

BCRG COMMUNITY FORUM 3/2012, Meeting Notes

AGENDA

Date: 15 August, 2012

Time: 6:00 for 6:30 – 8:50 pm

Where: Brooklyn Community Centre, Cypress Avenue Brooklyn

Meeting Purpose:

- To provide an update on progress towards resolution of dust, noise and odour issues

Chair: Bruce Light

6:00	Light Refreshments
6:30	1. Welcome Apologies (inc Jen Lilburn) Confirm draft meeting notes – 16 May, 2012 Confirm meeting purpose and agenda
6:35	2. Bert Boere, Brooklyn Residents Action Group Group update
6:40	3. Martin Hermans, Yarraville On the Nose Group update
6:45	4. Susan Fitton, Brooklyn Industrial Precinct Strategy Committee Stage 2, Brooklyn Industrial Precinct Strategy.
7:00	5. Industry – Greg Hughes (Business Manager, Sims Metal)
7:10	6. Industry –Peter Morley CEO (Australian Tallow)
7:20	7. Questions/discussion
7:35	Break
7:50	8. Foti Beratis, Maribyrnong City Council
7:55	9. Adrian Ashford, Brimbank City Council, Drainage Works Update
8:05	10. EPA Victoria, Richard Marks, Manager Pollution Response - Update on dust, noise and odour program Inc questions
8:30	11. Panel Questions (BCC, MCC, HBCC, EPA)
8:50	Close

Notes from this meeting will be posted on EPA Victoria's website and the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct website and will be available to the general public. Meeting participants should advise Andrea Mason or Jen Lilburn if they would like their name removed from this public document.

Item 1. Welcome, Bruce Light

Jen Lilburn (Convenor) was an apology and Bruce Light welcomed everyone as Chair and thanked them for their continued commitment to BCRG. Bruce reminded everyone of the purpose of BCRG and noted several apologies (see Attendee list at the end of these notes).

Item 2. Bert Boere, Brooklyn Residents Action Group (BRAG)

Bert gave an overview of the community celebration held on June 17th 2012 to open the revegetated Federation Trail in Brooklyn. Bert showed many photos of the day. Some of these images can be seen on the Brooklyn website <http://www.brooklynip.com.au/brag-news/>

Slides 3, 12, 17, 23, 34, 39, 45, 53 Brooklyn Federation Trail Park

To make “Brooklyn Federation Trail Park” a reality many organizations, groups and individuals worked hard to achieve this. On opening day they came and lent to support by;

- Mounting displays.
- Manning information tables,
- Giving speeches and
- Planting trees.

In preparation for the community celebration of the new “Brooklyn Federation Trail Park”

- The park was cleaned,
- Rubbish and dead trees were removed,
- Drains were fenced,
- 10,000 plants were planted,
- Garden beds were mulched.

Separately in Duane Reserve by Hobsons Bay City Council;

- New concrete footpaths were laid linking Primula Ave and the Federation Trail through Duane Reserve,
- New picnic tables were put in
- And a new playground was installed.

It has now become a safe and accessible park used not only by;

- ‘Serious cyclists’, but also by
- Local kids, Walkers of all ages, Family groups, Joggers and Dog walkers.

To add weight and dignity to the park opening celebration there were speeches by;

- Mayor Tony Briffa,
- Cr Michael Raffoul,
- Wade Noonan, MP Member for Williamstown District,
- Cheryl Batagol, Chairman EPA and
- A Swifts representative.

On the day of the Park celebration there was;

- A yummy BBQ prepared by the Lions,
- Free give-aways and tea, coffee, cake and cordial, ably distributed by enthusiastic volunteers.
- Live Entertainment and Music in the form of ‘Edvaro’,
- Jumping Castles and Fun games in the playground.



Fig 1 Federation Trail Opening

There was time to - Plant trees, Chat, Have serious discussion, Express an opinion and have it noted
 On the day a cross section of the community came. There were - Family groups, Youngsters, Not so young, Bike riders and Furry friends

Slide 62 Special Thanks

- EPA for their support through the project and the Community Celebration Day
- Mayor Tony Briffa and Cr Michael Raffoul for their support.
- Hobsons Bay City Council for
 - Open Spaces Department for their planning and coordination
 - Parks Department and staff for their cleaning and preparation of the park for the Community Celebration Day
 - for providing two pathways from Brooklyn North to South across the Trail through the purchase two properties in Cypress Avenue

BROOKLYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP INC.



CREDITS:

THANKS TO:

**Cr Michael Raffoul City of Hobsons Bay
 Wade Noonan MP Member for Williamstown District
 Cheryl Batagol Chairman & John Merritt CEO EPA Victoria
 Altona Lions & Edvardo**

Fig 2 Supporters

- Transpacific Industries for providing 1500 cubic meters of mulch
- All those providing displays on the Celebration Day
- and lots of others, each in their own way providing goods and/or services beyond that paid for.

Slide 62 Project Extension

- Project Report Due 15 Aug 2012
- There are some funds remaining from the project.
- Residents, walkers, dog walkers and bike riders have all voiced several improvements they would like to have in the Brooklyn Federation Trail Park at Duane Reserve.
- Therefore a project extension has been sought with the Inspiring Environmental Solution Program at the EPA and verbal permission given.
- The proposal has also been presented to Hobsons Bay City Council for their approval.
- Currently, EPA IES Funds Remaining
 - - \$3.7k in Federation Trail account
 - - \$4.6k in GST refund money
- Suggested improvements
 - Watering Point, cost ~ \$ 3.7k
 - BBQ & Shelter, cost ~ \$25k, would need HBCC supplementation, or
 - Trail (Solar) Security Lighting, uncosted, for morning and evening walkers

Slide 64 Hobsons Bay City Council Brooklyn Residential Area

Other Items Requested by Residents:

- Off Leash Dog Area
- Area available/suggested are those triangular parts between the sound barrier walls along Primula Ave and the houses eg about opposite Duane reserve
- That is at the ends of Waites, Houston, Richards, and/or Carlsson courts?
 These areas could be fenced off....solving another problem as a result....
- Currently these areas are used for car hooning and dumping of stolen cars

Item 3. Martin Hermans, Yarraville On the Nose

Martin gave a brief update from Yarraville On the Nose. To date 204 mature trees have been planted as part of the West Yarraville Accelerated Street and Avenue Development Project which has been funded from a grant via EPA from Cargill. There are still 100 more trees to be planted.

Item 4. Susan Fitton, Strategic Sites Officer, Brimbank City Council, Brooklyn Industrial Precinct Strategy Committee

Susan gave an update on the development Stage 2 of the Brooklyn Strategy - Draft Structure Plan, Urban Design Framework and Implementation Plan. She showed the results of the community consultation in July and the main implementation priorities outlined in the current draft. The draft can be obtained by contacting Susan Fitton, 9249 4000.

Slide 2 What is a Structure Plan?

