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Minutes – General Meeting
6:15 pm Wednesday, 5 February 2025
By Zoom and in person at the City of Melbourne Large
Common Room
Chair: Ms Jane Waldock

1. Welcome and introduction

The meeting commenced with an acknowledgement of country.
New delegates to the MTF were warmly welcomed by the Chair.

Present:

Note: Not all members have appointed their Councillor delegates.

Cr Alicia Curry	City of Banyule
Cr Matt Wood	City of Banyule
Michelle Herbert	City of Banyule
Cr Geoff Leigh	City of Bayside
Chris Phiniefs	City of Bayside
Cr Lucy Nguyen	City of Brimbank
Paul Bezemer	City of Brimbank
Cr Virginia Tachos	City of Brimbank
Cr Michael Nolan	City of Boroondara
Anitha Ajay	City of Casey
Cr Ruth Jelley	City of Darebin
Allan Middlemast	City of Darebin
Kevin Deleeuw	City of Darebin
Cr Arabella Daniel	City of Glen Eira
Cr Kay Rimbardo	City of Glen Eira
Bivish Ghimire	City of Hobsons Bay
Alexander Leung	City of Hume
Cr Tony Athanasopoulos	City of Kingston
Alex Reid	City of Kingston
Emma Steele	City of Manningham

Peter White	City of Maribyrnong
Augustus Brown	City of Melbourne
Cr John Verdon	City of Melton
Cr Liz Irvin	City of Merri-bek
Simon Stainsby	City of Merri-bek
Ross Evans	City of Monash
Sandra Worsnop	City of Monash
Cr Phil Burn	City of Moonee Valley
Alex Kearney	City of Moonee Valley
Hayden Chan	City of Moonee Valley
Cr Stephen Batty	Shire of Mornington Peninsula
Peter Bourlotos	Shire of Mornington Peninsula
Cr Kay McKay	Shire of Nillumbik
Arashdeep Singh	City of Whittlesea
Catherine Thwaites	City of Whittlesea
Melissa Falkenberg	City of Wyndham
Cr Sophie Wade	City of Yarra
Guests	
Ms Tricia Malowney	PTV
Associates	
Geoff Oulton	MAV
David Stosser	Urban Transit Solutions
Tom Dwyer	Amber Organisation
Knowles Tivendale	Movement and Place
Angela Mejia	Movement and Place
MTF	
Jane Waldock	MTF

Apologies

Cr Rick Garotti – Banyule	Khan Nguyen – Boroondara
Cr Alison Champion – Banyule	Abir Chowdhury – Casey
Cr Caroline white – Kingston	Vanessa Petrie – Darebin
Cr Anna Chen – Manningham	Tim deRuitjer – Hume
Cr Bernadette Thomas – Maribyrnong	Sasha Sheko – Melbourne
Cr Rafael Camillo – Melbourne	Liz Lambropoulos – Nillumbik
Cr Stuart James – Monash	Chris Hui – Whitehorse
Cr Jarrod Gunn – Whitehorse	Russel Tricker – Whittlesea
Cr Kieran Simpson – Whitehorse	

Cr Mia Shaw – Wyndham	
Cr Alex Makin – Port Phillip	
Greg Day – MTF	Harry Boyle – Metro Trains
	Luisiana Paganelli– Ballarat

2. Elections

The EO conducted the elections for the 2025 MTF Executive. Nominations received in advance of the meeting were as follows:

- Chair – Cr Bernadette Thomas
- Deputy Chair – Cr Alex Makin
- Secretary – Ms Melissa Falkenberg
- Treasurer – Mr Ross Evans
- General member – Cr Anna Chen
- General member – Mr Simon Stainsby.

Nominations from people attending the meeting were as follows:

- General member – Cr Lucy Nguyen
- General member – Cr Sophie Wade.

All nominations were endorsed by proposers and seconders.

As the nominations did not exceed the number of vacancies all candidates were declared successful.

3. Acceptance of Minutes of 6 November 2024 meeting

The minutes from the 5 December 2024 meeting were adopted.

MOTION: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2024 be adopted.

Moved: Ms Melissa Falkenberg

Seconded: Mr Simon Stainsby

CARRIED

4. Presentation: Ms Tricia Malowney – Chief Accessibility Advocate - PTV

Ms Malowney introduced her presentation with her objective of amplifying the voices of people with disability.

She strongly recommended that people view the TED talk delivered by her late friend Stella Young - see link:

https://www.ted.com/talks/stella_young_i_m_not_your_inspiration_thank_you_very_much

Ms Malowney then provided a whistle stop tour through her experiences as a Churchill scholarship holder, where she visited Asia, Europe and North America observing the variety of accessible transport features which have been included in new projects, and upgrading of old infrastructure.

Link to Ms Malowney's report:

<https://www.churchilltrust.com.au/project/the-rodney-warmington-estate-churchill-fellowship-to-assess-international-best-practice-for-end-to-end-transport-opportunities-for-disabled-people/>

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.

