

MEETING MINUTES

Subject	Community Liaison Group (north) meeting		
Venue	Watsonia Library	Date	7 December 2018
		Time	10am – 12noon
Chair	Mike Marasco		
Minute Taker	Chris Soderstrom	Tel	1800 105 105
		Email	Comms.adviserthree@northeastlink.vic.gov.au

Attendees

Mike Marasco (Chair)
 Michael Wickerson (North East Link)
 Kim Jordan (North East Link)
 Michael Crossman (North East Link)
 Malcolm Short (North East Link)
 Chris Soderstrom (North East Link)
 Melissa Anderson (North East Link)
 Melanie Clarke (North East Link)
 Charlie Sivaratnam (North East Link)
 Allan Hunter (Watsonia)
 Fred Buono (Yallambie)
 Hesham Mobarek (Watsonia Traders' Association)
 Gabrielle Callahan (Macleod)
 Dennis O'Connell (Friends of Banyule)
 Zoe Cassar (Resolve Rosanna Road)
 Michelle Giovas (Warringal Conservation Society)
 David Bailey (City of Banyule)
 Mahesh Kaudal (VicRoads)

Apologies

David Hall (Greensborough)
 Michael Girdler (Watsonia)
 Johanna Tabares (Watsonia)
 Jonathan Risby (Nillumbik)

ACTIONS as at (21/12/2018)

#	Action	Owner	Due
1	Provide information about the sites of the air quality monitoring sites	CS	With minutes
2	Provide minutes and presentation to the CLG group	CS	With minutes
3	Community Liaison Group members to send completed revised Code of Conduct forms to Gemma or Chris	ALL	ASAP

MINUTES

1 Introduction, Mike Marasco

- MM opened the meeting and introduced the presenters Michael Crossman and Malcolm Short from North East Link to the CLG.
 - Asked attendees to complete the revised Code of Conduct and return to Gemma Boucher as soon as possible.
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2 Technical Reference Group update, Michael Crossman

- MC began by outlining the status of the Environment Effects Statement (EES) to the CLG.
- Provided information on technical reports already presented to the Technical Reference Group.
- Contextualised the structure and contents of the EES and sections included.
- Updated the CLG on work done with the Wurundjeri and showed the matrix linking the EES, Cultural Heritage Management Plan, Urban Design Strategy and mapping of cultural values.
- Provided predicted timeframes of the EES: public exhibition, the public inquiry, planning approvals and commencement of construction.

In response to a number of questions:

- NELA will provide information about the location of air quality monitoring stations (GC).
 - NELA is working with the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to ensure compliance with current and future legislation where possible. The EPA is a member of the Technical Reference Group and thus has thorough knowledge of the project.
 - The EES Panel hearing is likely to begin around July 2019 and go for about five weeks. DELWP runs the process with panel members selected from Planning Panels Victoria. NELA is the project proponent (DO).
 - NELA is still working on the Cultural Heritage Management Plan. Banyule Council is one of many stakeholders providing input where applicable (MG).
 - The EES will assess the reference design. Any modifications made by tenderers must still comply with the Environmental Performance Requirements (EPRs) (FB).
 - If any 'problems' are identified with the reference design during the assessment, recommendations could be made by the panel, but the reference design won't need to be amended because it's effectively only a brief for tenderers. The EES is reviewed by the TRG and specialists as it is being drafted. It is reviewed by the Minister before it is exhibited (DO).
 - The final design must comply with EPRs. It must be consistent with the study area and the impact assessments completed or it could require a supplementary EES. Such drastic changes would cause major delays and be unappealing when choosing prospective tenderers. The eventual design won't require sign off from the community
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as doing so is not part of the process. However, other major projects have discussed significant modifications with the community (FB).

