

New Youth Justice Centre

Summary of Community Advisory Group Meeting Three

Meeting details

Meeting title:	Community Advisory Group	No:	3
Date:	Monday, 14 August 2017	Time:	4pm to 5.20pm
Location:	106 Duncans Road, Werribee		

Attendees

Community Advisory Group Members: Justin Giddings (Chair), Barbara McLure, Marisa Berton, Lisa Heinrichs, Kim McAliney, Walter Villagonzalo, Peter Maynard, Natalie Walker, John Menegazzo, Richard Wittmack, Len Norman, Peter Ewer and Garry Jackson.

Other attendees: Louise Baring.

Apologies

Martin Allison

Meeting overview

Opening

The meeting was opened by the Chair who thanked members for attending and in particular for attending the Little River community information session on July 24.

Changes to the Community Advisory Group membership

Resignation- Annette Vickery, the Chair of the Regional Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee for West Metro resigned from the CAG due other commitments. She spoke very highly of the group and would like to be included on focus groups if possible, but can't commit further time to the CAG. Further nominations are being sought.

Little River representation

Les Sanderson has submitted an application for the CAG Little River representation. He is currently overseas and returning on September 4.

Les is a Werribee resident however he is heavily involved in the Little River community and grew up in Little River

It was noted he has built very strong relationships within the Little River community and has demonstrated deep knowledge of the community

Key achievements include;

- member of the Wyndham City Rural District Advisory Board which aims to bridge the communication gap between Council and the local community
- Awarded the Little River Lions Club Community Award in 2016.
- The Community Advisory Group endorsed Les's appointment.

The department will progress his application for formal sign off by the Minister.

Community Feedback

- Community Advisory Group members discussed feedback from the local community.
- Concern and question from community if there were any records of the Orange-bellied Parrots on the site. The department confirmed there are no previous records of Orange-bellied Parrots on the site, which reflects the lack of coastal saltmarsh vegetation that is typically utilised by this species when over-wintering in Victoria.
- Question from community was raised if the centre located on wetlands protected by the Ramsar Convention. The department confirmed the land on which the new Youth Justice Centre is being built does not contain any ecological values typically associated with a Ramsar site such as wetlands, shorelines or important habitat for migratory species.
- There is an ephemeral or seasonal wetland to the south of where the centre is being built, known as Paul and Belfrages Swamp. These are not within the portion of land being purchased from Melbourne Water for the new centre, and will not be impacted by the project. Melbourne Water will continue to manage and protect this area. The project is required to obtain State and Federal environmental approvals prior to construction.
- The department said they would ensure these questions were incorporated in Frequently Asked Questions for the community.
- Little River CFA were curious about the number of alarms on site. They will be the 'first-responders' rather than the Werribee CFA. They are aware of the number of call-outs that the Lara CFA receives to go to their local prisons.
- Historical society attended are keen to see the Little River railway station be developed into a café and perhaps become a stopping point on a 'bike trail' and to have a coffee stop. They also discussed the opportunity to have youths assist in the café and develop their cooking/hospitality skills.
- A number of people were concerned with the 'bad element' visitors. Heard from Lara residents about the rise in car thefts when the prison opened.
- There are community members who would like more information on;
 - Traffic management- including roads, shuttle bus service information, road access and the Little River bridge
 - Visitor access
 - View and visual impacts including lighting and environmental impacts.
- The Community Advisory Group suggested that another Community Information session be held for Werribee residents and a location that is suitable for Westleigh Gardens residents.
- The Group suggested the next meeting (September 11) a community information session is held after at the Melbourne Water Discovery Centre, which is close to Westleigh Gardens.

The department said it would organise promotion of the event and organise external guests such as VicRoads and Transport for Victoria to attend to help support community information.

Update on the project

The Department of Justice and Regulation provided an update on key project activity, including:

Key appointments

- Appointment of lead architect (principal consultant) and the security consultant are in the final procurement stages. Both of these consultants will be involved in the design of the centre.
- Once finalised and the procurement process has been completed they will be invited to attend the Community Advisory Group to discuss the design principals they will be designing to. They will also be developing the masterplan for the site which will be shown to the Community Advisory Group once it has been documented.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

- The standard assessment and subsequent standard assessment meeting have been completed
- The onsite complex assessment (subsurface site testing) is scheduled for later this year from the 2 to 6 of October 2017

Planning amendment

- Notification to surrounding residents (2km radius) will be sent informing them of the rezoning of land to special use. A copy of the planning documentation will be available to those that wish to see it.
- It was suggested that reference to the Youth Justice Centre Facility
- Members requested a copy of the residential letter drop for the Planning Scheme Amendment to be sent to them for information.

Environmental surveys

- The spiny rice flower targeted survey has been completed and is not detected on the site.
- to start and the tiles have been marked out for the legless lizard surveys that will take place later in the year.

Economic opportunities for City of Wyndham

- Economic opportunities for City of Wyndham were discussed and how the community can benefit from job opportunities available during construction etc. The Industry Capability Network process was explained and the Council reinforced that they are keen to ensure community and local businesses are aware of how they can register for the process.

The Youth Justice Centre Facility Plan

- The department outlined the development of the Youth Justice Centre Facility Plan and the process for consultation. The plan is a key document that outlines how issues are being addressed and the proposed plan for the build of the new centre.
- There was robust discussion on the consultation with community, as the plan itself will not be adjusted after community feedback but any community feedback or concern will be incorporated and addressed in the form of an attachment to then be submitted to the Minister.

- There was robust discussion on if the department should release it to the public if it wasn't going to change or if it could be released in sections prior to its public release.
- The department outlined the Plan is the most significant document for the community as it is the one document that addresses all community concern. It was also reiterated to the CAG that it is their role to raise community concern and consult with community in the coming months to inform the plan, as opposed to using one document to consult.
- A PowerPoint document outlining the key dates will be sent to CAG members as the presentation was unavailable on the night.

The Plan will be placed on the next agenda for further discussion and to discuss community consultation opportunities.

Key meeting outcomes

- The next Community Advisory Group meeting will be on Monday September 11 in Werribee.
- A community information session is to be organised by the department to ensure Werribee residents have an opportunity to seek more information and ask questions.
- An expression of interest process will commence for Aboriginal community representation on the group.