- Sets a vision and aspirations.
- Gives confidence for redevelopment.

Slide 3 Background

- Pre 2011 – No previous strategic planning work
- 2011 - Brooklyn Industrial Precinct Strategy Committee began.
- 2011 – Stage 1 - A range of background studies commissioned
 - Key Issues and Direction Report
 - Traffic study
 - Environmental study
 - Economic
 - Urban Design
- 2012 – Stage 2 – Structure Plan “the Brooklyn Evolution”
 - March consultation “have your say”
 - June/July consultation “what do you think”

Slide 4 Stage 2 – “The Plan”

- The main messages that came through the March consultation were:
 - “**Its about time**”
 - **No more recycling recovery industries** (even if high tech).
 - **Roads and Drainage need upgrading** and image improved.
 - New and existing industries should apply **best practice technology** and be environmentally sustainable.
 - Precinct should provide **more job opportunities**.
 - VicRoads have suggested a **north-south road alternative** to relieve Millers Road traffic.
 - Linking Melbourne Authority advised of progress to move East West Link to the south of Somerville Road.
- In April/May we developed a DRAFT Structure Plan, Urban Design Framework and Implementation Plan.

Slide 5 Combined Themes



5

Fig 3 Snapshot of all the themes

Slide 6 Land use and economic activity

- 3 main areas identified are Geelong Rd to encourage commercial development, light industrial and mixed area shown in light blue and the longer term development area on old landfill sites where it could take 20 – 30 years before change will happen.

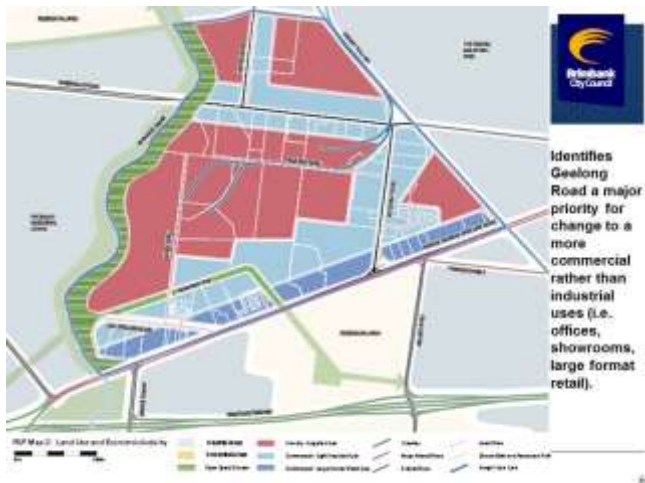


Fig 4 Slide 6 Land use and economic activity



Slide 7 Road Network

Slide 7 Access & Road Network

- Susan explained that since this draft has been published, Linking Melbourne Authority has proposed a new change to the proposed Westlink route. This change has Westlink coming below Somerville Rd and is not shown in Fig 4. This will also change the possible North South link along Grieve Pde. These changes need to be incorporated into the next draft.

Slide 8 Environment Conditions

- Identifies the importance of rehabilitation along Kororoit Creek and water sensitive design.



Fig 5 Slide 8 Environment Conditions



Slide 9 Gateway development

Slide 9 Staging and Timing

- Geelong Rd is the first priority
- more time for core area with land fill.
- Identifies key sites for new development of businesses.

Slide 10 Design Guidelines

- Image and design guidelines will be used for new developments which match those in other areas.



Fig 6 Design Guidelines

Slide 11

- Urban Design Framework –
 - Design Guidelines for future development for private realm. This is important for consistency when assessing planning permit applications.
- Implementation Plan –
 - Infrastructure projects – Jones and Bunting Road,
 - Urban design projects - Image
 - Development facilitation and Partnership - Place making
 - Environmental Monitoring and enforcement – EPA Council partnerships
 - Leadership and Governance – Role of committees
 - Statutory Implementation and Further Studies - Planning scheme to give legal weight

Slide 12 Implementation priorities:

- Bunting and Jones Road upgrade.
- East West Link Alignment.
- Kororoit Creek enhancement.
- Greening the West, gateways and branding.
- Marketing, investment attraction.
- Encouraging best practice operations and upgrades.
- Environmental monitoring and enforcement.
- Statutory implementation, MSS, Design Guidelines, Geelong Road redevelopment.

Slide 13 Where to now....snapshot of June/July consultation:

- Reassess the north south alignment from Grieve Pde to Market Road to better fit with East West Link and Jones Road.
- Long term prospect of extending Millers Road should be shaded on plan.
- Design Guidelines to should give more clarity to building setbacks and reinforce addressing amenity issues and best practice business operations.
- Better clarity of maps and about what are Key Development Sites

Item 5. Greg Hughes (Business Manager, Sims Metal Management)

Greg's presentation outlined the history of the business, its operations and highlighted the environmental improvements that have been undertaken over the past 5 years.

Slide 1 Sims Metal site



Plant is situated on McDonald Rd, with Bunting Rd and a lot of open land to the west so a lot of dust comes into the property.

Fig 7 Brooklyn site

Slide 2 About Us – Sims Metal Management

- Australian owned, founded in Sydney in 1917
- Commenced operation in Brooklyn in early 1960's
- Largest metal and electronics recycling company in the world – approx 15 million tonnes per annum
- Listing in Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations in the World for 4th year in a row – jumped 52 spots in 2012 to No. 11 ranking.
- We employ 100 people at the Brooklyn operation

Slide 3 Our Brooklyn Operation

- Approx. 20 acres
- Recycle both Ferrous and Non Ferrous metals
- Processes includes Shredding, Shearing and Baling
- Processed material sold domestically and/or exported
- Installation of Storage Dam – Captured and recycled 15m litres of water which we use for dust suppression

Slide 4 Environmental Improvements – Last 5 years

- \$4 million on Ferrous downstream upgrade – better air system and bag-house
- \$13 million construction of OLRP (Off Line Recovery Plant) -extracts more metals from waste that currently goes to landfill. This is at another site
- \$750K on concrete ~ half of the site
- Shade cloth fence to capture dust
- Permanent road sweeper/water cart in operation daily
- External road sweeper hire – McDonald Road
- Mobile water atomiser

Slide 5 Environmental Improvement Plan – Next 12 – 18 months

- Additional shade cloth fencing along Eastern side
- Acquisition of a larger road-legal sweeper - \$300k
- Additional \$1 million in budget for concreting to all of the roadways
- Investigation of a wheel wash

Slide 6 Sims Open Day – Early 2013

- BBQ
- Guided tours on buses – every 20 mins
- Demonstrations
- Give aways – show bags, educational material
- Letter box drop – 2km radius
- Media/advertising incl. invitation to BCRG

Slide 7 Corporate Responsibility

- Our number one priority has been, and will continue to be, the safety and wellbeing of our employees, contractors and visitors to our sites. We take responsibility for all of our actions to foster a positive and balanced working environment. We will continue to be responsive to the communities in which we operate, their culture and regulatory frameworks.
- We understand our activities give rise to a range of concerns
- We will continue to work with and engage the Community, EPA, Council and Industry
- Any comments/suggestions are welcome

Item 6. Peter Morley (CEO, Australian Tallow Producers)

Peter is the newly appointed CEO of Australian Tallow Producers and he gave a presentation acknowledging the issues that the business has to overcome regarding odour in Brooklyn, the commitment of the owners to improve and the work that has been undertaken so far.

