

Mordialloc Freeway

Community Reference Group



Meeting:	Mordialloc Freeway - Community Reference Group
Location:	Mordialloc Freeway Project Office Online – Zoom Meeting
Date and Time:	Tuesday 27 April – 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Attendees:	CRG Members: Jon Garrard, Peter Wain, Margaret Hunter, Ken Carney, Frank Pitinga, Michael Poulakakis MRPV Representatives: Luke Minton, Sam Doyle, Daniel Kollmorgen McDDJV: Michael Di Carlo, Nicole Ekert, Richard Craze, Mel Doolan MPs: Tim Richardson MP, Member for Mordialloc
Apologies:	CRG Members: Andy Hawkes, Mitchell Blood MPs: Meng Heang Tak MP, Martin Pakula MP
Chair / Secretary:	Chair: Nicola Wass, RPS Assistant: Laura Browning, RPS
Meeting Contact:	Luke Minton – 1800 105 105

Actions from Meeting #5

#	Action	Owner	Due	Status
1.	Investigate if flooding issues on Old Dandenong Road and Centre Dandenong Road are related to Project works	MRPV/ MCDDJV	27 April	Closed
2.	Provide information on the Project’s sustainability initiatives in the Project’s monthly updates	MRPV	27 April	Closed
3.	Provide an update on all submissions on the Project’s partnership and legacy opportunities	MRPV	27 April	Closed

Agenda items – Meeting #6

#	Description	Presenter
1	<p>Introduction and Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nicola welcomed the members and recognised Traditional Owners through Acknowledgement of Country Nicola refreshed the group on the meeting's house rules Nicola outlined the purpose and agenda for Meeting 6. 	Nicola Wass
2	<p>Updates on Actions from Meeting #5</p> <p>Luke Minton and Sam Doyle provided an update on the questions and actions from Meeting 5</p> <p>Meeting 5 Action #1 – Investigate if flooding issues on Old Dandenong Road and Centre Dandenong Road are related to Project works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Luke confirmed that the issues are not related to Project works and that the feedback has been passed onto the Department of Transport <p>Meeting 5 Action #2 - Provide information on the Project's sustainability initiatives in the Project's monthly updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Luke confirmed that a one-page summary was shared with the CRG members <p>Meeting 5 Action #3 - Provide an update on all submissions on the Project's partnership and legacy opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sam advised an update would be shared during the meeting with notes included in the one-page summary sent out to members following the meeting. 	Nicola Wass
3	<p>Social procurement</p> <p>Richard Craze provided an update on the Project's social procurement and inclusion achievements since starting construction</p> <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> From October 2019 to April 2021, the Project has spent almost \$10 million with Aboriginal businesses and social enterprises during construction The Project has provided 39,522 hours of employment to Victorians facing barriers to employment, including people with disabilities, refugees, long term unemployed and displaced workers The Project has created 38,309 hours of employment for Aboriginal people through direct hire, apprenticeships, traineeships and through subcontractor partnerships The Project has contributed to increasing the skilled labour force for future major projects in Victoria by generating 58,191 hours for apprentices, trainees and cadets The Project has achieved 148% of its Aboriginal Employment Target, and 815% of the target for Disadvantaged Worker Employment Social procurement partners include Geared Up Culcha, Nadrasca, Cooee Café, YMCA ReBuild, Indigenous Beverages Australia, Waddi Springs, Clean Force, Kulbardi, Ability Works, Yarra Contracting, Waverley Industries, Heart 2 Heart, Indigi-Print, Outlook, Cable Containment Services, GOAL Indigenous Services and GOAL VTEC, Nerdu Badji Education, Little Rocket, Max Employment, Career Seekers, Veterans in Construction, and Kinaway Chamber of Commerce 7.9% of the Major Project Skills Target (10%) has been met, with forecasts indicating the target will be met by the conclusion of the Project 	Richard Craze

- The Project has engaged and maintained relationships with all three Traditional Owner groups in the Project area, including the Boon Wurrung, Bunarong and Wurundjeri Traditional Owners
 - A Smoking Ceremony and Welcome to Country was conducted by representatives of these Traditional Owner groups prior to beginning construction in late-2019
 - In a first for major projects, Acknowledgement of Country signs have been included at all at entry points to the Project site and offices
 - A 'Wominjeka' welcome sign was designed and produced by Little Rocket for the MCDDJV's office
 - Cultural Understanding work was undertaken with Adam Magennis from the Boon Wurrung Language group
 - Mentoring and cultural strengthening training was delivered by Nerdu Badji Education
 - Profits from the Project's vending machines contributed to the local Indigenous Chamber (Kinaway) through a partnership between Coca Cola and First Australians Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FACCI)

Sam commented that the presentation demonstrates how many procurement opportunities there are on major projects like the Mordialloc Freeway Project to engage social enterprises. He noted that the number of examples included in the presentation is a testament to what a comprehensive job the MCDDJV social procurement team has done to date.

