
This record is provided as a summary of the questions asked by members of the public during Public Question Time at a meeting of the Yarra City Council. This summary includes the names of questioners, the subject matter of questions, the person providing a response and whether or not an answer was provided. An audio recording of the Council Meeting (including Public Question Time) is available on Council's website for twelve months following the meeting. **If a question is taken on notice, any response provided after the meeting is included here in red text.**

7.1 Mr Andrew Cartledge - Streamlining Hoddle Street: Proposed changes to Wellington Street and Blanche Street, Cremorne

Question:

The VicRoads Streamlining Hoddle Street project, proposes a Continues Flow (CFI) intersection to be constructed at the Swan Street and Punt Road intersection in Richmond.

As part of this intersection a Tram Superstop is also proposed on Swan Street (east side) some 100m from Richmond Station with a raised dedicated tram line running east down Swan Street.

It is this raised tram line section along Swan Street that will significantly limit access to some 200 residents in Wellington Street, Huckerbury Street and Blanche Street in Cremorne.

This raised tram line section will not provide for a right hand turn to be made into Wellington St, as such significantly limiting access when traveling east along Swan St from the city and both north and south along Punt Road when turning into Swan Street.

Access to this precinct and these 3 streets (Wellington, Huckerbury, Blanche) can only be achieved from entering off Swan Street.

VicRoads proposed future access to Wellington Street and in turn Huckerbury and Blanche will only be achieved through a left hand turn going west along Swan Street – towards the city.

The VicRoads proposal drastically fails to address adequate access to these streets, precinct and community; home to some 200 residences – 400 plus residents.

To date VicRoads level of communication and response has been completely unacceptable. While VicRoads undertook an initial community consultation process in November, 2017 very limited engagement has occurred since and no formal response to objections has been received.

I am seeking Yarra Councils assistance to facilitate an acceptable outcome with VicRoads for the residents of this precinct and proposed that a clearway be created on Swan St, through the raised tram lines at road level, on the alignment to Wellington Street to allow for right hand turns into/out of Wellington Street to occur as currently exists now. This will provide adequate access these residents deserve and to that; what is currently provided to them.

Response:

The Mayor advised that he would continue advocating the matter with the Minister.

Councillor Searle advised that there has been a lack in communication between VicRoads and residents; a particular letter that he saw was never sent to residents.

Councillor Searle then asked the relevant officer about what involvement with VicRoads Council officers have had in relation to the matter.

Assistant Director Planning and Place Making advised that officers have been in contact with VicRoads since the project started. Officers have urged VicRoads to have an information/consultation session with the community and have continued to urge them.

Following a road safety audit from VicRoads the recommendations were that it be a left in and left out arrangement.

Councillor Jolly suggested that the Mayor and CEO meet with the Local Member to advocate on behalf of the community in Cremorne.

7.2 Ms Renay Burke - Yarra Energy Foundation

Question:

I have just moved to the City of Yarra and have heard that they have a Yarra Energy Foundation. How are its goals and offerings different to the Moreland Energy Foundation, the proposed Darebin Energy Foundation and the Melbourne Sustainability Fund?

Response:

The Mayor read out the above question on behalf of the resident that was not in attendance.

Councillor Searle advised although he couldn't provide any information relating to the Moreland and Darebin Foundations or Melbourne's Sustainability Fund, as one of the board members of YEF that he would be happy to speak with Ms Burke. Information is also available on the YEF website as well as some information on Council's annual report.

7.3 Ms Michelle Zwagerman - Graffiti

Question:

Is there an evaluation of the existing Graffiti Management Plan as the answer I received was no but working on one which is confusing because if you don't, how will you know if the policy will work?

Response:

The Mayor advised that strategies to reduce graffiti are being worked on and would be happy to receive any information from Ms Zwagerman on what she thinks the key indicators would be.

Councillor McEvoy advised that the current framework is not finished and extensive data has been collected and evaluation so far of this current framework and the trial that Ms Zwagerman attended recently is part of the existing framework. We haven't received a final report because the new process of the framework hasn't started. The Director City Works and Assets advised when the framework was created 4 years ago an evaluation was not part of it, however part of the new framework will. Data has been collected regarding improvements, costs etc.