Slide 3 Who we are and what we do.

- Located at 680 Geelong Road Brooklyn for last 17 years.
- Process Ovine and Poultry material.
- Produce meal and oils (tallow).
- Used in pet food, biodiesel & garden products.
- Employ 25 people.
- Export over 50% of products.
- Family owned business.

Slide 4 Environmental Performance

- Poor history and relationships.
- Community trust is low.
- The family want to turn this around.
- Historically odour is the main issue.
- Prosecuted and fined by EPA on a number of matters – something we are not proud of.
- EPA issued a Pollution Abatement Notice re odour control.

Slide 5 What have we done/doing

- Implemented a major upgrade of our odour management system (as part of the Pollution Abatement Notice - PAN), with EPA oversight.
- Vented areas to our bio filters that previously vented to atmosphere
- Monitoring the performance of the system.
- Improved our waste water process with upgrade capability.
- Upgraded general housekeeping in regard to product storage
- PAN is over 90% complete - finalization to EPA by end of September 2012.
- July 2012 EPA site visit identified a source of odour that is being addressed, as well as improvement in storm water management.
- Developing a plan and culture to manage our environment.



Fig 8 Negative pressure system for buildings

Slide 6 Images of recent improvements to the value of over \$1M

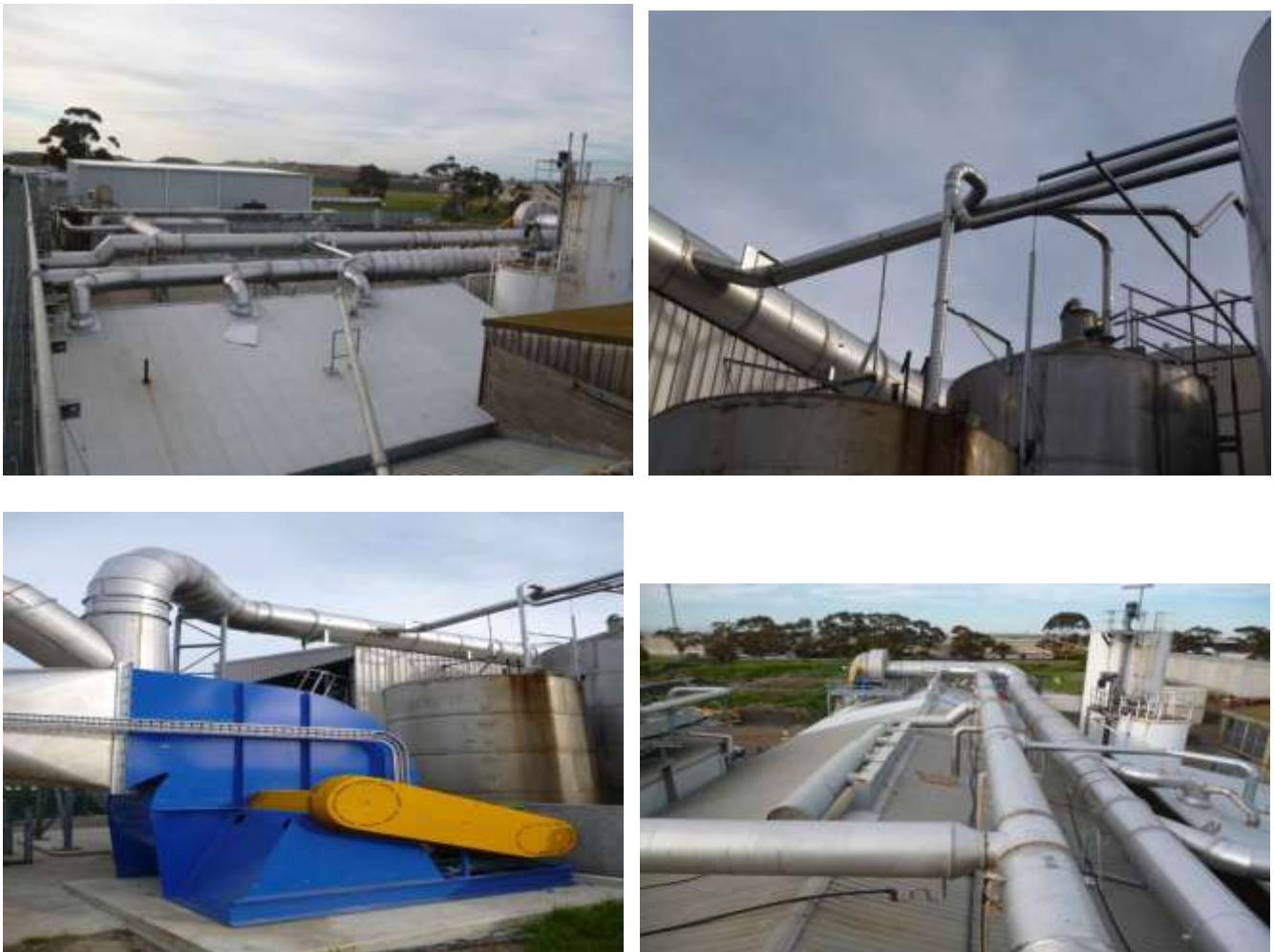


Fig 9 Venting and duct improvements

Slide 7 The Future

- Continue to improve odour management
- Focus on waste/storm water management (with EPA and City West Water)
- Develop an overall plan for environmental management of our site.
- Communicate regularly and engage with the community to build trust and credibility.
- Improve over time – do what we say we will do.

Item 7. Questions/Discussion

Question: Why is there still odour coming into our residential area close to Australian Tallow Producers when so much money has been spent on the filters? Are the filters working and why are things getting worse?

Answer: (Peter Morley) The system is not yet perfect but Australian Tallow Producers is committed to making improvements. Peter offered to give his mobile number to those affected so that he could personally investigate reports of 'out of hours' offences and assess if they were coming from their business. Other enquiries can be made by contacting him on (03) 9318 0369.

