

June 2019

Meeting Minutes

Community Reference Group

Subject: Yan Yean Road Upgrade – Community Reference Group

Date: Monday 3 June 2019 **Time:** 6.15pm for 6.30pm-8pm

Location: The Gallery, Rivers of Yarrambat - 28 Kurrak Road, Yarrambat

Meeting number: 11

Chair: Damian van Dyke

Minute-taker: Charlotte Claney

Attendees

Attendees (Name/Organisation)	Apologies (Name/Organisation)
Anne Trueman (AT)	Barbara Marshall (BaM)
Joanne Jamieson (JJ)	John Yeomans (JY)
Karen Moad (KM)	Neisha Forbes (NF)
Milton Embling (ME)	Susan Farley (SF)
Pam Hoyne (PH)	Chinthaka Arachchige (CA), MRPV
Charlotte Claney (CC), MRPV	Nerilee Kerslake (NK), MRPV
Damian van Dyke (DvD), MRPV	Warren Bradshaw (WB), MRPV
Luke Host (LH), MRV	
Paige Krygger (PK), MRPV	
Tessa Windisch (TW), MRPV	

Actions – previous

#	Action	Owner	Due	Status	Update
9.3	Update the group on the seed balls initiative	CC	3 June 2019	Complete	Workshops with junior school children to take place on 16 and 17 July as part of Yarrambat Primary School STEM program.
10.1	Look into safety of right hand turns into Faneco Road currently	DvD	3 June 2019	Complete	Faneco Road intersection temporarily closed to be upgraded.
10.2	Find out if fencing and barbed wire will be used to protect the detention basins being installed on Stage 1	CA	3 June 2019	Open	Barbed wire currently being installed on fencing around basins. Standard VicRoads design that meets Australian standards. Project exploring possibility to alter fence design to remove barbed wire.
10.3	Confirm number of bus stops with and without shelters to be installed	DvD	3 June 2019	Open	12 bus stops being installed, seven on road and five indented bus bays. Four bus stops that had shelters are being replaced with those existing shelters. ME indicated MRPV plans on website suggest that all on-road bus stops to have shelters. MRPV to review and provide response. We've approached PTV to see if bus shelters required for all stops. PTV said no. Provision for electricity and lighting is provided for all bus stops to allow for retro-fitting of bus shelters at all locations in future if required.
10.4	Explore street lighting between Sunrise Drive and McLachlans Lane	DvD	3 June 2019	Complete	Lighting was out but now fixed. ME said it was fixed very soon after being reported at last meeting, within a couple of days.
10.5	Share tree removal and reuse figures with the group at the next CRG meeting	NK	3 June 2019	Open	Estimated 2,800 trees would be impacted by project. Currently, well under that figure. Tree removal is almost complete, only a handful of trees potentially still to be removed. NK not in attendance. NK will confirm tree removal and reuse figures at next meeting.
10.6	Organise 3 June CRG meeting at Rivers of Yarrambat	CC	30 April 2019	Complete	Meeting was booked and held on 3 June 2019.

Key discussion points

Agenda item	Discussion summary
Item 1 – Welcome and apologies	<p>Multiple apologies. NF, CA, WB, JY, NK, SF and BaM unable to attend this evening.</p> <p>Some new faces too. KM, PK and LH are new to the group. KM representing traders, as business manager of Rivers of Yarrambat. LH project manager for Stage 2 Yan Yean Road Upgrade. PK communications manager for Stage 2 Yan Yean Road Upgrade. TW graduate for Stage 2 Plenty Road Upgrade attending this evening as a once off.</p>
Item 2 – Confirming the agenda	<p>Agenda confirmed with group. No changes or additions to agenda.</p>
Item 3 – Stage 1 project update	<p>DvD updated the group that the Faneco Road intersection is closed and would open in an interim arrangement like River Avenue did until the traffic lights are switched on. Mackelroy Road intersection closed at the moment for widening and safety improvements. Kurrak Road intersection operating under an interim arrangement with U-turns to avoid closing the intersection to upgrade it. Kurrak Road intersection to open back up traffic lights and an interim road configuration in late June, with the roundabout removed. JJ asked about provision for U-turn going north bound to turn south bound was sufficient for the number of cars utilising it. CC reassured that it was operating well, and no community complaints had been received.</p> <p>DvD confirmed that the public finish date for the project is mid-2019 and that we'll be done by early August most likely. DvD advised the group that a smaller work crew will remain on site likely until the end of year to complete the landscaping and asphalt wearing course work during the warmer months.</p> <p>DvD explained to the group that swales/basins are natural earth drains that will be grassed and planted out to filter the water before it goes into the waterways. Detention basins are required due to a lack of drainage infrastructure in the area to hold back rainwater and slowly release it. AT was concerned that polluted water from septic tanks could run off into the basins too during large rain events. ME commented that the basins are much larger than he anticipated now that they're being built. ME asked if Council will maintain the basins and DvD responded that VicRoads will take over maintenance responsibilities once the project is complete.</p> <p>DvD said the landscaping plans include 19,000 grasses, plants and shrubs to be planted throughout the project area.</p> <p>CC said that local chainsaw artist, Leigh Conkie, is half way through creating six timber totem sculptures for us based on a design brief containing community feedback. There will be three relief carvings of Indigenous significance and three sculptures of animals native to the Plenty area. The three animal totems have already been carved and the relief carvings will be finished soon. We're finalising installation locations and will be able to tell the group exactly where they're going and show photos of the finished sculptures at the next meeting.</p> <p>ME enquired about the large section of shared walking and cycling path on the northbound carriageway just after River Avenue that doesn't have guardrail installed. JJ said she thinks guardrail will go in but just hadn't been installed yet and DvD confirmed the area will have a barrier.</p> <p>ME said he got a letter from Grant Brooker that said Butlers Road would have a temporary seal. DvD confirmed that MRPV committed to grade the road and put down asphalt profiling, which is old asphalt that has been churned up and spread out in a new area. ME was confused because it looked like it hadn't been done yet. DvD confirmed that it had been done.</p>