Ms Malowney also walked a considerable distance on her crutches, as she wanted to walk from place to place, to experience what it was like to travel between transport hubs, and how difficult it was to access train stations, and to access the stops.

Her reflections on her 77 day investigation include:

- Everyone is working towards universal access;
- There are many ways of being inclusive;
- Disruptions are dealt with differently in different places;
- Information is essential to everyone - timely and universal. Wayfinding really needs to be included in any disability discussion;
- Everyone except us is using a form of segregated transport;
- E-bike parking is everywhere in every city;
- Scooters are an issue almost everywhere; and
- Food delivery bicycles are everywhere as well, and they are also a nuisance.

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

5. Strategic Transport Advocacy

Ms Waldock provided an overview of the 2023-24 MTF Strategic Action Plan, and invited members to think about what actions they wished to see in the 2025-26 plan. The discussion considered sections A (for Active) and B (for Buses). The value of having actions which reflected member's council plans was noted, and that members can contact the EO as ideas occur to them.

Members raised the following points as potentially important parts of a new plan:

- the potential to prioritise projects on the basis of lifting equity (upgrading least serviced areas ahead of well serviced areas);
- reviewing the effectiveness of transport infrastructure projects;
- reviewing the impacts that new infrastructure has had (eg trenched LXP works separating communities)

The EO advised members of the accessibility advocacy policies adopted by some members in 2024, and noted that a similar approach could be developed for improving delivery of important cycling routes.

The EO also advised members of the Ambassador positions which cover the following portfolios: Trams, Trains, Buses, Walking, Cycling and Accessibility. Councillor delegates were invited to consider nominating for the roles.

Cr Leigh recommended that the MTF should identify 4-6 things as its main objectives.

6. Council Information Sharing

No reports were sought this month.

Starting April:, Banyule, Bayside, Boroondara and Brimbank.

7. Regular reports

7.1 – Treasurer’s Reports

The Executive Officer presented the Treasurer’s report for December 2024.

The following invoices approved by Exec in December 2024 and January 2025 were noted:

- Yarra Bookkeeping Inv 2166 – December bookkeeping \$330.00 (inc GST)
- Edunity – Invoice 3669 – Sep-Dec services \$1,320.00 (inc GST)
- Yarra Bookkeeping Inv 2190 – January bookkeeping \$ 330.00 (inc GST)
- JW Urban invoice 202501 – EO services Nov-Dec \$ 8,823.53 (inc GST)

MOTION: That the Treasurer’s report for December 2024, and 4 invoices approved by the Executive for payment in December 2024 and January 2025 be noted.

Moved: Mr Ross Evans

Seconded: Cr Lucy Nguyen

CARRIED

7.2 MAV

Mr Oulton will be finishing at the MAV later this month.
His updates have been greatly appreciated at our meetings.

His most recent email update covered current transport related issues and included:

Building community support for safer speed limits

Victoria Walks, [Common Cause Australia](#) and MAV are collaborating to develop a toolkit for councils on public communications, to support the introduction of 30 and 40 km/h speed limits. You are invited to a **free webinar** to launch the Toolkit at **10.30-11.30am on Thursday 13 March**.

The MAV will present findings from the project, suggested communication approaches and specific messaging that has proven to be very effective in public focus groups and a representative survey of 2,258 people in Victoria.

Presenters:

- Eleanor Glenn, Director Common Cause Australia – survey results, messaging tips and how to respond to objections
- Duane Burt, Principal Policy Advisor, Victoria Walks – tactical approaches to build public support

Please register via this link by 11 March - [Communicating for safer speeds Tickets, Thu, Mar 13, 2025 at 11:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

[The Road-safety-action-plan-2](#) has been released by the Victorian government in the new year. it includes an action to update the Speed Zoning Guidelines and includes feedback from local government and the public as part of that process.

MAV - there will be a change in support for transport and infrastructure related services. I will be leaving MAV during February 2025 and want to personally thank you all for the engagement and support over the past almost five years.

If you want to contact MAV, please use the transport@mav.asn.au email address and one of the team will be in touch.

7.3 Administration

Please let the EO know as soon as delegates are decided, so that calendar placeholders for the monthly meetings can be sent to the correct people.

8. Correspondence

The City of Port Philip has written requesting we consider a change in meeting night.

9. Up Coming Meeting Topics

2025

March – Dr Ben Rossiter - Victoria Walks -

Melbourne Airport Corporation – Airport Rail – TBC

June – George Konstanopoulos – DTP – Director Bus Planning

Suggestions raised at the meeting:

Noise walls on freeways - varying standards depending on whether project is retrofit or new.

Air quality around roads was also identified as an issue.

10. General Business

Members were advised that they would be consulted on a request that a change in the regular meeting date be considered. It has been proposed that meetings be held on either the 2nd or 4th Wednesday of the month. Please look out for an email and advise. The Executive will consider the results and report back at a future meeting.

Book recommendation (from David Stosser) - <https://www.penguin.com.au/books/how-the-railways-will-fix-the-future-9781915672483>

11. Meeting closed 7:51 pm