

Meeting Minutes

CLG (North)

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| Date | 28/06/2019 | Time | 10:00am - 12:00pm |
| Chair | Mike Marasco | Minute taker | Erin McPherson |
| Location | North East Link Hub, 17 Watsonia Road, Watsonia | | |

Attendees

| Attendees | | Apologies | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Name | Organisation | Name | Organisation |
| Mike Marasco | Chair | Dennis O'Connell | Friends of Banyule |
| Erin McPherson | North East Link | | |
| Kevin Begg | North East Link | | |
| Kim Jordan | North East Link | | |
| Noel Treacy | North East Link | | |
| Toni Clarke | North East Link | | |
| Hannah Johnson | North East Link | | |
| Fred Buono | Community Representative | | |
| Jeremy Richards | Business Representative | | |
| Gabrielle Callaghan | Business Representative | | |
| Allan Hunter | Community Representative | | |
| Michelle Giovas | Warringal Conservation Society | | |
| Michael Girdler | Community Representative | | |
| Paul Bellis | Banyule Council | | |
| Mahesh Kaudul | VicRoads | | |

Actions – previous

| No. | Action | Owner | Due | Status | Update |
|-----|-----------------|-------|---------------|--------|--------|
| | No open actions | | [Select date] | | |

Key discussion points/decisions

| Owner | Agenda |
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| Mike Marasco, Chair | <p>Welcome and Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike Marasco (MM) welcomed the group to the meeting • MM raised the Banyule Council Urban Ethos report • Paul Bellis (PB) from Banyule Council confirmed there is a report and it was jointly funded by NELP and Banyule Council • The content of the report has been provided as a briefing to Council however has not been formally considered, it won't be released until it has been endorsed by Council. They are still looking to progress this • MM asked if the report would become available soon • PB noted he didn't have a clear line of sight, but the intention is to progress it soon • Jeremy Richards (JR) noted his frustrations through the process and believes the report should be provided to both the public and North East Link to help deliver best outcomes for the Watsonia Shopping precinct • Noel Treacy (NT) from NELP are aware of the ideas that have been put forward and are ensuring that the project does not preclude any future design improvements in the area • A report like this would require further consultation and public engagement as well as council endorsement to be fully considered. • Kim Jordan (KJ) noted that there a further process the report would need to go through in terms of consultation to be endorsed by council and released to the public • Gabrielle Callahan (GC) asked if the data room was a possibility, if the report wasn't available to the public would there be potential for it to be made available to bidders • NT noted if a report was approved and endorsed by Council there would be a process for it to go into the data room |
| Noel Treacy, NELP | <p>EES and Planning Panels update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NT spoke about the EES process and gave an update on dates and timelines • NT discussed the directions hearing and what was covered, noting some CLG members may have attended • The Directions Hearing was about setting the timeframes and the scope of conversations, understanding the parties involved and what the process is • NT advised we will refer to the panel as the IAC - the Inquiry and Advisory Committee • The terms of reference are available on the Engage Victoria website, this is an important document as the IAC and the Panel Hearings are guided by this |