Discussion:

- A member asked if this information will be shared with the public and how. He expressed that the social procurement achievements are fantastic and should be shared with the public so they can feel a sense of pride in the Project
 - Luke confirmed that the information will be included in promotional materials like photography and video content shared on social media, in news stories on the website and in construction updates
- A member repeated Richard's comment that Indigenous people did not settle in the Project area and asked for more historical information about the movements and settlements of local Traditional Owners
 - Richard noted that the information about Aboriginal movements and settlement can be found on the Traditional Owners' websites
- Nicola asked whether these achievements and activities will be followed up and imitated by other projects
 - Richard confirmed that other projects have reached out for advice, contacts and information for social procurement programs, which is a testament to the great work of the Mordialloc Freeway Project
- Tim Richardson noted the Victorian Government belief that investing in major projects like this one has ancillary benefits for the community. Tim said he will take notes from Richard's presentation back to the Minister for Transport Infrastructure. He asked what some of the lessons learned have been from the social procurement program
 - Richard informed the group that the key lessons learned were to keep talking about social procurement and educate people on what it means, and to think of the activities as necessary engagements and necessary benefits rather than targets, with the focus on making sure the benefits reach the community in the way the community needs. Richard noted that there were some points during the program where it fell behind, and the team had to think about what was required to get back on track
- Tim complimented the program for securing skilled migrants and asylum seekers as a resource, and for the employment opportunities provided to veterans.

Project snapshot

What have you been hearing?

Nicola asked members about the key feedback and concerns they have heard from their communities about the Project.

- Tim commented that the underpass event was phenomenal. He complimented the Smoking Ceremony and noted surprise at the number of people who attended the event and wanted to hear from MRPV. Tim noted that he is seeing positive sentiment about the Project in the community
- A member noted concerns about construction sites where there is light spill and confirmed he has noted these concerns in the past
- A member received a note from the Residents Association about trucks damaging local roads as they work on the Freeway. Of particular concern was a pothole that has developed on Springvale road
 - Luke confirmed the pothole was fixed on Friday night
 - Sam noted that issues like these are fixed quickly when Luke and the team are informed about them
- A member noted that their Group emailed Luke with some enquiries about the type of vegetation being planted and received some information. The member also asked whether some funds from the vegetation offset program could be channelled into Braeside Park
 - Daniel confirmed that there is a vegetation offset program and that offsets have been acquired from Devilbend Reservoir in Tuerong.

What have we been doing?

Key points:

- Michael presented aerial drone video footage of the full Project alignment and talked through key construction progress
- A member asked if there is provision in the bridges and roads for them to be widened in the future
 - Michael responded that they have been constructed with provision to be widened at a later stage if necessary
- A member asked if the shared walking and cycling paths sit on one side of the Project or both
 - Michael responded that the shared walking and cycling path runs behind the properties in Dingley Village and along Braeside Park before crossing to the other side near Bowen Parkway and running behind the properties in Aspendale Gardens
- Sam asked how much has changed since the drone footage being presented, with Michael noting that dramatic changes have been made in the two weeks since the drone footage was taken
- A member asked if part of the Waterways bridge supports will be under water when the Project concludes
 - Daniel confirmed that at the conclusion of the Project, the temporary working platform will be removed from the Waterways wetlands
- Logs set aside during vegetation clearing have been placed into the Braeside Park wetlands as habitat for wildlife. Nicole confirmed that the habitat is now being used by wildlife
- Nicole is working with Parks Victoria to build a bird hide near the Braeside Park wetlands. Weather permitting, the slabs for the base will go in by end of next week and then the hides will be built
 - Margaret noted that the Friends of Braeside Park are also working with Parks Victoria on this
 - A member requested that a map identifying the location of the bird hide be sent to the group

