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Minutes – General Meeting
6:15 pm Wednesday, 4 February 2026
By Zoom
Chair: Cr Bernadette Thomas

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:

Chris Phiniefs	City of Bayside
Joh Bauch	City of Brimbank
Paul Bezemer	City of Brimbank
Khan Nguyen	City of Boroondara
Cr Kim Ross	City of Casey
Anitha Ajay	City of Casey
Cr Ruth Jelley	City of Darebin
Cr Kay Rimbardo	City of Glen Eira
Ed Zhao	City of Glen Eira
Tim DeRuitjer	City of Hobsons Bay
Cr Daniel English	City of Hume
Alex Reid	City of Kingston
Cr Anna Chen	City of Manningham
Nicoletta Kormas	City of Manningham
Cr Bernadette Thomas	City of Maribyrnong
Augustus Brown	City of Melbourne
Cr Brandi Morris	City of Melton
Michael Smith	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
Damir Agic	City of Moonee Valley
Karen Roache	City of Port Phillip
Jon Liston	City of Port Phillip
Cr Kate Roper	Shire of Mornington Peninsula
Peter Bourlotos	Shire of Mornington Peninsula
Cr Daniel Griffiths	City of Whitehorse
Tomas Lightbody	City of Yarra
Guests	
Mr Ed Martin	Melbourne Airport Corporation
Associates	
Sarah Pilgrim	Victoria Walks
Alison McCormack	Bicycle Network
David Stosser	Urban Transit Solutions
Tom Dwyer	Amber Organisation
Knowles Tivendale	Movement and Place
Finlay Ester	Movement and Place
Claire Huggins	Eukai
Luisiana Paginelli	City of Ballarat
MTF	
Jane Waldock	MTF
Greg Day	MTF

Apologies

Cr Alex Makin – Port Phillip	Kevin deLeeuw – Darebin
Cr Paddy Keys–Macpherson – Hobsons Bay	Melissa Falkenberg – Wyndham
Cr Max Haddon – Mornington Peninsula	
Cr Anthony Walker – Casey	
Cr Phil Burn – Moonee Valley	

2. Elections

The EO conducted the elections for the 2026 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 – Cr Ruth Jelley

- General Member – Cr Brandi Morris
- General member – Cr Liz Irvin.

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 3 December 2025 meeting](#)

The minutes from the 3 December 2025 meeting were adopted.

MOTION: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2025 be adopted.

Moved: Cr Ruth Jelley

Seconded: Cr Brandi Morris

CARRIED

4. [Presentation: Mr Ed Martin – Melbourne Airport Corporation](#)

[Melbourne Airport Third Runway Plan](#)

Ed Martin from Melbourne Airport Corporation presented on the airport's third runway development and rail status. He explained that the third runway, approved by the federal government in 2024, will double passenger capacity to 76 million by 2042 and increase aircraft movements to 90 per hour. Ed outlined the conditions for approval, including a noise sharing plan for off-peak runway operations and a noise amelioration plan offering double glazing for 700-800 eligible dwellings within ANEF 25. The airport is conducting consultations on both plans, with the noise amelioration program requiring 70% of opt-in residents to have noise reduction measures installed by 2031.

Ed explained that the airport's future plans involve a dual parallel one-way runway system rather than a fourth east-west runway. He advised that the \$17 billion in funding of the new runway project will be funded from investment by industry super funds, with costs recovered through passenger charges.

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.

[Airport Developments and Health Study](#)

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. The Eastern Extension project involves shortening and relocating part of the east-west runway to accommodate a third runway, with works to be completed before 2031.

Melbourne Airport Rail is progressing with an MOU between federal and state governments. The airport is also implementing the Naarm Way express link project and upgrading Terminal 2, while a new baggage system and improved amenities are being installed across all terminals.

Ed 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.

2026 State Budget Submission

Mr Martin noted that the Melbourne Airport Commission had made a submission to the 2026 State Budget.

