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Interim Minutes – General Meeting
6:15pm Wednesday, 1 March 2023
By Zoom
Chair: Cr Jonathon Marsden

1. Welcome and introduction

The meeting commenced with an acknowledgement of country.

Present:

Cr Tom Melican	City of Banyule
Henry Lee	City of Bayside
David Logan	City of Darebin
Cr Tony Athanasopoulos	City of Glen Eira
Saskia Noakes	City of Glen Eira
Cr Jonathon Marsden	City of Hobsons Bay
Augustus Brown	City of Hobsons Bay
Cr Jodi Jackson	City of Hume
Tim de Ruitjer	City of Hume
Cr Steve Staikos	City of Kingston
Cr Anna Chen	City of Manningham
Daniele Ranieri	City of Manningham
Cr Bernadette Thomas	City of Maribyrnong
Peter White	City of Maribyrnong
Richard Smithers	City of Melbourne
Bhavin Mehta	City of Melton
Michael Smith	City of Melton
Simon Stainsby	City of Merri-bek
Sandra Worsnop	City of Monash
Damir Agic	City of Moonee Valley
Cr Antonella Celi	Shire of Mornington Peninsula
Cr Richard Stockman	Shire of Nillumbik
Lawrence Seyers	Shire of Nillumbik

Nellie Montague	City of Port Phillip
Douglas Rowland	City of Stonnington
Cr Amanda McNeill	City of Whitehorse
Russell Tricker	City of Whittlesea
Cr Susan McIntyre	City of Wyndham
Melissa Falkenberg	City of Wyndham
Philip Mallis	City of Yarra
Associates	
David Stosser	PMP Urbanists
Geoff Oulton	MAV
Raj Ramalingam	DPT
MTF	
Jane Waldock	MTF

Guests

Leo Gifford	Metro Trains
Francis Tevere	Metro Trains
Rob Hill	Metro Trains

Apologies

Lord Mayor Sally Capp –Melbourne	John Bartels – Port Phillip
Cr Simon Crawford – Maribyrnong	Greg Day – MTF
Cr Victor Franco – Boroondara	Ross Evans – Monash
Cr Jim Magee – Glen Eira	Kris Kasmawan – Merri-bek
Cr Geoff Paine – Nillumbik	Elias Lebbos– Travellers Aid
Cr Hadi Saab – Kingston	
Cr Sarah Race – Mornington Peninsula	

2. Acceptance of Minutes of previous meeting

MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 1 February 2023 be adopted.

Proposed: Ms Melissa Falkenberg

Seconded: Cr Richard Stockman

The motion was: CARRIED

3. Presentation Rob Hill “Introduction to Metro Trains Operations and Passenger delivery”

Rob Hill, Chief Operating Officer (Interim) of Metro Trains, was the guest speaker at the March meeting.

He provided an overview of the company’s role as the rail operator running metropolitan train services 7 days a week on 15 lines over 998 kilometres of track with 226 six-carriage trains.

Rob’s presentation touched on a number of topics including:

- Strengthening the diversity of Metro’s workforce and offering great career opportunities for everyone;
- Patronage trends, which fell to as low as 10 per cent of pre-pandemic levels, and Metro’s work on encouraging passengers to return to the network;
- Challenges presented by trespassers – an insight into the high cost and impact on service delivery when people improperly gain access to non-passenger areas.

Diversity and inclusion

Rob provided an interesting insight into the 6,700+ workforce and the progress Metro has made towards being a more diverse and inclusive organisation. In 2022, Metro clocked up an Australian first, recruiting its 500th female driver, a number which has now risen to around 530. This is highest number of female drivers on any rail network in Australia. In 2009, there were just 26 women driving trains on Melbourne’s network. Now, women represent 37 per cent of all Metro Trains drivers.

Trespasser impact

Rob also provided an insight into some of the challenges involved in managing a complex rail network, including:

- The large areas of unfenced track which allow access to the rails and rolling stock;
- The high cost and impact on service delivery when people improperly gain access to non-passenger areas.

Taking action to keep our railway, passengers and Metro team members safe include the deployment of drones that capture live footage and identify any trespassers on the rail corridor. Metro is also growing its Network Security and Surveillance team to support trespass management, repeat presenters and people threatening self-harm, protection of rolling stock and protection of infrastructure assets.

Innovation and safety

Rob talked about Metro’s innovation program which included the installation of contactless lifts and safety improvements which are being built into the new metro tunnel infrastructure, such as platform screen doors.

More information about Metro

Metro accepted the invitation to keep in touch and return and present to the MTF again this year.

Visit: [Metro Trains](#)

4. Nomination to Casual Vacancy on 2023 MTF Executive

Cr Bernadette Thomas from Maribyrnong was recommended by the Executive to fill one of the casual vacancies on the 2023 Executive.

MOTION: That Cr Bernadette Thomas be appointed as a general member to the 2023 MTF executive.

