

## Mordialloc Freeway Community Reference Group (CRG) Minutes

**Date:** 17/5/18 **Time:** 6.30pm – 8.30pm  
**Location:** The Dingley International Hotel - 334 Boundary Road, Dingley  
**Meeting number:** 1  
**Chair:** Ben Neil – Capire Consulting  
**Secretary/Minute-taker:** Alisha Nee – Capire Consulting

Attendees	Position	Organisation/ representation
Tim Richardson MP (TR)	Member for Mordialloc	State Government
Ben Neil (BN)	Independent Facilitator	Capire Consulting
Alisha Nee (AN)	Independent Facilitation Support	Capire Consulting
Renee Shankar (RS)	Stakeholder Engagement Manager - Central, South and East Projects Major Projects Communications and Engagement	VicRoads
Renee Killeen (RK)	Strategic Engagement Advisor Major Projects Communications and Engagement	VicRoads
Brendan Pauwels (BP)	Project Director	VicRoads
Daniel Kollmorgen (DK)	Project Manager	VicRoads
Lucinda Bertrum (LB)	CRG Member	Resident – Aspendale Gardens Member - Aspendale Gardens Residents Association (AGRA)
Mark Hardman (MH)	CRG Member	Resident – Waterways Business operator
Scott Fothergill (SG)	CRG Member	Resident – Aspendale Gardens Member - Residents Against Mordialloc Freeway
Tim Moran (TM)	CRG Member	Resident – Aspendale Gardens
Phil Newman (PN)	CRG Member	Business operator
Steve Quenette (SQ)	CRG Member	Resident – Dingley Village
Paul Cameron (PC)	CRG Member	Resident – Dingley Village Works within the area
Frank Russo (FR)	Proxy	Friends of Braeside Park
David Boldiston (DB)	Proxy	Friends of Braeside Park
<b>Apologies</b>		
Margaret Hunter	CRG Member	Friends of Braeside Park
Judith Sise	CRG Member	Friends of Braeside Park

#	Timing	Item detail	Owner
1	6.40pm-6.55pm	Introductions	Ben Neil
2	6.55pm-7.30pm	Welcome activity	Ben Neil
3	7.30pm-7.40pm	Terms of Reference	Ben Neil
4	7.40pm-8.15pm	Project Overview and update	Brendan Pauwels
5	8.15pm-8.45pm	Question time/other business	All
6	8.45pm	Meeting close/next actions	

### Agenda item 1: Introductions

TR – Member for Mordialloc

PN – Owns business - Fortress Systems 150m from proposed freeway (Fwy) route. Member of South East Melbourne Manufacturers Alliance (SEMMA). Witnessed many accidents. Concerned about safety.

PC - Previously in Information Technology, now in Real Estate. Representing residents.

BP – Project Director for VicRoads (VR).

MH – Lives in Waterways. Owns three businesses in Dingley. Employs 50 people.

SF – Lives in Aspendale Gardens. Representing Residents Against Mordialloc Freeway (RAMF). Wants to be fully informed to provide input for best mitigation strategies involving pollution, environment and residents.

DK – Project Manager with VR. 15 years with Local Government -Banyule. In-laws live in Dingley.

SQ – Lived locally since the 1980s. Children play sport, hockey, basketball. Mentone Grammar committee member, open-minded citizen wanting to contribute. Works at Monash University.

LB – Representing Aspendale Gardens Residents Association (AGRA) and lives in Aspendale Gardens.

Represent 2,400 residents. Concerns around sound barriers, screening and aesthetics.

TM – Aspendale Gardens resident, community member of Rotary, uses roads, interested in ensuring project is developed in the best way for future community.

DB – Friends of Braeside park (proxy for Margaret Hunter). Concerns regarding future park use and amenity. Has work with VicRoads on previous projects.

RS – Community Engagement team. Looking forward to working with the CRG as the conduit for community input.

RK – Community Engagement team. Here to understand community's concerns.

BN – Acknowledged gender imbalance of members which was partly due to Margaret and Judith both being an apology for the meeting.

### Agenda item 2: Welcome activity /member interest in the project

Refer to table in Appendix 1 for details.