| Owner | Agenda |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NT noted we have received approximately 850 submissions, which is a high volume of information to read through • NELPs focus currently is the Directions Hearings and responding to IAC enquiries • The Panel Hearings will begin on Thursday 25 July and will be approximately a six to seven-week process • JR asked if he needs to provide his presentation to the IAC prior to his presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – NT advised presentation materials should be provided to the panel prior • NT advised the group that the point of the hearings is to emphasise things to further support your own submission • Michelle Giovas added that an audio recording of each day of panel will be posted online <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – NT confirmed we are still waiting to receive the timetable, this will be posted to the engage Victoria website soon • Following the hearings, the IAC will have around five weeks to prepare their report to then be submitted to the minister for planning. The IAC report and the minister for Planning assessment will become public at the same time • GC asked what is the EPBC referral process and how is this aligned • NT noted the PER has been published to our website, all comments have been received and the process is now responding to submissions. There isn't a public hearing process, but this needs to happen concurrently to the IAC • NT confirmed the PER is a concurrent process to the EES. In other situations, this has been completed as one process, however the scale of this project requires the processes to be separate • Fred Buono (FB) asked what happens if one approval is granted but not the other • NT confirmed NELP would keep working until we had approvals, main works can't happen until approvals are granted, however minor works like service relocations do not require these approvals • FB asked how the project can know what to relocate until the design is finalised • NT commented that there are several utilities that would need to be moved regardless of design as well as sporting relocation works. |
| Kevin Begg, NELP | <p>Urban Design Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kevin Begg (KB) from NELP introduced himself and his role in developing the Urban Design Strategy for the project • KB described the UDS and where it fits into the EES process • KB noted the UDS is a design brief for tenders bidding on the project. It is a performance-based document and isn't prescriptive to encourage innovation in design • The reference design is one way to achieve key technical requirements • PB asked what the extent of consultation would be on the final design of the project • PB clarified and asked if there was a process of secondary consent for example could the council report fit into this stage of design • NT noted as soon as there was a council approved and endorsed document this could be used to help guide design |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GC asked if NELP could confirm that for example if there were three different designs from different contractors, NELP would be able to take the best parts of design from each and incorporate them • NT confirmed that through the bidding process there is commercial agreement to allow NELP rights to design, this also forms part of the reason why unsuccessful bidders can claim losses • FB asked if there was any kind of public consultation that will take place when bidders are developing their designs • KB noted that it is unlikely, this forms part of the reason why the project consulted so heavily on the UDS so that the consultation is already completed • KB discussed the foreword from Wurundjeri and what this means in ensuring they are embedded into the design process and hold a key role in helping to guide urban design outcomes • PB asked if Wurundjeri will be involved in developing design • KB confirmed that yes, they will and will be consulted by bidders along the way • KB noted section 2.1 of the UDS lists key documents tenderers need to read, need to refer to and need to ensure they have addressed through their design • There are 8 principles and objectives based on Federal and State policy • KB discussed key directions and how these have been influenced by consultation and what this means for the final design. For example, key direction 2. Support a natural and connected corridor - Natural referencing the environment the project falls with and ensuring it is specific to the area. Connectedness works on several levels, such as improving connections across communities, connectedness to place etc. • Key direction 3. Culture - references the identity of the local area and local culture the project is moving through. For example, Heide is part of the culture in the Bulleen area, then of course Wurundjeri are another. • KB noted the state has a history of poor proactive involvement with Wurundjeri, where they haven't been consulted when they should have. In this case, the State, largely driven by the Birrarung act (2017) have really put an emphasis on Wurundjeri having a seat at the table. • There have been several workshops and walks on country for example to ensure traditional knowledge is brought into the project • FB asked if this was something the community could be a part of to capture community knowledge etc • KJ added it is more out of respect to traditional owners. Involvement with community would more likely be in the form of robust briefing notes to bidders • KB acknowledged that the driver experience does also need to be considered in design and the UDS addresses this • The second tier of the UDS is site specific and gives more specific information into the design without precluding changes in design • GC asked about car parks at Watsonia Station and how the Urban design may address preserving the ridgeline • KB noted that the UDS wouldn't say to for example put the carpark underground, it would say 'safeguard views' • The UDS is about responding to functionality • KB noted the final tier of the UDS are detailed requirements and qualitative bench marks, where we might say we want it to be a high-quality bridge, the pictures provided in the document are there to provide clear direction on this • The UDS is a tool to communicate the desired design outcomes for the project |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The last part of the UDS is about walking and cycling specifically how we can cater to commuter and recreational cyclists • FB asked if there are any strategies to improve outcomes for commuter cyclists • KB noted there is a focus on grade separations to assist commuters as well as alternatives to shared use paths, dedicated cycling paths • KB spoke about walking and cycling bridges and what this looks like. He touched on underpasses and ensuring this accommodates and provides a safe alternative • KB discussed construction impacts and what a lot of the submissions have focussed on and how UDS might mitigate the negative construction impacts and maintain functionality • FB asked about the tender process and if bidders will be asked to cover the maintenance of landscape and roads etc as legacy • NT said we would take this question regarding the commercial implications of contracts on notice |
| Mike Marasco, Chair | <p>Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MM raised Community Liaison Group meetings during panel, with our next meeting likely to fall during NELPs presentation • MM noted that there is also the need to ensure the process remains independent and can run its course • MM asked the group if it would be better to postpone CLG until the completion of the Panel hearings • The group confirmed they had no issues with this if communication between the project and community stayed open • Erin McPherson (EM) noted she can provide updates during the panel where appropriate and is happy to help answer any process related questions where appropriate |

Actions – new

| No. | Action | Owner | Due | Status | Update |
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| 1 | Erin to send out Panel Hearings timetable when available on Engage Victoria website | Erin McPherson (EM) | 4/07/2019 | COMPLETE | EM sent an email to CLG directing them to Engage VIC website where the timetable and further Panel Information was available |

Additional information

N/A