Comments: Several comments were recorded around the issue of odour in the vicinity of Australian Tallow Producers:

- The EPA should be following up reports with Peter when residents complain and not the residents
- It smells right now. The problem is ongoing and we are not getting responses
- When we complained about an alarm ringing recently over a weekend, the response was “we will get to it on Monday” – which is not a good enough response
- We have been putting up with odour for 17 years – all of Brooklyn has suffered. The travesty is that in 1994 the company was allowed to begin in the first place based on existing use rights. It is not good for this plant to be in this area
- A lot of odour releases are at weekends and night when the EPA can't come out
- Please pass on our message to the ATP directors, as the people responsible, that the odour is terrible - in particular after hours
- I live opposite – we ‘know’ the smell. It comes in short strong bursts
- While it was acknowledged that there have been vast improvements in odour reduction for some residential areas eg Yarraville, it is still a huge problem and getting worse for some, particularly close to ATP.

Answer: (Peter Morley, ATP) Peter explained that he previously worked in Millers Rd for years and understands community frustrations and is committed to working to fix this problem as are the ATP Board. He also reiterated his commitment to listening to people's complaints at any time and investigating any reports to clarify if they are coming from the plant.

Question: Is the EPA monitoring equipment able to be used for odour?

Answer: (Chris Bydder, EPA) The monitors only measure dust - not odour. The equipment doesn't exist that can detect odour to the degree the human nose does.

Question: Does the Australian Tallow Producers business come under Industrial 1 or Industrial 2 zones and how does that fit with the existing use rights ruling?

Answer: (Susan Fitton, Brimbank CC) Existing use rights is different to having a permit which then gives you permission to use that site. You don't need a permit with existing use rights. In 1994 there must have been a previous user operating which then allowed Australian Tallow Producers to come in under existing use rights. In today's planning scenarios, a new application would fit under industry and there would be different rules/buffers applied probably in line with Industrial 2 zoning.

Question: In Peter's presentation there is no indication of a timeframe to complete this plan. Any response?

Answer: (Peter Morley, ATP) The goal is zero odour but at this point I can't predict how long that will take.

Action 1: Invite Peter Morley back to the next BCRG to report.

Question: Thanks to Peter for coming to the forum. Is it possible that the odours are coming from the transportation part of the operation?

Answer: (Peter Morley, ATP) I don't think so as most of our material comes directly from JBS Australia abattoir next door. Other material is mostly chicken that comes in from no further than Bendigo and is not considered “old” and not usually smelly.

Comment: approximately one month ago there were 2 trucks carrying sheep skins which appeared to park outside the plant all night and were seen inside the plant the next day.

Answer: (Peter Morley, ATP) ATP does not handle sheep skins at all so that should not be the case.

Item 8. Foti Beratis, Maribyrnong City Council

Unfortunately Foti had to leave the forum early and could not present.

The following update was received after the forum from Mick Morison, Landscape Architect, City Design, Maribyrnong CC.

Of the 12 streets in the project area there are only two and a half unfinished (Roberts Street, Adeney Street and the north side of Francis Street). The planting in these should be complete by the end of August. Following that, Yarraville On the Nose members will be distributing buckets (donated by City West Water) to all households in the project area. Council will also conduct a mail out with information as to how residents can assist with watering and caring for the trees.

Item 9. Adrian Ashford, Brimbank City Council, Drainage Works Update

Adrian gave a presentation on the progress of the \$500,000 drainage works currently being undertaken on Jones Rd by Brimbank CC and the future plans for Jones and Bunting Rds.

Slides 2, 3 & 4 Jones Road Drainage

- Council received numerous complaints regarding drainage in Jones Road.
- Flooded every time it rained.
- No existing functional drainage in Jones Road.
- Council trucks carting water away – took days for water to be removed
- Council allocated \$500,000 for drainage and associated works.
- The works commenced in June.
- Drainage works are to be completed this week.
- Reinstatement works should be completed within two weeks.



Fig 10 Jones Road before drainage works



Fig 11 Alignment of new drain line (thick red line)



Drainage works in Jones Road

Slide 5 Jones & Bunting Roads Scheme



Fig 12 Aerial photo of Jones and Bunting Roads

Slide 6 Road Construction Standard

- Three road construction standards were investigated:
 - Short term treatment (up to 5 year life).
 - Interim treatment option (7-10 year life).
 - Full construction (20-25 year life).
- Council adopted the interim treatment option because: -
 - The proposed pavement provides a cost effective road surface.
 - Allowance is made for a section of drainage to address the worst of the flooding in Jones Road.
 - The pavement may be strengthened or widened in future should the need arise e.g. further development of adjoining properties.
 - Westlink may affect the location and function of the roads.

It is proposed to fund these improvements via a Special Charge Scheme to the adjoining landowners with variable costs associated for individual landowners depending on their area, frontage, access and amenity.

Slide 7 Scheme Status

- Correspondence has been exchanged with the property owners, including questionnaires seeking the level of support.
- The support for the proposed works is good, however little support for financial contribution towards the works.
- A report to Council will consider options on how to move forward.

Item 10. EPA Victoria, Richard Marks, Manager Pollution Response
- Update on dust, noise and odour program

The following three reports were sent in BCRG Update 12 prior to the meeting and are available on www.brooklynip.com.au.

- [15082012 BCRG Meeting Supplementary Notes](#) are also available in **Attachment 3**.
- [EPA NBMG 120725 Brooklyn Roads Dust Abatement Options_V0](#)
- [EPA NBMG 120725 Brooklyn Roads Dust Assessment_V0](#)

Richard gave an update on the Australian Tallow Producers compliance issue. ATP were issued with a large Pollution Abatement Notice (PAN) which is due to be completed by the end of September, 2012. He thanked Peter Morley from ATP for attending this forum and for his commitment. After September, the EPA will reassess the ATP plant and if not fully compliant will take further action which may extend to removing their permits.

Richard then focused on updates on dust in Brooklyn.

Slide 3 Road Dust Assessment Report

- Net Balance (www.netbalance.com) conducted an assessment of dust emissions (PM₁₀) from high risk roads and roadside verges in the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct to examine the:
 - Quantity of dust generated from high risk roads and roadside verges
 - Impact of dust on adjacent residents.
- This report further updates a 2011 report which focused on Jones and Bunting Roads.

Slide 4 Traffic monitoring locations

- The red lines represent the roads deemed as high risk.
- The yellow numbers are where traffic monitoring was conducted.
- The 3 locations of the existing monitoring sites where emissions data is collected are shown.



Fig 13 Traffic Monitoring locations

Slide 5 Report Findings

- Allocated proportion of dust to each road included:
 - Total PM₁₀ dust emissions from Brooklyn IP are estimated to be **308 tonnes per annum**.
 - Total PM₁₀ dust emissions from study roads are estimated to be **257 tonnes per annum**.
 - This represents 83% of the total for precinct emissions.
 - Primarily vehicle-generated PM₁₀ dust emissions from Bunting and Somerville Roads.
- Used Footscray monitoring station as background
- These findings further confirm what we previously found for Jones and Bunting Roads in 2011.