### Agenda item 3: Terms of Reference (TOR)

BN went through key sections of the TOR:

- CRG is not a decision-making body but a conduit for information to and from the community.
- Items raised out of scope of the TOR will be parked or referred on to the appropriate team/ government department.
- Opportunity for community members to raise issues and seek responses e.g. concern – the noise barrier is too high, a sound/noise expert would attend meeting to explain rationale and answer questions.
- Membership will be reviewed every 12 months.
- BN is independent Chair who is to facilitate the meetings impartially, any concerns regarding this can be raised with BN or VR.
- All information discussed with CRG members is considered public – VR to highlight any sensitivities regarding timing of distribution of information. VR to provide guidelines to CRG members.

- Media clause – CRG members are not an authorised spokesperson and cannot speak to the media on behalf of VR or the CRG without prior approval. However, each member can represent their community group or their own individual view where required.
- Expectation is that members attend meetings or send a proxy. Proxy must be aware of and agree to the code of conduct prior to each meeting or at the time of the meeting.

#### Other discussion

- Information can be distributed by members via website, newsletter, Dingley Dossier, Friends groups, etc. This includes minutes which will be available on the VR project website.
- Expectation that members will disagree on issues, but that this will be done respectfully.
- Flagged that VR moving to Office of the Coordinator General Victoria to deliver project. Signing code of conduct will cover new entity.

### Agenda item 4: Project Overview and update - BP

#### Freeway design

- Proposed route has been earmarked since the 1960's with VR already owning approximately 70% of the land. The rest of the land will be compulsorily purchased.
- Four lane freeway means two lanes in either direction, an additional lane could be added into the centre medium strip (in the middle of the freeway) later. Adding the lane into the centre medium, would mean no further land would be required. An additional lane is not in the project current scope but is for future consideration based on population growth and requirements of the community.
- Managing the former tip site is a big challenge for the project as it was not capped correctly. Further investigative work is being undertaken to understand how this can be best managed.
- Freeway will be elevated to go over Old Dandenong Rd and Centre Dandenong Road and there will be ramps on the south side only at Centre Dandenong Rd.
- Lower Dandenong Rd – only land to acquire outside of the current freeway reservation is a carpark between the industrial estate to allow Woodlands Road to be redirected. Existing road to be turned into carpark.
- Lower Dandenong Rd will have full access to the freeway with an overpass and on/off ramps in all directions.
- Along Braeside Park – it is expected that the design can avoid direct impact to Parks Victoria site office. VR currently working with Parks Victoria to reduce the impact of Fwy construction.
- Governor Rd will also have full access to Fwy.
- Near Governor Road the freeway will bisect wetlands between Braeside Park and the Woodlands Wetlands. VR team is aware that this is a habitat connection to be mindful of and are currently working with ecology experts to reduce impact, and for wildlife to use culverts etc. Request to have the impact on wildlife as a topic of discussion in a future meeting.
- Between Governor Rd & Springvale Rd – presents significant challenges of noise, air quality and wetlands (migration of species, habitat of endangered species). Currently planning to build 3-400m bridges as part of EES process. Acknowledged that there will be visual impact of elevated structures and to be noted, Melbourne Water own Mordialloc Creek.
- Noise assessments are currently being carried out with monitoring of existing noise levels having taken place. Friction between tyre and road surface creates most of the noise i.e. constant humming noise. Agreed this will be a topic for further discussion at a future meeting.

Further discussion topics with CRG members:

**Height** a good topic given controversy of SkyRail. BP explained height level on grey section of map. Bridge needs to be 5.9m from bottom of bridge to road surface.

**Noise and visual** impact is a challenge for this project especially with the late edition of on/off ramps and the ability to get on the existing freeway at Chelsea to travel to/from the north. Another consideration for

VR is around the need to neutralise soils. The former tip site has contaminant from firefighting equipment, ground water and surface water is currently being monitored, including setting up 3D models to study impact of water access and quality. As part of the ESS - how water run-off from road will be treated, is being considered.

Today VR announced shortlist of construction contractors. The process won't be based on cost alone, previous experience, ability to address impacts, etc. will all be factors. Once the successful contractor is known they will be invited to join the CRG.

- **EES**

Currently underway with scoping guidelines on exhibition during Mar – April. EES scope being finalised by Department of Environment Land Water and Planning (DELWP). The full EES, including investigations and assessments, to be on exhibition in approximately October 2018 for a six-week period. Submissions can be made at any time during this period with the panel hearing for the project expected in late 2018/early 2019. This is an independent panel run through DELWP. The panel will write recommendations to be considered by the Minister for Planning. The EES will also cover the requirements under the EPBC Act, as per federal legislation under a bilateral agreement.