5. Strategic Transport Advocacy

5.1 2026 Town Hall series

Mr Day explained the format for the upcoming Town Hall Fora:

Since 2010, MTF has arranged nearly 50 pre-election town hall transport forums hosted largely by member councils. 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 EO to mtf@mtf.org.au

In your EO, please address the following

Suggested venue and chair

Suggested electorate and/or issues that may influence voters

Evidence that this forum would attract community interest

Infrastructure to support the event including accessibility, audio tech, event staff and communications support

For more information, call Greg Day 0418 345 829

Link to details <https://bit.ly/mtfhost26> (copy attached to the minutes)

5.2 2026 Research

Ms Waldock advised on the research works being undertaken by Movement and Place. She will advise members of three tentative dates for information sessions about the research.

5.3 2026 Bus Forum

Ms Waldock noted that it is planned to hold a Bus Forum this year, and that a potential speaker could be Mr Andy Korr of DTP on the Transition to Electric Buses project.

5.4 Advocacy Discussion

Ms Waldock advised that an advocacy discussion will be held in mid February with various organisations, focusing on collaboration and joint advocacy efforts ahead of the state election. A verbal report will be made to the March meeting.

6. Council Information Sharing

No reports were presented this month.

7. Ambassador (and other) reports

The EO reminded members of ambassador roles, and noted that the MTF has been invited to attend the Vulnerable Road User forum organised by DTP, which will take place in early March. Cr Sophie Wade (as Walking Ambassador) will attend on behalf of the MTF. If members are also attending the VRU forum, please advise the EO – who will circulate attending names to other members.

Cr Jelley Ruth (Cycling Ambassador) noted the meeting papers included a DTP fact sheet regarding the ban on converted e-bikes on public transport, which includes social media collateral for councils to use.

Cr Anna Chen (Bus Ambassador) encouraged councils involved in the North Eastern Bus Network Review to push for more bus review efficacy work, particularly in the northeastern suburbs.

Ms Pilgrim (Victoria Walks) shared Victoria Walks' analysis of VISTA data and a new safer speeds messaging toolkit.

<https://www.victoriawalks.org.au/speed-communication/>

Mr Bowen (PTUA) Daniel provided an update on the Metro Tunnel's full opening and resulting changes to train lines.

Ms McCormack (Bicycle Network) highlighted Bicycle Network's annual bike counts on March 3rd and their advocacy efforts for increased infrastructure funding. 53 councils across Australia are participating. A feature will be the collection of rider gender information. If interested in volunteering with count go to:

<https://bicyclenetwork.com.au/newsroom/2026/02/06/count-bikes-this-super-tuesday-2026/>

Ms McCormack was invited to present findings of the 2026 counts at a future meeting.

Mr Stainsby presented on Merri-bek's trial of home street-to-vehicle electric vehicle charging for terrace houses.

8. Regular reports

8.1 – Treasurer's Reports

The Treasurer presented the Treasurer's report for December 2025.

The following invoices approved by Exec in December 2025 and January 2026 were noted:

- Yarra Bookkeeping Inv 2494 – December bookkeeping \$ 385.00 (inc GST)
- Yarra Bookkeeping Inv 25090 – January bookkeeping \$ 385.00 (inc GST)
- JW Urban invoice 202601 – EO services Nov-Dec \$ 8076.25 (inc GST)

MOTION: That the Treasurer's report for December 2025, and 3 invoices approved by the Executive for payment in December 2025 and January 2026 be noted.

Moved: Mr Ross Evans

Seconded: Mr Damir Agic

CARRIED

8.2 Upcoming events

- Bicycle Network's annual bike counts on March 3rd – see Bicycle network web site to volunteer:

9. Correspondence

DTP advise concerning Converted Electric Bikes on trains (circulated with agenda).

10. Up Coming Meeting Topics

2026

11 March – Advocacy meeting – members please come along with your top three transport advocacy objectives – members will self allocate to transport mode breakout rooms, with the aim of identifying opportunities for mutual collaboration and support. Advocacy groups will also be invited to attend.

1 April - Prof Simon Kingham – Canterbury University - the impact of the urban environment on wellbeing, with a specific focus on transport

11. General Business

Nil

12. Meeting closed 7:45 pm

DRAFT