Slide 6 Options for dust abatement

- Net Balance also reported on Brooklyn Roads dust abatement options. Report recommendations:
 - Seal Bunting Road
 - Wheel wash equipment at problematic sites
 - Periodic road washing/street sweeping
 - Targeted sealing of roadside verges

Slide 7 Reframing the Brooklyn Priorities

- This new information tells us that we need to rethink solutions and priorities for the Brooklyn Project.
- We have started thinking about new priorities and are working on a new strategy

Slide 8 Brooklyn Project Priorities

- Dust from roads
- Dust from industry
- Odour & Noise from industry

Item 11. Panel Discussion and Questions

Panel members:

- EPA - Richard Marks
- Brimbank CC – Simon Vittorio
- Hobsons Bay CC – Malcolm Ramsay
- Maribyrnong CC – Foti Beratis was a late apology

Question 1 for Richard Marks (EPA).

Wouldn't it be better if the conveyor belts at companies such as Delta and Sunshine Groupe were at ground level instead of on top of the high mounds where the dust is seen daily??

Response – Richard Marks

Delta and City Circle have had Pollution Abatement Notices and have had to put in conveyor covers and water sprayers at the drop points to control the dust. It would be better if they didn't operate on the landfill but this can't be forced.

31/08/12 Response from Alex Kozeniauskas, Delta Group, received after the meeting notes were published.

Delta does not operate on a landfill and is at least 10m lower than City Circle.

03/09/12 Comment from Chris Bydder, EPA.

This is correct. City Circle operate at an elevated height. Delta (and City Circle) have large vegetated bund walls that they occasionally maintain. Neither site is of particularly high risk. Both have put controls in place and complied with their PANs. While not running at best practice their performance has improved.

Question 2 for Richard Marks (EPA).

Wouldn't it be better if the conveyor belts at these companies - which rise over 60 feet and sit on mounds of over 60 feet and then dump crushed rock into trucks - were covered as they are causing a lot of dust?

Response – Richard Marks

EPA would need to be able to justify forcing these companies into providing covers.

31/08/12 Response from Alex Kozeniauskas, Delta Group, received after the meeting notes were published.

As above, material is not discharged directly into trucks from conveyors.

03/09/12 Comment from Chris Bydder, EPA.

This is also correct, the statements made by the public do not reflect the practices at the sites.

Comment for Richard Marks (EPA).

There are two sites, City Circle and Delta on Market Road and Jones Rd where operations taking place on top of landfill mounds by earth moving machinery is being undertaken in the open without any way of the dust being controlled. This is still an area of major concern particularly the height of the operations.

Response – Richard Marks

At Delta and City Circle the rock bunds should be shielding the dust unless the operations are higher again.

31/08/12 Response from Alex Kozeniauskas, Delta Group, received after the meeting notes were published.

Delta does not operate on a landfill. Dust is controlled by water suppression.

03/09/12 Comment from Chris Bydder, EPA.

This is also correct. See comments above.

Question 3 for Richard Marks (EPA).

Is there anything in place to monitor dust and odour in West Sunshine?

Response – Richard Marks

The EPA, monitoring stations were installed to the North West of Brooklyn for over the 12 months and found no issues for that community area as the dust mostly goes in the other direction when there are hot Northerly winds. Odour in West Sunshine would depend on the wind direction at the time. We hope to have the odour issue resolved soon.

Question 4 for Simon Vittorio (BCC)

What is the permitted height for the landfill mounds? Is it seven metres?

Response – Simon Vittorio

These are governed by Council regulations. I would have to confirm if it is 7 metres.

Action 2: Simon to report back to the forum on height regulations.

03/09/12 Response from Dhiraj Joti, Senior Development Planner, Brimbank CC

I can confirm the following:

- 473-477 Somerville Road (Delta)- Planning Permit P00108 approved on 16th May 2000. Condition 8 states that, "The stockpiles must not be greater than 8.0 metres."
- 499 Somerville Road (City Circle)- Planning Permit P99/0478 approved on 08th December 1999, Condition 1(d) states, "Stockpiles limited to 6.0 metres in height."

The biggest proportion of dust is from the roads and the EPA will continue to focus their efforts on improving the roads and verges.

Comment for Richard Marks (EPA).

The problem of dust in Francis St is still an issue and the response from Vic Roads is not adequate – claiming that it would need to be a safety issue for them to respond and so it is not a priority to them.

Response – Richard Marks

VicRoads have done some work but not enough. The EPA can't regulate and can't put a PAN on roads. EPA commissioned the dust monitoring reports so that there is justification to pursue the roads issue.

Question 5 for Richard Marks (EPA).

In your presentation, Francis St was not mentioned as a priority. The dust from Francis St still blows in to residential areas.

Response – Richard Marks

All the roads have monitored and all these roads are part of the issue and in the EPA's strategy including Francis St. The EPA will continue to put pressure on VicRoads and all the relevant authorities.

Question 6 for Brimbank CC

The Industrial Land Strategy and the draft Brooklyn Strategy appear to recommend retaining the industrial areas in Brimbank which comprise of 10% of the state's industrial area. There are still inappropriate Industrial 2 type businesses eg Australian Tallow Producers and Cedar Meats operating in Brooklyn which will be providing Industrial 1 permits in the future. Are these businesses in Brooklyn going to be relocated to more appropriate Industrial zones?

Response – Susan Fitton

The Brooklyn Strategy is still a draft and is focused on Brooklyn and mentions the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct as a priority. The recommendation is to try to protect Industrial 2 zones that are not in Brooklyn but elsewhere. The Brooklyn Strategy will be important to advocate for change and planning for new permit applications. Change through redevelopment of sites will take time and is incremental and BCC will continue to work with the EPA to encourage these businesses to operate using best practice.

Question 7

The worst businesses for emitting odour are located close to Geelong Rd and the proposed buffer zone and new business zones in the plan. If they are operating under existing use rights, how are you going to get them to move out of the area? What if the odour cannot be stopped?

Response – Richard Marks

EPA is not looking for incremental change. While businesses can't be made to move, the EPA can apply enough pressure to make them comply or move. For example Sita Pty/Ltd (composting operation) have moved part of their operation to a more suitable site and Cargill have improved their performance to comply. It is hoped for a similar outcome with Australian Tallow Producers but if they can't comply then they will have to move.

Question 8 for Richard Marks (EPA)

Are there any examples of businesses overseas that have achieved best practice? Is it achievable?

Response – Richard Marks

Yes it should be achievable. Pridhams in Altona have fully enclosed their entire operation with negative pressure in the buildings.

Question 9 for Richard Marks (EPA)

Many of the odours are still happening at night and weekends and it is difficult to get anyone out to investigate. How do we know that it is Australian Tallow and not from another source?

Response – Richard Marks

After September, when Australian Tallow has finished its PAN, the EPA will be increasing their surveillance operations again. Hopefully it will find out if there have been other smaller emitting operations that have been masked by ATP in the past but will now be apparent. If this is the case the EPA can begin focusing these other sites.

Comment

We need to continue to apply pressure through this forum until all these issues are resolved.