3 Constructability, Malcolm Short

- MS outlined the purpose of his discussion – to provide an overview of construction techniques and likely types of construction used for the project in the north area.
- Outlined early works that are going to happen for the project, in advance of the main works.
- Described, with the aid of typical photos, the following:
 - Elevated ramp interchanges
 - Different trench and cut and cover walling methods – bored piles with shotcrete infill, diaphragm walls
 - Hurstbridge line rail works
 - Different tunnel excavation equipment - road header, tunnel boring machines
 - Explained how cross passages are constructed and fire and life safety regulations about them
 - Spoke about the fit-out that occurs with the tunnels when they are completed, support sites and logistics

In response to a number of questions:

- NELA has a separate contract to manage early works from the main body of work (MG).
 - Work on the main section of NEL (the tunnels) through a Public Private Partnership (PPP) would likely begin in 2021 (GC).
 - Soil on land bridges would be one to two metres in depth, meaning vegetation planted on them would be modest (FB).
 - Safety is a key consideration of the Urban Design Strategy, which is an appendix to the EES - lighting on land bridges will be to requirements and standards (ZC, MG).
 - Work on the Hurstbridge rail line and underpass will form part of a secondary package. Procurement for this will occur separately. (FB)
 - Works proposed on Greensborough Highway would mean that it would need to be diverted to allow the Northeast Link works to be undertaken. The number of lanes would not be changed during this process. (HM).
 - Spoil during TBM excavation goes out behind the TBM (i.e. towards where the machine was launched). Movement of trucks carrying spoil will be carefully managed to minimise impacts on the project corridor (FB).
 - Truck curfews are not likely to be reduced along Rosanna Road during construction and Rosanna Road will not be used as a route for transporting spoil (ZC).
 - The minimum distance from the top of the tunnel to the surface in the reference design is 15 metres with a maximum of about 40 metres (FB).
 - Flood protection is a big consideration. The tunnel will have a deluge (very large fire sprinkler) system like most tunnels around Australia, which will be tested as required to comply with standards. Most road water runoff will go to the sewer after collection and treatment (ZC).
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- There are usually no problems with the opening and closing of pedestrian emergency doors related to air pressure in the tunnel system (FB).
 - The reference design uses road header machines rather than TBMs for the tunnel south of Manningham interchange for logistical reasons (e.g. time and effort to relaunch a TBM in a new site), but tenderers may have different views (FB).
 - The tenderer will determine the size of any spoil shed and where it will be located (FB).
 - Impacts from the TBM for residential areas is likely to be minimal, but noise is more likely to be noticeable than vibration. However, as the machine would progress 10 metres each day it would pass particular areas quite fast (FB).
 - Ventilation structures could be around 40 metres high based on EES studies (FB).
 - The project is likely to use large amounts of concrete during construction. As the carbon dioxide is emitted during cement production, how will this be monitored? The greenhouse gas technical report for the EES found that concrete is a significant contributor to the overall carbon footprint of the project. As such, targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and material life cycle impacts, such as concrete, are to be established. The EPRs will require the development of a Sustainability Management Plan. The plan will describe how the contractors will meet these sustainability targets. The contractors will be required to monitor and report on their performance against these targets on a regular basis (GC).
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4 CLG reporting, Kim Jordan

- KJ spoke about the opportunity for Community Liaison Groups to provide a report for tenderers, so they understand the issues and opportunities we've been discussing this year. The report could also include separate documents that reflect the views of organisations some members represent.
- Noted NELA could help prepare material and help with formatting etc, but that the report would be as agreed among the CLG members.
- Suggested a framework to use for the report and welcomed feedback from the group. Also, suggested ways of presenting concerns and opportunities.
- Outlined the project objectives and guiding principles which could guide what is in this report.
- Provided an indicative timeline for preparing the report.

In response to final questions:

- There are various places on the North East Link website that gives details about stages of the project and timings, particularly in relation to the next phases.
 - There was some discussion about whether the community feel their input is being heard by NELA. Fred Buono said that he would like more reassurance from North East Link to the community that their input is valued and worthwhile in the upcoming EES Panel stage. Some suggestions for providing reassurance included more prominent information on the website about timing and activities; ads or advertorials in local newspapers.
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5 Next steps and close, Mike Marasco

- MM thanked the speakers and the group for their contributions.
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- North East Link will be in contact with the CLG about scheduling of meetings for next year.
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