PC - VR and State Government were slow to act on hoon behaviour. Requested the consideration of cameras to be installed once Fwy is open for use. Used the Dingley Bypass and Peninsula Link as an example where this had not been considered in the initial planning phase but had an impact on the surrounding community.

Questions

TM - Will there be flood mitigation?

BP – Studies being done to ensure current surface water flow can be replicated after the freeway is built.

PN – Curious how far thoughts extend off page (the map) where traffic stops? Is it part of VR's thinking?

BP – This is out of the project scope. However, another division of VR is looking at roads within the area of the Mordialloc Freeway.

LB – Can road be moved further away from houses in the Aspendale Gardens area of the alignment?

BP – Preference to have road as far away as possible from houses and wetlands and close to industrial.

Currently the road is 65 meters in distance to the closest house at Aspendale Gardens.

PC - To what extent does CRG participate or input into budget?

BP - VR will consider suggestions and respond, CRGs in other projects have been able to influence design outcomes. Noted that CRG needs to have an informed view through the use of experts attending meetings.

SQ – Good to understand what the EES will do. Need it in layman's terms so can be conveyed to people.

RS - VR to provide further information with a link to videos and other sources, suggested members look at EES for local LXRA projects.

RK – Aware final EES is large and technical. Have been advised by DELWP final scoping requirements are almost ready. Discussions around info teaching people how to read and understand documents.

PN - What is process for communication between meetings from meetings, presentations, questions etc i.e. VR to CRG?

RS – depends on issue and priorities. VR addresses community queries every day. CRG members can raise issues that they have received with VR. VR will then work with the CRG member to respond accordingly

FR – VR haven't been able to answer queries in past, in the first instance, but came back after getting answers.

BN – Key take-away – if immediate, address with VR straight away.

TR - What will local roads be like? Get better understanding of traffic modelling, network and benefit for next meeting

SF – Would like to see business case, stats.

- **Procurement**

Two contractors shortlisted - CPB/Seymour Whyte Joint Venture and McConnell Dowell/Decmil Joint Venture.

- **Upcoming community engagement**

RS – engagement team is working hard to organise drop-in sessions in key areas e.g. Aspendale Gardens, Waterways, Dingley Village. CRG to be conduit to communicate this information to the community.

**Agenda item 5: Question time/other business**

BN – first meeting has been good to get info from BP, establish meeting expectations. Future meetings to be 2 hours.

**Next CRG meeting:**

6.30pm to 8.30pm – Thursday, 19 July 2018

**Actions**

#	Description	Responsible	Date
1	Guidelines/process to assist CRG members in sharing project information with the community.	VR	Next meeting
2	EES summary/cheat sheet with key themes or FAQ's to be disseminated. Links to comparable projects.	VR	Mid July
3	CRG member contact list to be shared between members	VR	June
4	Potential agenda items for future meetings (TBC): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact on wildlife</li> <li>• Traffic modelling, network performance</li> </ul>	VR	TBA

## Appendix 1

Member	What do you want to get out of being a member of the CRG?	What do you see as the main benefit of the Bypass being?	How do you intend serving the community by being on the CRG?	Additional comments during discussion
Tim Richardson	As the local elected representative for the Mordialloc electorate, I want to achieve the best outcomes from this important project. This comes from consulting and understanding the views, interest and needs of our local community and the CRG is an outstanding process for this.	Connecting employment precincts. Gets residents home safer and sooner to their families. Taking heavy traffic off local roads. Creating local jobs and through government procurement, employing local workers, apprentices and using local contacts.	By being a voice for my local community as their MP and disseminating the latest information, outcomes and feedback.	Good to hear feedback. I have experience of working with CRG's on LXRA. I know people are passionate about their areas. I want to make it work for local community, disseminate information between residents and parliament. Growing population, economic benefits are substantial. Substantial time away from families. Growth corridor connection. MP's can never be across all the detail. Important to get project right. Inform MP of Keysborough.
Brendan Pauwels	A real connection to the various groups that this project will impact. To be able to hear and act upon concerns, ideas and queries in a transparent manner	It will relieve pressure of existing roads, thus improving the lives of those in the area.	By being genuinely interested in obtaining the views of the community and using those in progressing the project.	I want to build a strong connection, great representation. Take traffic off local roads, make it easier to get around.