Question 10 for Richard Marks (EPA)

If Jones and Bunting Rds are sealed and the sweeping regime continued – what is the result expected?

Response – Richard Marks

The study last year said that we need 15% reduction to bring our exceedences down to target level and over 50% of that is attributed to roads. This is one part of the overall solution. Need to continue to monitor businesses as well.

Question 11 for Richard Marks (EPA)

The exceedences have dropped over the years from 48 per year. How many days are there dust exceedence now?

Response – Richard Marks

There are currently around 20 exceedences per year. Sweeping and washing alone is not the full answer and we need long term engineering solutions.

Comment

The World Health Organisation regulations of 50ppm for no more than 5 days per year are still being exceeded.

Question 12 for Richard Marks (EPA)

Was the effect of meteorology an issue for these results?

Response – Chris Bydder

The EPA scientists have analysed the meteorology and it shows that it has an influence on the results, however they have also confirmed that a good deal of improvement has occurred do to direct action in Brooklyn. Exceedences for April/May were mostly due to the controlled forest burns. These results were reported in the May BCRG forum.

Comment - emailed prior to the forum

Could you please advise the meeting that it is essential that dust issues in Altona North also be addressed by the EPA.

Comment - submitted prior to the forum for Brimbank CC

What can be done about the dust along East side of McDonald's Rd between Geelong Rd and Sims Metal which is ~150mm higher on the nature strips than the roadside kerbing? The wet sweeping is not sufficient and the dust needs to be removed off site.

Question 13 for Simon Vittorio (BCC)

There is still a lot of dust coming from the businesses in Brooklyn. How can they be working to best practice? Does anyone ever go out and monitor these sites?

Response – Simon Vittorio

Brimbank CC and EPA do investigate on site. Many of the businesses have undertaken measures such as wheel washes. I don't know if that includes the conveyor belts. Through planning and compliance BCC is investigating a list of these businesses. The current focus is on 69 Bunting Rd which must get a planning permit to operate or they will be taken to VCAT to get them off site. We will continue down Bunting Rd in the future.

Response – Richard Marks and Chris Bydder

The worst sites are generally the container parks. The EPA is targeting those sites and others that have dust track-out issues on Somerville Rd, Francis St, McDonald Road etc. that are contributing to dust on the roads on a priority basis.

Question 14 for Russell Marks (EPA)

Have you gone back to investigate Slidecross recently?

Response – Richard Marks and Chris Bydder

The EPA issued an inspection report 2 weeks ago. Slidecross is in the target list of businesses contributing to dust and mud.

Question 15 for Russell Marks (EPA)

What about the methyl bromide issue for the Slidecross site? Is it an issue?

Response – Richard Marks

EPA investigated this issue 2 years ago, modeling showed that if Slidecross was to emit all its Methyl Bromide in one hit, the levels at the boundary of the site would be below policy limits. As the site is a further kilometer from the nearest residential area EPA has determined the site poses no current risk in this regard.

Bruce Light thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

Richard Marks extended a vote of thanks from everyone to Bruce Light for chairing the forum in Jen's absence.

Meeting closed 8.45pm.

Attachment 1 The following report was provided after the forum by Malcolm Ramsay, Hobsons Bay City Council.

Brooklyn Update

79 Cypress Ave, Brooklyn

- The site has been cleared however we are aware there has been some damage caused to the neighbouring fences and these will be replaced as a part of the forthcoming works.
- Works are to commence shortly on the development of the access way on the western boundary of the site.

31 Cypress Ave, Brooklyn

- Council have received the proposal from BRAG with regard to the future development of 31 Cypress Ave and this will be considered as a submission as a part of the planning approval process.

Brooklyn Reserve

- 26 (40 litre pot size) trees will be planted over the coming weeks within Brooklyn Reserve in accordance with the Master Plan.
- No further works will be undertaken at Brooklyn Reserve until funds become available.

Federation Trail

- Further to recent complaints regarding the chicane at the Geelong Road end this is being further investigated and modifications will be undertaken. (The complaints specifically refer to the chicane being very tight for cyclists).

Duane Reserve

- Minor maintenance works will be undertaken over the coming weeks to address the water retention occurring within the playground. This water will be diverted to nearby drainage.
- \$25,000 is allocated within the Council's 2012/2013 budget further to BRAG's submission through the budget process. This proposal will be discussed further with BRAG at a later date.

Drainage Pits

\$40,000 is allocated within the Council's 2012/2013 budget for the purposes of undertaking maintenance on Council's Drainage Pits. This is a roving program and works scheduled for 2011/2012 were completed.

Brooklyn Industrial Area Update – August 2012

Summary

The Council & the EPA are continuing to work together on enforcement activities in the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which acknowledges the joint responsibility Brimbank Council and the EPA have to improve the environmental outcomes within the municipality.

Under the MOU, EPA and Brimbank will jointly investigate and enforce complaints and collaborate on submissions and applications to VCAT. EPA also provides technical support to help guide Council in planning applications within buffer zones.

Enforcement Activity

- Since the last BCRG meeting Council's Planning Compliance Department has undertaken in-excess of 90 inspections in the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct to investigate potential non-compliant industries and complaints received from the community.
- Council is pursuing planning compliance at 69 Bunting Road due to the land owner and tenants failing to obtain planning permits for transfer stations and materials recycling by the 2 July 2012 deadline set by VCAT.

As a result, Council has requested that the matter be heard at a full VCAT hearing to seek an Enforcement Order to have all illegal uses on the land ceased and the tenants removed. VCAT have scheduled 2 separate hearings for the 29 August and 25 October 2012.

It should be noted that since the last meeting 4 tenants have ceased operation and vacated the site.

- Council has recently lapsed a planning application for the use and development of the land for a landfill (both existing and proposed fill) at 720 Old Geelong Road due to insufficient information being submitted by the applicant.

As a result, Council's Planning Compliance Department will re-commence enforcement action against the land owner and is likely to seek an Enforcement Order at VCAT to have the existing fill removed and the land returned to its original state.

Drainage and Road Works Update

- The underground drainage in Jones Road is almost complete and is anticipated to be in operation within the next month.
- The Council operations team is continuing to undertake dust suppression treatments to the various road surfaces, as and when required.
- The Council operations staff is continuing with interim arrangements associated with drainage works in Jones Road Brooklyn, which also involves the pumping of storm water that is overflowing into Jones Road from the adjoining properties. This arrangement will cease once the underground drainage in Jones Road is operational.
- The road sweeping program will continue on a programmed basis.
- The condition of Bunting Road continues to be monitored and grading and rolling is occurring as required.

