

February 2026 Meeting Report

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

[2026 Look Ahead](#)

2026 is looking to be another big year of transport projects. And of course, it is an election year. Much of our work this year will be around ensuring that transport issues remain high on policy platforms for all candidates in the lead up to November 2028.

[2026 Town Hall Meetings - EOI](#)

In 2026, MTF is planning to host a marquee forum in the CBD followed by five metropolitan town hall forums ideally with one located in each of the five metro upper house regions.

Expressions of Interest close on Friday 6 March to enable planning to start in April for events in the July – September period. Email EOI to mtf@mtf.org.au

[February Speaker – Mr Edward Martin – Melbourne Airport Corporation - Head of Public Affairs for Government & Policy](#)

Mr Martin presented to members on developments at the airport. He spoke briefly about the Airport Rail project, noting that Ms Merren McArthur was appointed as Chair of the Airport Rail Link Steering Committee in June 2025. Mr Martin noted that only three bus services currently serve the airport, and there is strong support from MAC in extending services to Sunbury and other northern communities, particularly for the airport's 23,000 employees.

Mr Martin presented on the airport's third runway development and rail status. The third runway, will double passenger capacity to 76 million by 2042 and increase aircraft movements to 90 per hour.

Mr Martin discussed several key airport developments. A community health study is being

planned, with terms of reference drafted by Prof Catherine Bennett and Prof Ben Cave for monitoring health impacts of aircraft noise over 20 years.

[2026 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 Ruth Jelley (Darebin)
 - Cr Brandi Morris (Melton)
 - Cr Liz Irvin (Merri-bek)

Congratulations on your election!

Four of the six MTF Ambassador roles (Buses, Cycling, Trams, and Walking) were filled during 2025.

Interest is welcomed from delegates in these or the Accessibility and Train roles.

[Next meeting – March 2026 – Transport Advocacy](#)

The next MTF meeting will be on Wednesday 11 March 2026. **Please come ready to discuss your council's three transport advocacy objectives.** This meeting will be explore advocacy collaboration opportunities. 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