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Minutes – General Meeting  
6:15 pm Wednesday, 5 June 2024  
By Zoom  
Chair: Cr Bernadette Thomas

1. Welcome and introduction

The meeting commenced with an acknowledgement of country.

**Present:**

Chris Phiniefs	City of Bayside
Khan Nguyen	City of Boroondara
Paul Bezemer	City of Brimbank
Kevin DeLeeuw	City of Darebin
Cillian Bell	City of Casey
Isuru Thilakaratne	City of Frankston
Cr Tony Athanasopoulos	City of Glen Eira
Augustus Brown	City of Hobsons Bay
Jillian McQuade	City of Hume
Alex Reid	City of Kingston
Cr Anna Chen	City of Manningham
Emma Steele	City of Manningham
Cr Bernadette Thomas	City of Maribyrnong
Richard Smithers	City of Melbourne
Cr Mark Riley	City of Merri-Bek
Simon Stainsby	City of Merri-Bek
Sandra Worsnop	City of Monash
Cr Sam Byrne	City of Moonee Valley
Damir Agic	City of Moonee Valley
Cr Despi O'Connor	Shire of Mornington Peninsula
Emily Clarke	Shire of Mornington Peninsula
Liz Lambropoulos	Shire of Nillumbik
Karen Roache	City of Port Phillip
Cr Polly Morgan	City of Stonnington

Douglas Rowland	City of Stonnington
Cr Amanda McNeill	City of Whitehorse
Melissa Falkenberg	City of Wyndham
Russell Tricker	City of Whittlesea
Cr Sophie Wade	City of Yarra
<b>Associates</b>	
David Stosser	Urban Transit Solutions
Geoff Oulton	MAV
Tom Dwyer	Amber Organisation
Alison McCormack	Bicycle Network
Knowles Tivendale	Movement and Place
<b>Guest</b>	
Neil France	Infrastructure Victoria
Matthew Raisbeck	Infrastructure Victoria
<b>MTF</b>	
Jane Waldock	MTF
Greg Day	MTF

### Apologies

Councillors	Officers
Cr Richard Stockman – Nillumbik	Ross Evans – Monash
Cr Antonella Celi – Morn Penn	
Cr Victor Franco – Boroondara	
Cr Susanne Newton – Darebin	

## 2. Acceptance of Minutes of 1 May 2024 meeting

The minutes from the 1 May 2024 meeting were adopted.

**MOTION: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 May 2024 be adopted.**

Moved: Ms Melissa Falkenberg

Seconded: Cr Amanda McNeil

**CARRIED**

## 3. Presentation: Mr Neil France and Mr Matthew Raisbeck – Infrastructure Victoria – **Bus Reform Study 2023 – Final Report – Fast, Frequent, Fair**

Mr France and Mr Raisbeck presented the report and recommendations of the year long project undertaken by Infrastructure Victoria in 2023. The report identified four challenges within the current bus network and system, and 10 recommendations to improve the network including: Increasing the frequency of bus services; providing fast and direct routes; extending hours of operation; providing bus priority; and reducing fares relative to other modes.

IV's work particularly identified that considerable improvements could be made in outer suburbs where jobs are mainly located, and found that over 20 years the net benefit to the economy would be \$2billion if the recommendations were implemented.

The community engagement work undertaken as part of the study identified a strong appetite in the community for these improvements, and that that community would be prepared to walk further to bus stops if the service was greatly improved. The report noted that in order to ensure people with accessibility issues were still able to access the network, a community bus network would be required to locally support any revised routes.

The report also noted that a critical element to delivering the improvements now, and into the future would be improve planning for the development of the network as Melbourne continues to grow, and that this should be accompanied by providing funding certainty through growth area funding being allocated to new routes.

It was noted that IV's report is able to be used by members in their advocacy for improved bus services and network operations.

#### 4. Strategic Transport Advocacy

##### 4.1 Accessible Transport

Cr Riley introduced his proposal to establish a transport accessibility advocacy group, and invited members to nominate to join. He explained the starting point would be tram routes, and the scope could also grow to include bus routes. His objective is to get the State Government to commit to rolling out accessible transport, and to develop and deliver a satisfactory plan to meet this commitment. Cr Riley will circulate a motion for consideration at the next general meeting. A copy of his draft paper is attached to these minutes.