Planning Compliance Team August 2012

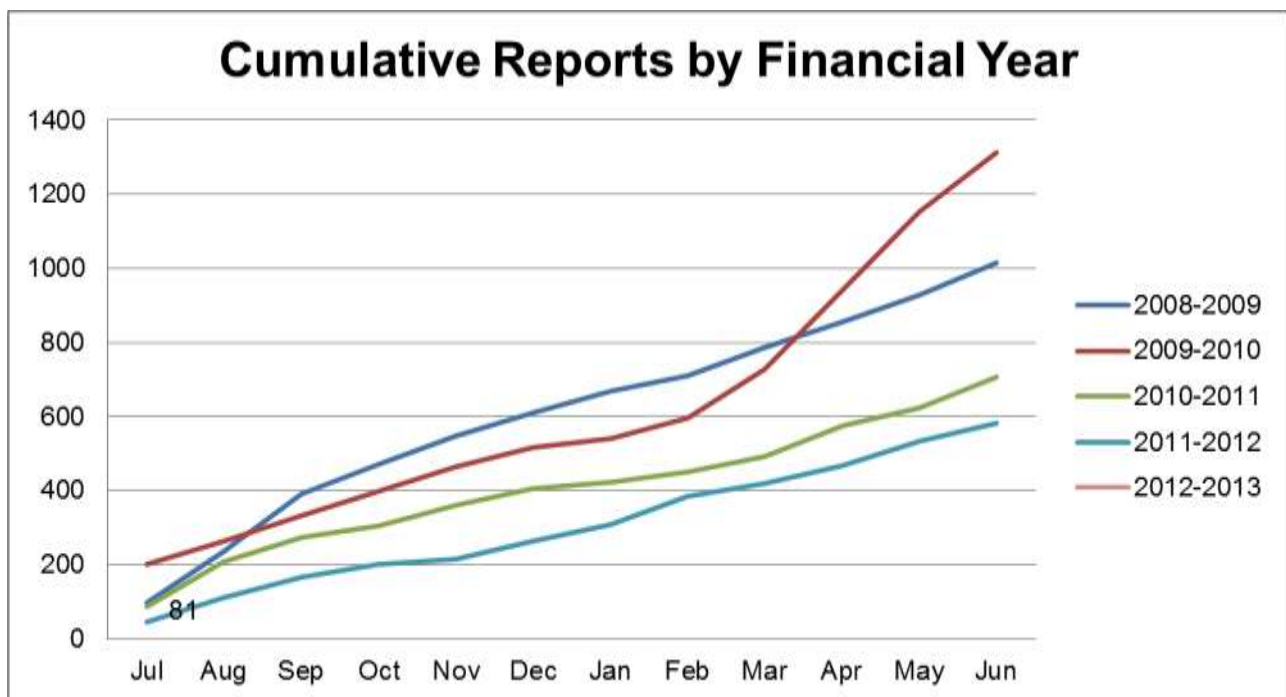
Attachment 3 The following report was distributed prior to the forum by Chris Bydder, EPA.

A briefer presentation has been presented at the BCRG meeting 15 August 2012. These notes offer greater detail of recent developments at EPA in the Brooklyn precinct.

ODOUR

Offensive odours & EPA actions

- Odour reports down 23% on 2010/11 Financial Year.
- All recent reports are only alleging the one source – Australian Tallow.
- Reports from two locations at Blackshaws Road in Altona North and Geelong Road west of Burgess Street in Brooklyn account for the majority of all reports received in Brooklyn for the last 3 months.
- Odour monitoring has not identified any other sources.
- Reports indicate that odour is probably coming from an elevated source.



COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS

- Compliance inspection conducted for Australian Tallow in July.
- Minimal odours were detected at ground level and site has shown **significant** progress in addressing odour issues at the site.
- Source odours experienced at Blackshaws Road and Geelong Road (west or Burgess Street), suspected to be from to odours venting from roof level of the plant.
- Australian Tallow have committed fix this issue.
- EPA is confident once this issue is rectified there should be minimal impact from odours from this site.

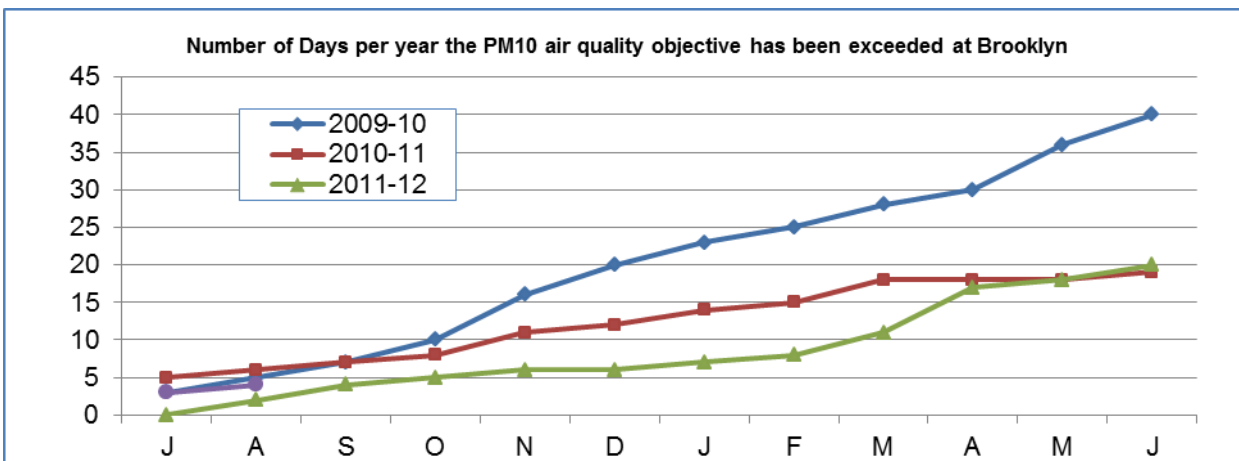
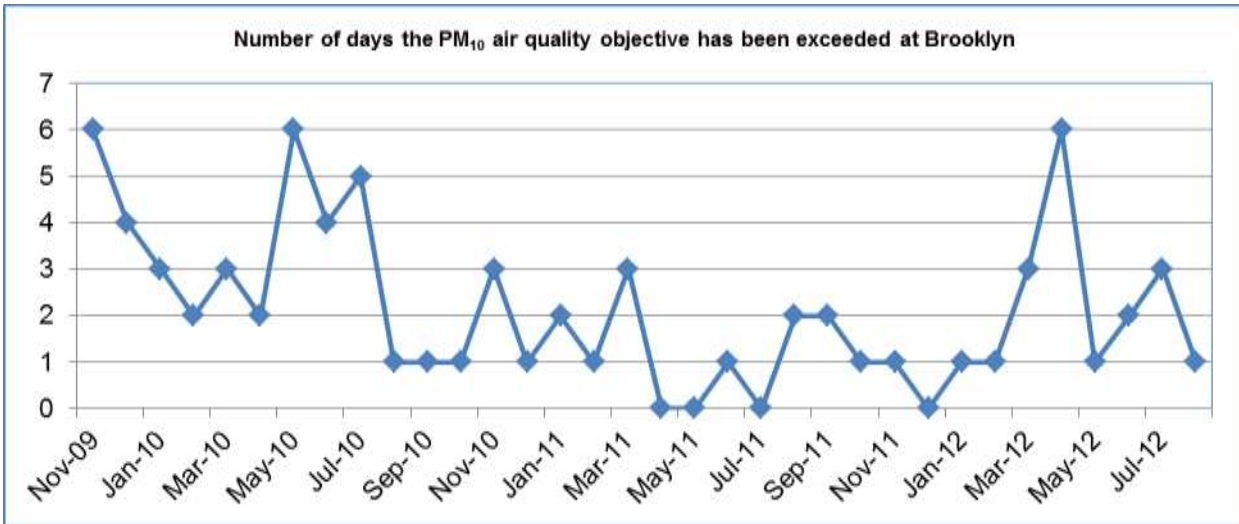
ODOURS IN DRAINS

- Australian Tallow was the suspected source, but this was not confirmed
- EPA identified some potential stormwater issues at the site and will be working with Australian Tallow to correct these.

