

February 2025 Meeting Report

This is a brief summary of our most recent meeting which can be shared with colleague councillors, and tabled at council meetings.

[2025 Look Ahead](#)

2025 is looking to be another big year of transport projects. The re-elected Labor government approached the election with significant transport items in its promises, and part of the MTF's activities is to see how these projects are delivered. As a group whose membership covers the political spectrum, we are keen to promote the strong contribution that local government can make in the delivery of excellent transport outcomes when we are genuinely included in the process.

We have many first time councillors appointed as member delegates for 2025. We are looking forward to sharing and working with them all.

[MTF Strategic Actions for 2025-26](#)

Members are invited to nominate transport actions from their own Council Plans which can be used to inform the strategic actions for the MTF. These might be policy, advocacy, or research ideas. Please let the EO know.

[February Speaker – Tricia Malowney – Chief Accessibility Advocate - PTV](#)

Ms Malowney spoke about her observations and reflections from her recent Churchill Fellowship tour.

Her report focusses on the key barriers facing people with disabilities in five countries: UK, Republic of Ireland, France, USA and Canada and provides a narrative comparison to the Victorian experience. She travelled by bus, train, streetcar (tram), bus, taxi/uber and ferry and visited a variety of transport hubs, including multi-modal hubs and transport precincts.

Tricia is keen to help councils as they work to improve transport outcomes for all members of their communities.

[2025 Executive Elections](#)

February is the month when the executive is elected. There are eight positions.

The results of this year's election are:

- Chair: Cr Bernadette Thomas (Maribyrnong)
- Deputy Chair: Cr Alex Makin (Port Phillip)
- Secretary: Ms Melissa Falkenberg (Wyndham)
- Treasurer: Mr Ross Evans (Monash)
- General positions:
 - Cr Anna Chen (Manningham)
 - Cr Lucy Nguyen (Brimbank)
 - Cr Sophie Wade (Yarra)
 - Mr Simon Stainsby (Merri-bek)

Congratulations on your election!

The six Ambassador roles (Accessibility, Buses, Cycling, Trams, Trains and Walking) will be considered once we have our new strategic action plan.

[Next meeting – March 2025.](#)

The next MTF meeting will be on Wednesday 5 March 2025. Dr Ben Rossiter from Victoria Walks will be our speaker.

Placeholder invitations have been sent to all members. More detailed papers will be sent prior to the meeting.

We welcome your interest and comments, please contact us on mtf@mtf.org.au