##### 4.2 Cycling Infrastructure

Cr Athanasopoulos introduced the topic of improving active transport outcomes from Big Build Projects. He identified that state infrastructure projects (eg NEL, LXP, and SRL) can provide a mechanism for improving active transport infrastructure as part of the work scope, however, too often these opportunities are not realised as project boundaries are too tightly drawn. Cr Athanasopoulos proposed developing a list of LXP and other Big Build projects that are expected to commence in the next 2-3 years. Members are invited to contact Cr Athanasopoulos as the first step. Discussion noted that engaging with DTP is recommended, and Bicycle Network also have similar objectives, and would like to participate in any group.

##### 4.3 – EV Seminar

Mr Day advised that the EV seminar subcommittee continues planning for the next webinars. Two 2 hour webinars will be planned; one for 4 wheel matters in August and one for 2 wheel matters in September.

The August webinar is expected to be held on 22 August.

## 5. Council Information Sharing

### Manningham

Ms Steele provided a comprehensive overview of transport policy and infrastructure projects in Manningham. These include significant works associated with NEL, SRL and buses. Projects include interchanges at The Pines and Westfield; two new bridges over the Yarra for active transport connections; temporary bus routes to mimic the SRL route to build transport patronage; and improvements to route 907. Manningham is also working on EV infrastructure, its road safety strategy, a car share trial, and the duplication of Templestowe Road.

### Kingston

Mr Reid noted the highlights of transport projects currently underway in Kingston, with major Big Build projects including SRL, and LXP. Kingston is also progressing its EV policy and infrastructure, accessibility, and is working on its LATM Policy and Wayfinding Guidelines.

## 6. Ambassador's report – Trams – Cr Susanne Newton

Refer to Cr Riley's advocacy proposal (Section 4.1).

## 7. Regular Reports

### 7.1 Treasurer's report

The April 2024 Treasurer report was presented.

The following invoices approved by Exec in May 2024

- Yarra Bookkeeping - Inv 1935 – April bookkeeping \$ 242.00 (inc GST)
- JWUrban – Invoice 202403 – MTF Secretariat services \$ 5885.00 (inc GST)

**MOTION: That the Treasurer's reports for April 2024, and 2 invoices approved by Executive for payment in May 2024 be noted.**

Proposed: Cr Amanda McNeill  
Seconded: Cr Mark Riley **CARRIED**

### 7.2 Upcoming events of interest

Nil

### 7.3 MAV

Due to limited time remaining in the meeting, Mr Geoff Oulton referred members to his transport update email which includes (among other matters) the following:

- [Net Zero Transport and Infrastructure Roadmap](#) is out for public consultation until 26 July 2024. MAV would welcome input or copies of submissions from any councils.
- [Victorian-freight-plan-update](#) is also out for consultation until 30 June 2024. MAV is in discussions with Freight Victoria to run some local government specific information sessions and will provide further information once arrangements are settled.

- [Upcoming Austroad webinars](#) include topics such as ‘Increasing Active Transport Mode share’, ‘[Infrastructure Interventions to Increase Active Transport – Most Effective Approaches](#)’, ‘[Webinar: Policy and Other Non-Infrastructure Measures to Increase Active Transport Mode Share](#)’, ‘How to Design Cities for Women and Girls’, and ‘gender Sensitive Urban Design guidelines’
- [Plan Victoria](#) consultation continues
- [MAV walking-and-bike-riding-resource-hub](#) has been updated with a Victoria Walks resource for councils.
- [Free-trial-of-road-safety-intelligence-toolkit-for-all-councils](#) is available from National Transport and Research Organisation but only until 30 June 2024.

## 8. Correspondence

Nil.

## 9. Up Coming Meeting Topics

July – Decarbonising Transport.

August – Committee for Melbourne

## 10. General Business

Nil

## 11. Meeting closed 8:00 pm