

September 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.

Briefing by Minister Williams – 21 August

Minister for Transport Infrastructure, and Public and Active Transport, the Hon Gabrielle Williams presented to MTF members on 21st August. This was a member only event. The Minister covered the wide range of transport initiatives included in the 2025/26 State Budget, and responded to questions from members on such matters as implementing bus reform, the program to deliver DDA compliance.

2024/25 AGM

This was a double meeting, allowing members to conduct necessary AGM business such as approval of the Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2024/25, and fees for 2026/27. It also set the meeting dates for 2026, which will alternate between the first and second Wednesdays of the month.

September Speaker: Dr Luisiana Paginelli – The role of Micromobility as a Transport Mode in Regional Victoria.

Dr Paginelli, Transport Planner at the City of Ballarat, provided a detailed analysis of the role of E-Scooters in Ballarat. Ballarat was the only regional city included in the trial.

The trial allowed for: analysis of the designated E-Scooter area – it was expanded in 2022 during the trial; the use of designated parking spaces – to address scooters being poorly placed; the fee level for use of the E-Scooters; and in 2024, the legalisation of privately owned scooters. The detailed analysis showed that E-Scooters were well used in newly developed areas, and were used to complement the bus services – the scooters extended the accessibility of the existing bus services.

The analysis also showed that while it had been theorised that people would swap from pedestrian and motor vehicle mode to using the E-Scooters, the majority of mode shift was from walking to scooting.

Dr Paginelli also identified the following learnings from the trial:

- Behaviour issues between pedestrians and Scooter users – especially on shared paths;
- Users were often not clear on the rules for using the mode;
- The perception that the E-Scooters are “toys”;
- The need for clearly marked E-Scooter parking areas; and
- How to provide access equity.

Council Information Sharing

This month we heard from Melton, Merri-bek, Moonee Valley and Nillumbik.

Next meeting – 1st October 2025.

The next MTF meeting will be on Wednesday 1st October 2025 held on-line. Our speaker will be Amy's Foundation (formerly the Amy Gillet Foundation). Amy's Foundation aim to improve relationships between motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians, enhancing safety through advocacy, education, law, technology, and infrastructure improvements. Placeholder invitations have been sent to members. More detailed papers will be sent prior to the meeting.

Correction to August briefing note

For those interested in the VAMPIRE (Vulnerability Indices for Mortgage, Petroleum and Inflation Risks and Expenditure) analysis, a program which is hosted by the Australian Urban Observatory at RMIT the correct link is www.auo.org.au.

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