Nicola Wass

Michael Di Carlo

Nicole Ekert

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sam provided a summary of the Building Roads and Bridges event held at Southland Shopping Centre from Monday 5 April to Sunday 11 April <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sam noted the event was highly successful and presented a great opportunity to talk to parents about updates on the Freeway ○ Sam described that kids were excited by the construction toys and he saw the event as a great opportunity to inspire young people to think about a career in construction ○ Sam noted that many parents had heard about the Freeway but didn't know what the Project was about, so it presented an opportunity to fill in information gaps ○ Other projects in the area and across the state are interested in rolling out similar events in the future. <p>High level construction lookahead</p> <p>Nicole provided an update on upcoming disruptions, which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closure of Centre Dandenong Road between Boundary Road and Tootal Road from 6am – 9am on Saturday 1 May, with detours in place • Closure of left-hand lane on Centre Dandenong Road west of Boundary Road from 7am Monday 3 May until 6pm Friday 4 June, meaning traffic will turn left from the middle lane • Noise wall installation began on 26 April and will continue until complete for the whole alignment (where planned). This may include some localised piling noise • The Waterways beam lifts continuing until late-May. 	
5	<p>Partnership and legacy opportunities</p> <p>What have we been doing?</p> <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luke noted that the information on partnership activities will be included in the one-page summary sent to the Group following the meeting • Sam thanked the members of the group for the feedback they gathered and reminded them that these opportunities would all be in addition to the Project scope, so have required conversations with key stakeholders and asset owners • Sam confirmed that he has been working with local council and the Department of Transport and has progressed an artwork opportunity for the pedestrian underpass at Park Way and Braeside Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussions have included Parks Victoria, Friends of Braeside Park, City of Kingston and Traditional Owners to determine the themes for this artwork • Sam advised that they have been able to progress this opportunity, as it sits within the Project area and has maintenance benefits by reducing the likelihood of graffiti • Other opportunities raised by the CRG have been raised with Council, however are unable to be progressed with as part of the Project for a number of reasons, including additional consultation that would need to be undertaken, additional maintenance costs, timing, environmental and logistical considerations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sam noted that residents who would like to push for an off-leash dog park should provide this feedback to the City of Kingston for consideration in the 2022 Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) • Some partnership items are still being worked through, including a community planting day. <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A member requested the Braeside Park Precinct Plan be updated while waiting for the partnership opportunities to come through 	Sam Doyle

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A member asked if South East Water or Melbourne Water have responded to the request for the purple pipe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Daniel responded that the request is being taken seriously by the Council and Project but that further funding is required for it to progress ○ Daniel noted that there are opportunities for it to be placed under the shared walking and cycling path when the funding and timing is right ○ A member added that community members are also pushing for it to be included in Kingston’s planning documents • A member asked if drinking taps are included along the shared walking and cycling path <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sam confirmed that there are two included • A member requested an update on the vegetation planting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Michael confirmed that the crews are preparing for planting works in some parts of the northern section of the Project. A lot of the garden beds have been staked out for positioning so plants can go straight in ○ Luke added that planning for a community planting day is underway. 	
6	<p>Other business</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sam noted that it was great for the group to meet in person, and that there are three meetings left • Sam requested a show of interest for doing a site tour for one of the meetings in September or October <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Group registered strong interest in doing a site visit, with preference for a weekend, and enough lead time to plan for it ○ Sam noted the site visit will need to be during the day for visibility and safety reasons • A member raised a Facebook discussion he noticed about whether the Freeway will be finished before December or earlier <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Luke responded the Project will be complete by the end of 2021 • A member asked if the Project has lost much time due to weather <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Daniel responded that the Project’s timeline is in line with the adverse weather plans included in the MCDDJV’s tender submission • A member asked whether there will be a community day before the Freeway opens <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sam confirmed there is a lot of work being done to develop a plan for a community day and that the CRG will get some more information on this in future meetings ○ Tim noted that there was 1500 people at the opening of Carrum station so that indicates a lot of interest in the community to celebrate those who have supported, worked on, or lobbied for the Project 	Nicola Wass
7	<p>Next Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members did not request a specific presentation topic for the next meeting 	Nicola Wass



Actions from Meeting #6 –

#	Action	Owner	Due	Status
1.	Provide information about the location of the bird hide being installed in Braeside Park	MCDDJV	Thursday 24 June	Open
2.	Provide a one-page summary document on the partnership developments	MRPV	Tuesday 11 May	Open
3.	Provide information about a possible site tour during one of the remaining three CRG meetings	MRPV	Thursday 24 June	Open

Next meeting: Thursday 24 June 2021

