

Calder Action Group Inc.

38 421 403 996

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 19th January, 2012

At Goonawarra Neighbourhood House 7:30 PM

1. **Welcome and introductions:**The President welcomed members and guest.
2. **Apologies.** Veronica Burgess, Peter Watson, Lachlan Brown, Nick Fisher and Leah Samuel from VicRoads.
3. **Present:** Russell Mowatt, President, Ian Sutherland V-Pres. and Ass't Sec., Jim Worden, Public Officer and Secretary, Colin McKinnon Guest: Steve Medcraft.
4. **Minutes.** The minutes of the previous meeting on 21 April 2011 were accepted by the meeting.
5. **Correspondence:** Outwards: Letter to Minister Hon Terry Mulder on variable speed signs, U-turns at Organ Pipes Road and safety concerns, Inwards: Two replies from the Minister's office and advice from VicRoads up to December 2011 0 see web-site for copies.,,
www.calderactiongroup.com.au
6. **Current status of Kings Road overpass Project.** VicRoads produced a briefing for our meeting, copy attached. Salient points relate to the projected opening date at the end of January this year and the closure of Robertsons Road exit and projected closure at the Keilor Golf Course. It will also be posted on the web-site. In addition we recieved copies of VicRoads Information Update of Nov11, entitled 'Calder Freeway safety Improvements at Sunshine Avenue, Taylors Lakes' and Frequently Asked Questions on the dame topic. The extended service roads paralleling the inbound freeway lane allows the elimination of direct entry form Oakbank and Highlands Roads and will change the Sunshine Avenue interchange with marked safety improvements. See website for details.
7. **Recent action on Calder Park Drive/Freeway Interchange:** No developments are yet known since the Minister's advice in Feb2011 which states that planning was proceeding with an EES for the Palmers Road Link which includes the Calder Park Drive Interchange with expected completion in mid 2013; also that an application for funding had been made for the Interchange from the next Nation Building Program funds due in 2014/15. A copy of the letter is available on the web-site.

8. **Calder Park Drive Planning** . The safety projects at Organ Pipes Road for a safe u-turn, considered with us early last year are mentioned in the Minister's correspondence. VicRoads have been seeking 2012 TAC funding. Recent advice indicates that a further response from the TAC may be expected Feb/Mar.
9. **Diggers Rest concerns with Holden Road . Discussion on this topic was deferred to the next meeting.**
10. **Elimination of the 80Km/Hr speed limit.** Until road widening is possible around the Keilor bridges, the Minister has advised that action on this topic is unlikely soon. After discussion on on the road-rage and other safety aspects of this restriction and the steadily increasing level of traffic flow it is was decided to continue pressing for Variable Speed signs on this section.
11. **Future Strategies.** Russell tabled a list of topics for attention of parliamentarians in interviews, covering the next three year period.

Short Term - Next 6 to 12 months

- Variable speed signs on the Calder Freeway from Keilor through to Holden Road. Off peak speed would change to 100km and peak would remain 80km.
- Legal U-turn bay between Calder Park Drive and Organs Park Rd for Calder Freeway. (Plans have been submitted by Vic Roads to State Government for funding consideration).

Medium Term – Next 12 to 18 months

- Sunshine Ave, Oakbank Rd etc. road and safety improvements (Announced by Federal and State Government's).

Long Term – Next 18 to 36 months

- Future Nation Building Funding for Calder Park Drive and Calder Freeway Interchange.
- Widening of Green Gully and Maribyrnong Bridges on Calder Freeway to allow future three lane access in and out for these areas.
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- Previous intended actions also deserve mention
 - a. On behalf of Diggers Rest residents, raise formally with VicRoads our concerns to have the U-turn north of the BP station closed if Holden Road traffic is to grow.
 - b. Seek a formal statement from VicRoads on the status of the OMR Road and its likely impact on Diggers Rest traffic.
 - c. Add to the Web-site a facility for community input and for the collection of statistics on access to the site.
 - d. Seek some local press coverage on progress with the Kings Road Interchange at a suitable time

- e. Further pursue the possibility of Variable Speed signs and the installation of Speed Cameras in the 80 Km/hr section of the Calder.
- f. Input to the problems on the Calder would be welcome via the web-page www.calderactiongroup.com.au

12. General Business:

- a. A meeting with Nick Fisher including Russell and Ian is intended in the next several weeks.
- b. The meeting noted that after much disruption of the web-site by a virus late in 2011 it had been cleaned up by Lachlan after a great deal of time-consuming effort. Our grateful thanks to him are registered.
- c. Ian will work with Peter Watson on setting up the sign again.
- d. More information will be sought about the prospects for Bridge widening on the Keilor section.

13. Meeting close: 8.37 pm. Russell thanks the four guests for their attendance.

14. Next meeting: 22 Mar 2012.

15. Further meetings are planned for 24 May and the AGM on 23 Aug.

Jim Worden
Secretary CAG Inc.

R S Mowatt
President CAG Inc.