North East Link Project
Inquiry and Advisory Committee
Public Hearing

Natalie MacDonald – Vice President (Strategy & Development)
30 August 2019
La Trobe University :: Bundoora

Established 1967

230 hectares

Education facilities for 28,000+ students

7,000 jobs on site

Ranked in top 1.2% universities worldwide

Largest employer in Melbourne’s north

Research focus in health & wellbeing, agri-science and cyber technology
La Trobe National Employment & Innovation Cluster

One of 7 recognised clusters across Melbourne

Contains over 28,000 jobs

La Trobe University. Austin & Heidelberg Repat Hospital. Northland Shopping Centre & Urban Renewal Precinct. West Heidelberg Industrial Precinct.
A UNIVERSITY CITY OF THE FUTURE
FOR MELBOURNE’S NORTH
Anchor for La Trobe National Employment and Innovation Cluster

Education facilities for 40,000+ students

Sports Park

Health and Wellbeing Hub

Student and Private Accommodation

Research and Innovation Precinct

Commercial and Cultural Town Centre

Eco-corridor
University City Of The Future

Anchor for La Trobe National Employment and Innovation Cluster

Education facilities for 40,000+ students

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Commercial and Cultural Town Centre

Eco-corridor
Transport ::: Our #1 Issue

Universal access to LTU and LTNEIC

NEL EES does not address improvements in northern section

Integrated Transport Solution required

Over reliance in private car travel

Opportunity to invest in Public Transport services to improve Mode Share

24% come by Public Transport to LTU

42% for Monash Uni Clayton
Proposed Improvements

- major redesign of Kingsbury Drive Bundoora to create a premium boulevard;
- improved public transport services & infrastructure around the North East Link alignment giving priority to public transport and improvement to the operation of bus routes in the region;
- improved public transport services to La Trobe University and the La Trobe National Employment and Innovation Cluster; and
- improved trail networks for cyclists & pedestrians.
Concerns Kingsbury Drive will be heavily used to access NEL.

Significant impact on people movement within campus.

Severs campus in two – will become more acute with further development of City of The Future.
La Trobe Sports Park

Regional Sport & Recreation asset

$70m Stage 1 & 2

AFL Oval & Pavilion

FIFA Synthetic Pitch

6 X Indoor High Court Arena

Land Footprint Same As Melbourne Sports And Entertainment Precinct

10,000 Participants & Spectators Each Week
A focus on creating a slower speed boulevard

Increased foot traffic requires a slowing of traffic

An increase in signalised pedestrian crossing points

Upgraded pedestrian footpaths

On-road cycle lanes

Priority bus lanes once NEL opens
A focus on creating a slower speed boulevard

Increased foot traffic requires a slowing of traffic

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Priority bus lanes once NEL opens
Recommendation

That the State Government work with La Trobe University on a major redesign of Kingsbury Drive Bundoora to create:

- a premium boulevard
- a “place-based” slow-speed environment
- regular pedestrian connections across the road
- unite both sides of the La Trobe University campus before NEL opens.
Transport :::: Our #1 Issue

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Public Transport Network & Infrastructure Improvements

Congestion busting High-frequency / Limited stop bus services
- ‘Red Pavement’ Bus Priority Lanes
- Queue Jumping Infrastructure
- Improved Bus Shelter Amenity

Review Bus Network For Improvements / Efficiencies

Helps local road network cope during NEL works by encouraging mode shift

Implement At Key Major Roads Including:
Bell Street, Manningham Road, Bulleen Road

Need to start now
High Speed Bus :::: La Trobe University – Box Hill (Via Doncaster)

Congestion busting High-frequency / Limited Stop bus service

Replicates the Suburban Rail Loop alignment by connecting major centres & arterial train lines

Service enhanced by creating Bus Priority Lanes

Helps local road network cope during NEL works by encouraging Mode Shift

Need to start now

Can travel via Eastern F’way post NEL opening

Source: LTU
High Speed Bus :::: La Trobe University – Swinburne Uni (Glenferrie Stn)

Congestion busting High-frequency / Limited Stop Bus Service

Connects two universities

Connects Hurstbridge & Belgrave/Lilydale lines to reduce North/South congestion

Service Enhanced By Creating Bus Priority Lanes

Helps Local Road Network (including Chandler H’way) cope during NEL works by encouraging Mode Shift

Need to start now

Source: LTU
Recommendation

Before NEL opens the State Government implements:

- improved public transport network & infrastructure around NEL alignment giving priority to public transport:
  - Bus network review / train timetable alignment
  - ‘Bus Priority lanes on major roads
  - Bus-queue jump infrastructure

- high frequency limited stop bus services from:
  - La Trobe University to Box Hill (via Doncaster)
  - La Trobe University to Swinburne University
NEL EES falls short in delivering Improved Trail Network

Commuters to LTU and other LTNEIC destinations poorly served

Complete missing links to LTU from:
1. Macleod and beyond
2. Watsonia & Greensborough

Helps local road network cope during NEL works by encouraging Mode Shift

Need To Start now

Source NEL EES : Technical Report A (p. 428)
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Helps local road network cope during NEL works by encouraging Mode Shift

Need To Start now
Summary: Recommendations

1. Major redesign of Kingsbury Drive Bundoora to create a world class boulevard

2. Improved public transport services to La Trobe University and the La Trobe National Employment and Innovation Cluster through high frequency limited stop buses, improvements existing bus network / train timetable alignment and bus priority infrastructure on major roads around NEL

3. Improved trail networks for cyclists & pedestrians
Thank you

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