRG.

Next Meeting

Date and venue to be advised, with the date to follow the conclusion of the current VCAT application – mediation hearing scheduled for 11 August or merits hearing 22 August.