Proposed: Cr Jodi Jackson

Seconded: Anna Chen

The motion was: CARRIED

5. Strategic Transport Advocacy

5.1 Advocacy

Ms Jane Waldock provided an update on Mr Day's activity on behalf of MTF:

- MTF has invited Minister for Transport Ben Carroll to attend a future monthly meeting, as is the custom of previous years, potentially for June post State budget
- Also looking for meeting with Roads Minister Melissa Horne, waiting on timing of the meeting with Minister Carroll
- Started planning for exec engagement with key cross benchers, Greens Katherine Copey as their Transport spokesperson, Legalise Cannabis Victoria MLC's and looking for key outer suburban government members as potential transport allies. Suggestions welcome
- Writing to Minister for Transport Ben Carroll about timing of bus review announcements – Greg would appreciate hearing from any council about their expectations / concerns about timing of the reviews

5.2 2023/4 MTF Strategic Action Plan

The Strategic Action Plan was discussed – an amendment was proposed:

- Remove specific examples to ensure actions consider whole of metro Melbourne.
- There was also discussion about some potential activities within the actions which could include:
 - The Bicycle Ambassador following up on previous commitments by the State to achieve 25% active transport by 2030.
 - The Bus Ambassador following up on the State government's objective concerning increasing bus patronage
 - The Tram ambassador to advocate for increased tram services when LXR projects close rail services for extended periods.

MOTION: That the draft 2023-24 Strategic Plan Actions be adopted.

Proposed: Cr Anna Chen

Seconded: Cr Amanda McNeill

The motion was: CARRIED

6. Council Information Sharing

Cr Bernadette Thomas from Maribyrnong, Mr Simon Stainsby from Merri-bek, Mr Lawrence Seyers from Nillumbik, and Ms Nellie Montague from Port Phillip provided updates on transport projects and policies in their municipalities.

Cr Thomas described that Maribyrnong have prepared a submission to Infrastructure Victoria on buses, are currently undertaking road safety audits at six schools, have school focussed work including an Active Path program around schools, and are also working on an Open Street program.

Mr Stainsby reported that Merri-bek are talking to the DoT about the bus reform program – looking to see implementation of actions in the Northern corridor which include Hume, and Darebin. Other activities include:

- Community engagement re sustainable transport in Fawkner
- Negotiations with Vic Track and MTM to renew the licence for the Upfield shared path
- Plans to extend the Upfield shared path to the Ring Road
- Advocacy to duplicate sections of the Upfield line north of Gowry
- Following up on the trial of being able to carry bicycles on carriers at the front of buses which was run 3 years ago.

Mr Seyers described Nillumbik's major transport project – to develop a new Integrated Transport Strategy – which aims to include previous active transport strategies, into a single document. This work is being undertaken by consultants PMP.

Ms Montague described Port Phillip's transport projects which include:

- Development of a new car share policy
- A new parking management policy
- The mid program review of Port Phillip's ITS
- Family E-Bike trials (try before you buy)
- Healthy tacks to school
- St Kilda Road bicycle lane
- E scooter trials.

7. Regular Reports

7.1 Treasurer's report

Please note this includes reports from February 2023 meeting which were held over.

- Treasurer reports from November 2022 and December 2022, and January 2023
- invoices approved by Exec in December 2022, and January and February 2023
 - Yarra Bookkeeping Inv 1457 – Nov bookkeeping \$ 220.00 (inc GST)
 - Yarra Bookkeeping Inv 1481 – Dec bookkeeping \$ 220.00 (inc GST)
 - Yarra Bookkeeping - Inv 1504 – Jan bookkeeping \$ 220.00 (inc GST)
 - JW Urban invoice 202205 – EO services Sep-Oct \$7808.03 (inc GST)
 - JW Urban invoice 202301 – EO services Nov-Dec \$5500.00 (inc GST)
 - JW Urban invoice 202302 - IV Submission \$1320.00 (inc GST)
 - Edunity Invoice 3641 Dec retainer \$ 660.00 (inc GST)
 - Edunity Invoice 3644 web hosting 12 mths \$ 217.25 (inc GST)
 - Edunity Invoice 3645 Feb retainer \$ 660.00 (inc GST)
 - S Oblubek Invoice 343 – audit services \$ 660.00 (inc GST)
 - City of Melbourne – catering – inv 220017835 \$ 116.50 (inc GST)

MOTION: That the Treasurer’s reports for November and December 2022, and January 2023, and invoices approved for payment in January and February 2023 be noted.

Proposed: Cr Amanda McNeill
Seconded: Cr Bernadette Thomas

The motion was: CARRIED

7.2 Upcoming events of interest

MAV/Victoria Walks – Smart Urban Futures – in May – information has been circulated to members

7.3 MAV

Mr Geoff Oulton provided an update on matters at the MAV.

- Kerri Thompson is stepping down as CEO.
- Board elections will commence shortly.
- The new board will appoint the new CEO, acting arrangements will be in place while process is underway.
- Mav and VicHealth will again be partnering – aiming to provide 4 webinars on topics including:
 - Project delivery
 - Getting kids to and from school safely
 - Councillor/community interactions
- The MAV are also working with DTP on a walkable communities’ framework.
- MAV have been doing work pre state budget - noting that the budget is very tight.

7.4 Administration

Nil

8. Correspondence

Nil

9. Up Coming Meeting Topics

Coming General meetings:

- April 2023 – Peter Kartsidimas -Infrastructure Victoria

10. General Business

Nil

11. Meeting closed 8:00 pm