Scott Fothergill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- being informed and up to date on the freeway process</li> <li>- opportunity, if road goes ahead, to express environmental social, health concerns and input way/how we can best mitigate the impact.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- keeping community members informed of design, etc.</li> <li>- ensuring our group is part of the dialogue to ensure optimum mitigation against impact of the road.</li> </ul>	Not everyone is for the Freeway. Has links to many other groups. Appreciates the privilege to work with VicRoads on the project. Wants to keep members informed as best as possible and opportunity to express concerns of impact. Also represents Braeside. Dingley Village has many older residents concerned with lighting and noise impacts. We have beautiful waterways, flora and fauna will be impacted. I don't see a lot of benefits. I want to have input into design if it goes ahead. I hope for a world class Freeway that blends in with the wetlands.
Mark Hardman	Input for the community and business employees currently travelling on the freeway. To best help everyone using the extension for work and pleasure.	Safer traffic flow from the end of the existing freeway and avoiding the 'T' intersection situation that currently exists. Shorter travel times.	Unbiased input for the best outcome for every user of the road.	I travel in area a lot between work and home so very close but employees live further out so road will help them. I want to provide input on behalf of others.
Tim Moran	To get a community asset that is meeting the needs of the local community and the broader southern roads corridor.	Improved traffic flows along Wells Rd, Springvale Rd, White St, Governor Rd	By providing local knowledge to the project and assist with connecting to the local community	Going to shops is a nightmare and very dangerous. Has worn many different hats over the years. My kids go to kinder in Aspendale Gardens.
Lucinda Bertrum	Keep informed and ensure Aspendale Gardens residents get the best outcome in terms of aesthetics, bike paths and sound barriers.	Improve traffic flow, reduce traffic flow from Wells Rd and improve safety.	To update all residents via Facebook and newsletter and advocate on their behalf for the best outcome for our community.	I risk my life every day crossing the road. I want to tell residents what's going on and let them know of any opportunities available to contribute.

Phil Newman	Understand the proposed plan and have an opportunity to contribute to the eventual outcome.	Time saving when travelling to and from work including on roads around the freeway due to diversion of traffic.	Helping to ensure good communication with VicRoads to and from the community.	Many people don't believe opportunity to communicate with VicRoads and contribute to project exists. Most employees interested in how Fwy will impact them. Lost a colleague in accident so safety a priority.
Frank Russo & David Boldiston	As a representative of Friends of Braeside Park, input and feedback about the impact that the freeway will have.	Relief from local traffic chaos during peak times but not at the cost to environment and facilities of Park staff.	Have input to represent our stakeholders.	Concerned volunteers will drop off. Glad to have the ability to be part of it. Can see group has willingness to work together.
Steve Quenette	Contribute to community. (bike paths - connections - Dingley/Mordialloc/Mentone...)	Safety/traffic/congestion improvement. Connections to the City, metropolitan Melbourne and the local community. Better environment for my family and community.	Listen to project and community. Utilise skills/experience of complicated projects.	I ride a lot with my kids so interested in bike path system. Takes a long time to get up and down one road. I manage the infrastructure at the University so am familiar with complicated stakeholder groups.
Daniel Kollmorgen	Get to know members of the community and understand concerns and issues, and to work towards delivering the best project we can.	Economic benefit - connecting people to jobs. Travel time savings.	Listening and understanding and incorporating ideas, suggestions where possible.	
Paul Cameron	An active appreciation of how to reach consensus amongst important community views and being a good steward of these agreements to come to fruition.	A better way of handling the amenity of transport in our area - in deference to all stakeholders but especially those without a voice - flora and fauna!	Being an honest, caring and confident communicator, helping to inform others and consult better to understand different points of view.	



Renee Killeen	Gaining greater insights from locals, understanding concerns / community sentiment to help inform the team.	Delivering a project that meets the needs of the community.		
Renee Shankar	I want the CRG to help inform the project and be a key link between VicRoads and the community.	Better access for the community.		
Ben Neil	Not a member - an independent facilitator. CRG is about using networks, skills and examples to take back to local groups and having a robust conversation about the project.	Improvements to local travel times.	Supporting the CRG to be the best that it can be and assisting the community.	Great to have different viewpoints and perspectives. Group provides diversity of interests. This activity will inform part of evaluation report. VicRoads and Capire Consulting's job is to do collectively.