

April 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.

[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.

[2025 Ambassador Positions](#)

Four councillors were appointed to Ambassador roles:

- Bus - Cr Anna Chen (Manningham)
- Trams – Cr Alex Makin (Port Phillip)
- Cycling – Cr Ruth Jelley (Darebin)
- Walking – Cr Sophie Wade (Yarra)

Congratulations to our 2025 Ambassadors! The Trains and Access roles remain open.

[April Speaker – Dr Vicki Kotsirilos – Doctors for the Environment – Traffic Related Air Pollution.](#)

Dr Kotsirilos provided a comprehensive presentation on traffic related air pollution (TRAP). She described the sources; urban environment hot spots; current safe levels; health risks; susceptible groups; and proximity considerations.

She noted that pollution has a far greater impact on children than adults, as they are closer to exhaust pipes, and have a higher lung surface area to body mass ratio. Elderly people are also more vulnerable as they often have pre-existing conditions. She referenced the increased number of cases of asthma and lung cancer (even in non smokers) – linking this to ambient air pollution conditions caused by traffic.

Dr Kotsirilos advocated for the following broad actions:

- Reduce the number of cars on the road – by building improved rail networks, and fast trains;
- Switch to electric vehicles;
- Consider passing “Anti-Idle” laws to require drivers to turn off their engines when waiting in some locations – especially around schools; <https://www.idleoff.com.au>
- Increase the distance between drop off/pick up areas and vulnerable users such as child care centres and schools;
- Plant more trees;

11 actions were also recommended for councils to consider – refer to the April minutes.

[Council Information Sharing](#)

Banyule, Bayside, and Brimbank provided overviews of their transport work.

Next month: Boroondara, Casey, Darebin and Glen Eira

[IV Draft Report](#)

Members are reminded that submissions are invited for the Infrastructure Victoria’s draft 30 year infrastructure Strategy. Submissions close 28 April 2025.

[Next meeting – May 2025.](#)

The next MTF meeting will be on Wednesday 7 May 2025. We hope to have a speaker on SRL.

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