DUST

Monthly PM₁₀ data for Brooklyn

These results are for PM₁₀ which are particles above 10micron in size generally indicating levels of dust. 2011/12 saw 20 exceedences compared to 19 in 2010/11. Roads are primary cause of exceedences in Brooklyn although in 2011/12 we saw 5-6 exceedences that could be partially attributed to fuel reduction burns.



EPA has nearly reached the limit of what we can do to reduce dust from the industrial facilities themselves. The current focus is to approach all sites with mud and dust track out issues and put notices on these sites that require engineered solutions to fix these issues

Because the level of direct EPA influence is not increasing, the PM₁₀ levels are now fluctuating almost solely due to changes in the weather. During the past few months the Brooklyn region has experienced an increase in the number of dry days with persistent northerly winds and this is why we've recorded an increase in the number of PM₁₀ exceedences.

One extra thing to note is that there has been an increase in the frequency of poor air quality during the night-time hours across the past couple of months. Of the seven PM₁₀ exceedences recorded since the start of May, one was solely caused by a night-time source, while another two exceedences were recorded as a result of a late night spike in PM₁₀ levels.

An early evening increase in PM₁₀ is consistent with smoke from wood heaters, however the source of the PM₁₀ spike during the early (2-3am) hours of July 25 is not as easy to pinpoint.

There won't be another significant reduction of PM₁₀ levels in Brooklyn until the roads are tackled and the issue of vehicle generated dust is solved. When this happens, PM₁₀ levels in Brooklyn are expected to become similar to the rest of Melbourne.

Roads Modelling in Brooklyn.

EPA commissioned Netbalance to model roads emissions in Brooklyn and to model various solutions to determine the next steps in reducing dust emissions in Brooklyn.

They determined that a minimum of 50% and potentially up to 83 % of particle (PM₁₀) emissions are from roads.

Emissions are primarily associated with Bunting and Somerville Roads, and to a lesser degree with McDonald and Jones Roads.

The main sources of the road emissions are caused by:

- Direct stirring up of dust on unpaved roads and verges,
- Dust track-out from unsealed sites,
- Re-mobilisation of dust/mud tracked out onto sealed roads.

Netbalance recommended the following options in mitigating dust emissions from roads:

Seal Bunting Road

Bunting Road is the single largest source of road dust within the precinct. Sealing the road surface has the potential to result in a 47% reduction in PM₁₀ emissions from Bunting Road (roughly 10% of total precinct road dust emissions), and will also help reduce emissions from McDonald Road due to track-out.

Minimise dust track-on via wheel washes at problematic facility exits

Installation of wheel-washes at facility exits has the greatest potential to reduce road dust emissions from the precinct (up to 40% of total precinct road dust emissions). However, due to cost and logistics issues, it is unlikely that this technology can be applied across the entire precinct. As such, it is recommended that the installation of wheel washes target specific facilities (with known track-out issues) along the most problematic roads. Priority roads include Bunting (once sealed), Somerville, Jones, McDonald and Old Geelong Roads.

Periodically wash roads and clear build-up from gutters targeting areas of track-out

Periodic washing of roads has the potential to provide an overall reduction of 23% of total precinct road dust emissions. It is recommended that road washing targets Somerville and McDonald Roads, as well as Bunting Road (once sealed) and Old Geelong Road (once verges are sealed).

Targeted sealing of road verges

Sealing of road verges along the western end of Old Geelong Road, as well as at a number of facility exits along Somerville and McDonald Roads is recommended in order to minimise dust track-out. It was noted that vegetation on such road verges cannot presently be sustained due to frequent vehicle movements.

Full copies of the reports have been uploaded to the [Brooklynip website](#).

Meeting Attendance Record – 15 August, 2012

40 people registered their attendance at the desk:

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Name withheld	Resident	Jan Cole	Resident
Adrian Ashford	Brimbank City Council	Laurie Bell	BRAG/Brooklyn Ratepayers
Anita Sordia	EPA Victoria	Laurie D'Angelo	EPA Victoria
Andrea Mason	Executive Officer, BCRG	Leighton Black	Australian Tallow Producers
Annette Patrick	BRAG	Lowen Clarke	Resident
Ashley Hansen	Brimbank City Council	Malcolm Ramsay	Hobsons Bay City Council
Bert Boere	BRAG	Marie Long	BRAG
Bill Cole	Resident	Martin Hermans	Resident
Brian Long	BRAG	Meredith Sussex AM	Brimbank City Council
Bruce Light	Chair	Michael Johnstone	Resident
Carmen Largaiolli	Resident	Michael Raffoul Cr	Hobsons Bay City Council
Chris Bydder	EPA Victoria	Olga Ghiri	Transpacific
Craig McGrath	Sims Metal Management	Peter Morley	Australian Tallow Producers
David Burrows	Sims Metal Management	Richard Marks	EPA Victoria
Foti Beratis	Maribyrnong City Council	Richard Mataska	Resident
Glen O'Sullivan	Hobsons Bay City Council	Simon Vittorio	Brimbank City Council
Greg Hughes	Sims Metal Management	Steven Koptchak	Resident
Ha Le Thi Le	Brooklyn Strategy Committee	Susan Fitton	Brimbank City Council
Heather Humphries	Resident	Tom Buxton	Sunshine Groupe
Hector Burton	JBS Australia	Troy White	JBS Australia

Apologies			
Andrew Race	Veolia	Marg Renwick	EPA Victoria
Geoff Mitchelmore	Resident Altona North	Matt Stanelos	Veolia
Jen Lilburn	BCRG Chair	Mick Morison	Maribyrnong CC
John Styzinski	Resident	Tony Kairouz	Cedar Meats
		Wade Noonan MP	Member for Williamstown

Notes were taken by Andrea Mason. Presenters were given the opportunity to review the notes relating to their item to ensure the discussion was accurately recorded. Additional comments received after the meeting have been highlighted as such.