

Inner West Air Quality Community Reference Group

Meeting 4

Minutes

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| Date | Monday 29 April 2019 | |
| Time | 6pm – 8.45pm | |
| Location | Footscray Town Hall, Footscray | |
| Chair | Patsy Toop OAM (PT) | |
| Members | Adam Fletcher (AF) Alexandra Damasoliotis (AD) Bert Boere (BB) Christine Harris (CH) Clare Sheppard (CS) Geoffrey Mitchelmore OAM (GM) Ian Butterworth (IB) | Keith Loveridge (KL) Kristen Gilbert (KG) Louise Keramaris (LKe) Narelle Wilson (NW) Steven Curry (SC) Valerie Dripps (VD) |
| Apologies | Chris Dunlevy (CD) | Monika Pilekic (MP) |
| Absent | Rod Boyd (RB) | |
| Guest speakers | Dr Cathy Wilkinson – CEO, EPA (CW) Dan Hunt – Regional Manager, EPA (DH) Tim Eaton – Executive Director, EPA (TE) | |
| Guest MPs | The Hon Melissa Horne , Member for Williamstown Katie Hall , Member for Footscray Jessica Bartik , Advisor to Tim Watts, Federal Member for Gellibrand | |
| Secretariat (DELWP) | Lana Kovac (LKo) | Kim Daly (KD) |

Agenda items, minutes, and actions

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| 1 | Welcome, acknowledgement of Traditional Owners, and introduction of MPs |
| 2 | Meet & Greet session with MPs Informal meet & greet. |
| 3 | Group discussion GM advised the group that he had compiled a list of issues that have arisen so far, as a starting point for identifying recommendations that can then be prioritised. KD to circulate digital copy to group. The group discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methodologies for the writing of the report, including progressive drafting of chapters over coming months • Methodologies for prioritising recommendations. • CS suggested putting together communications materials such as a presentation for delivering the recommendations as well as the report. |

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| | <p>AF expressed desire to speak to the West Gate Tunnel Authority (WGTA) regarding the timescales and costs involved with adding filtration to the tunnel stacks.</p> <p>LKe suggested the group consider engaging with the community (e.g. community forum) once there is a draft report, before it's finalised. This is in line with the principles of co-design and Environmental Justice.</p> | |
| | Action 1: Secretariat to circulate document that has been put together by GM. | Owner: KD |
| | Action 2: Secretariat to draft methodologies for further discussion at next meeting. | Owner: KD |
| | Action 3: Secretariat to speak to WGTA about speaking to the group at a future meeting. | Owner: KD |
| 4 | <p>EPA presentations and Q&As</p> <p>CW presented on the role of the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), the new Environment Protection Amendment Act 2018 (legislation that will come into effect on 1 July 2020), and the EPA's shift in paradigm to a more preventative model that seeks to prevent pollution before it occurs. CW noted that the subordinate legislation, including regulations and Environmental Reference Standards, are currently under development and will be released for public consultation mid-2019.</p> <p>DH presented on the number and types of pollution reports the EPA has received from the inner west in 2018 and 2019, as well as EPA inspection and investigation activities in the area. The presentation also covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Brooklyn Dust Action Plan • Resource Recovery Audit Taskforce • West Footscray/Tottenham fire recovery • Compliance priorities for FY19-20 <p>TE presented on the EPA's approach to infrastructure, including the West Gate Tunnel Project (WGTP), and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EPA's involvement with the Environmental Effects Statement for the WGTP • The reasoning behind the decision to not include tunnel filtration, which included the height of the stacks as well as the velocity the gases will be leaving them <p>Group members put questions to each of the guest speakers throughout the course of their presentations. The EPA also welcomed follow up questions that the group may have.</p> | |
| | Action 4: CRG members to send further questions to the Secretariat for follow up with the EPA. | Owner: All |
| 5 | <p>Group discussion of EPA presentation</p> <p>Due to time constraints and the depth of discussion had during the EPA's presentations and Q&As session, further group discussion was not required.</p> | |
| 6 | <p>Forward plan</p> <p>Members submitted their notes from the meeting to be collated and circulated by the Secretariat.</p> | |
| | Action 5: Secretariat to collate and circulate meeting notes from members. | Owner: KD |
| 7 | <p>Any other business</p> <p>CH outlined an opportunity to acquire some wearable air quality monitors that members could use to gather some data from high-risk (with regard to air quality) spots, e.g. childcare centres on main roads.</p> <p>CH identified a desire to have better understanding of world's best practice in improving air quality in cities to inform the CRG final report. This may be through a relevant speaker on the topic or by another means.</p> | |
| | Action 6: CH to contact group offering the air quality monitors to confirm interest. | Owner: CH |