Agenda item	Discussion summary
	<p>JJ has noticed graffiti popping up. DvD said the retaining wall surface is textured, so should be unattractive to graffiti vandals and agreed it can still happen and assured that we'd instruct the contractor to remove it ASAP.</p>
<p>Item 4 – Stage 2 project update</p>	<p>LH advised the group that the draft scoping requirements were drafted for public exhibition as part of EES process. Comments have been received and will be considered by the Minister for Planning when finalising what the scoping requirements are.</p> <p>LH said there's lots of work being done in the background, as we're conscious of what we'll likely need to address. Likely impacts range from impacts to trees and overall tree loss that may impact foraging habitat for the Swift Parrot, an endangered species that migrates through the area.</p> <p>LH shared with the group that factors such as air quality, contaminated land, noise and other environmental impacts are being investigated at the moment. By early next year, we'll be ready for public exhibition and public comment. The project anticipates a decision on the EES process by late 2020.</p> <p>PK added that 76 submissions were received in response to the draft scoping requirements, which is considered high. This goes to show the level of engagement this community has with the project. Of significance was the two River Red Gums on the corner of Doctors Gully and Yan Yean roads, kangaroo and wildlife crossings and overall tree loss. JJ think that if we weren't in drought, the impact to kangaroos wouldn't be so severe.</p> <p>PK asked if there was anyone the group felt it would be beneficial for the project to liaise with at this early stage in the process, to please let us know. PK and JJ told the group that they'd already spoken to and discussed event details for Yarrambat Pony Club.</p> <p>JJ said Melbourne Water is removing trees at the moment for the new sewerage upgrade in the Stage 2 area.</p> <p>LH said we're investigating opportunities and options to minimise impact to the local environment with the project. JJ wanted to know if other designs had been explored to avoid impacting the River Red Gums. LH noted that there have been a number of options developed and that are currently being assessed. JJ would like to see the trees incorporated into the centre median of the road with traffic going around them.</p> <p>PH said the minutes of this meeting is important, so people can know these issues are being explored and discussed and that other options for the Doctors Gully Road intersection are being looked into. DvD assured the group that MRPV are fully aware of the campaign to save the trees and will continue to explore all options to do so. Non-destructive digging was undertaken to identify the root zones and an arborist assessed the trees to better understand the health of the two trees. Next, we will continue explore options and make a recommendation through the planning process.</p> <p>AT doesn't like the look of that retaining walls in Stage 1 and hopes Stage 2 will use batter slopes and plant them out instead. DvD replied that there are not as many opportunities to include retaining walls in Stage 2. On Stage 1, we're on the side of a hill and could avoid impacting a lot of properties and reduce land acquisition and save trees by using retaining walls. Stage 2 has a different topography from an engineering perspective.</p> <p>PH asked how many comments were received on the draft scoping requirements relating to the old general store and PK responded that a couple mentioned its significance to the community.</p> <p>JJ asked if the project is likely to start as soon as the 18-month EES process is done. DvD said highly doubtful because we don't know what the planning panel will come back with, so there is limited preconstruction work that can take place without the design being approved. The EES and Planning</p>

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	<p>Scheme Amendment processes are running in tandem. LH said we're doing everything we can to get ourselves in the best position possible to be ready to go. KM wants us to build it soon.</p> <p>AT asked if we can do minor construction now. LH said not while the EES process is underway. DvD asked AT to send through a list of suggested minor improvements to CC, and we can see what we can do in regard to maintenance work and pot holes or we can refer it to VicRoads.</p> <p>JJ said people are popping tyres on pot holes near Yarrambat Primary School but can't claim repair costs through VicRoads. CC advised the VicRoads threshold for claims and won't cover single tyres. PH said they were fixing those pot holes with asphalt last Friday. CC agreed, she saw that too. DvD encouraged JJ to call VicRoads to report them as a hazard to get them looked at and fixed.</p> <p>KM asked where the end of Stage 2 will be. LH said it will tie back in after Bridge Inn Road. PK added that Bridge Inn Road between Yan Yean Road and Plenty Road will be upgraded as part of the Suburban Roads Upgrade. KM asked if any roads beyond that will also be upgraded. DvD replied that this is the arterial road network and it serves an arterial traffic function. As an example, Yan Yean Road north of Bridge Inn Road is a local road managed by Council and not likely to be upgraded until such a time that it performs an arterial traffic function and is declared an arterial road (subject to funding). Council will typically seek to declare a road and transfer the road management responsibilities to VicRoads when it services an arterial function.</p> <p>ME asked if the Incorporated Document comes after the EES and DvD said no it'll all come at a similar time since the EES and PSA processes are running in tandem.</p> <p>JJ asked if the CRG will wrap up this year when major construction ends on Stage 1. DvD said there will still be lots to discuss for August, October and possibly December due to the landscaping works occurring during spring. Then we'd reassess just having a Stage 2 group with a new EOI and new TOR.</p> <p>ME thinks it's a pity the state the relocated former Plenty church building is in. DvD said we're out to market at the moment for a builder to perform the work. We're ready to catch up with the Plenty Historical Society to discuss next steps. DvD asked ME to help organise a time during the week to get together to discuss.</p> <p>AT asked if there was a Yarrambat Community Action Group. The project team said they weren't aware of one. ME said the Plenty Community Action Group formed based on the issue of land acquisition compensation. DvD said due to this project, VicRoads have released a new document on land acquisition to provide greater clarity on the process.</p> <p>JJ and AT asked if MRPV we're still exploring options to providing access for the medium-density houses between Laurie Street and Bannons Lane, such as a service road. MRPV assured the group that all options were still being investigated to provide the best solution for these residents but there was no definitive solution chosen at this stage.</p> <p>JJ said the feedback from community has been listened to, the process has been transparent and everyone on Stage 2 is aware the road is being upgraded and land will need to be acquired and they want to road to go through. DvD said it's all about maintaining trust and being transparent. DvD thanked everyone for their involvement in the CRG.</p>
Item 5 – Enviro update	NK an apology. Group satisfied that environmental information was sufficiently covered in Items 3 and 4.
Item 6 – Key discussion topic	Covered in Item 4.

Agenda item	Discussion summary
Item 7 – Other business	<p>JJ unable to attend August meeting but will send Senior Sergeant Wayne Spence as her proxy.</p> <p>CC said we're likely to have artist impressions by the next meeting to show the group the final design and landscaping in the area.</p> <p>CC will bring photos of completed timber totems and benches to the next meeting to show the group.</p>
Item 8 – Close	<p>DvD ran through the actions that arose at the meeting. The group confirmed the new actions.</p> <p>DvD confirmed the next CRG meeting would be scheduled for 12 August 2019.</p> <p><i>Meeting concluded at 8pm</i></p>

Actions - new

#	Action	Owner/s	Due
10.2	Confirm if fencing design can be changed to remove barbed wire from fencing being used to protect the detention basins	CA	12 August 2019
10.3	Confirm number of bus stops with and without shelters to be installed	DvD	12 August 2019
10.5	Share tree removal and reuse figures with the group at the next CRG meeting	NK	12 August 2019
11.1	Investigate if all bus stops can have shelters, not just the seven on-road bus stops	DvD	12 August 2019
11.2	Confirm that safety barriers will be installed eventually along lengths of road where there are large gaps that aren't due to driveways	DvD	12 August 2019
11.3	Remove graffiti on retaining walls and concrete barriers	DvD	12 August 2019
11.4	Bring artist impressions and photos of completed timber totems and benches to the next meeting to show the group	CC	12 August 2019
11.5	Suggest community groups and organisations that it would be appropriate for MRPV to meet with regarding the EES	CRG members	12 August 2019