

BCRG COMMUNITY FORUM 2/2013

Date: 15 May, 2013

Time: 6:00 for 6:30 – 8.30 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: Jen Lilburn

Agenda Items

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| Light Refreshments |
| 1. Welcome Apologies Confirm draft meeting notes – 13 February 2013 Confirm meeting purpose and agenda |
| 2. What we've achieved to reduce odour, noise and dust Timeline, involving input by all meeting participants including Brooklyn Residents Action Group; Yarraville On The Nose; Cities of Hobsons Bay, Brimbank and Maribyrnong; EPA Victoria; Vic Roads; Wade Noonan; various industries and community members. |
| 3. EPA Victoria, Richard Marks, Manager, EPA Metro <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update on dust, noise and odour program |
| 4. Priority issues We will use the timeline to develop goals at our next meeting. In the meantime, <i>what are the priority issues that you would like to see addressed? (The "little wins" that will make a difference to air quality in your area)</i> |
| 5. Close As you leave.... Feedback on <ul style="list-style-type: none">• BCRG logo• Whether the right processes are in place to address odour, noise and dust. |

Notes from this meeting will be posted on 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, Jen Lilburn

Jen Lilburn (Convenor) welcomed everyone including Wade Noonan MLC, Cr Sandra Wilson (Hobsons Bay City Council) and Jane Nathan (Administrator for Brimbank City Council). Jen also welcomed Council and industry representatives, members from the Brooklyn Residents Action Group and Yarraville On The Nose. (see Attendee list at the end of these notes).

The draft meeting notes from the previous meeting on the 13th February 2013 were confirmed as accurate.

Jen outlined the focus of the forum and the change of meeting structure allowing everyone to reflect on the successes and highlights for Brooklyn that have been seen since the beginning of BCRG five years ago.

Item 2. Timeline

The responses from the participants and some others added after the meeting were put together to create a Timeline of highlights and successes for Brooklyn since 2007. The main themes for these responses were the establishment and structure of the BCRG forums, the increased support for Brooklyn and the surrounding area from key agencies, the development of partnerships between stakeholders to address issues identified, the positive response from industries as they engage with the community to address their concerns and the noticeable improvement in amenity in some areas.



BCRG Community Forum



Working through issues

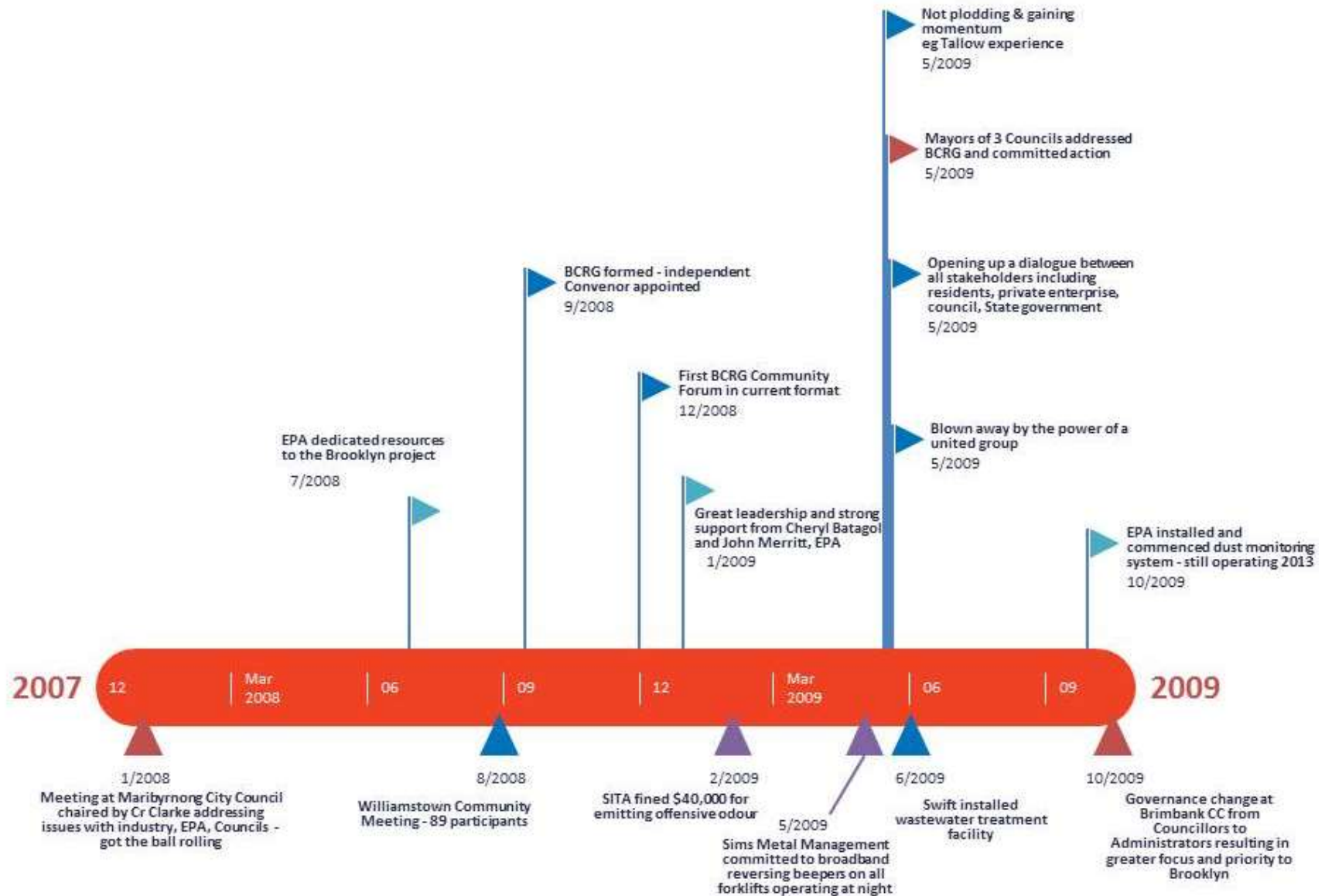


An opportunity to be heard

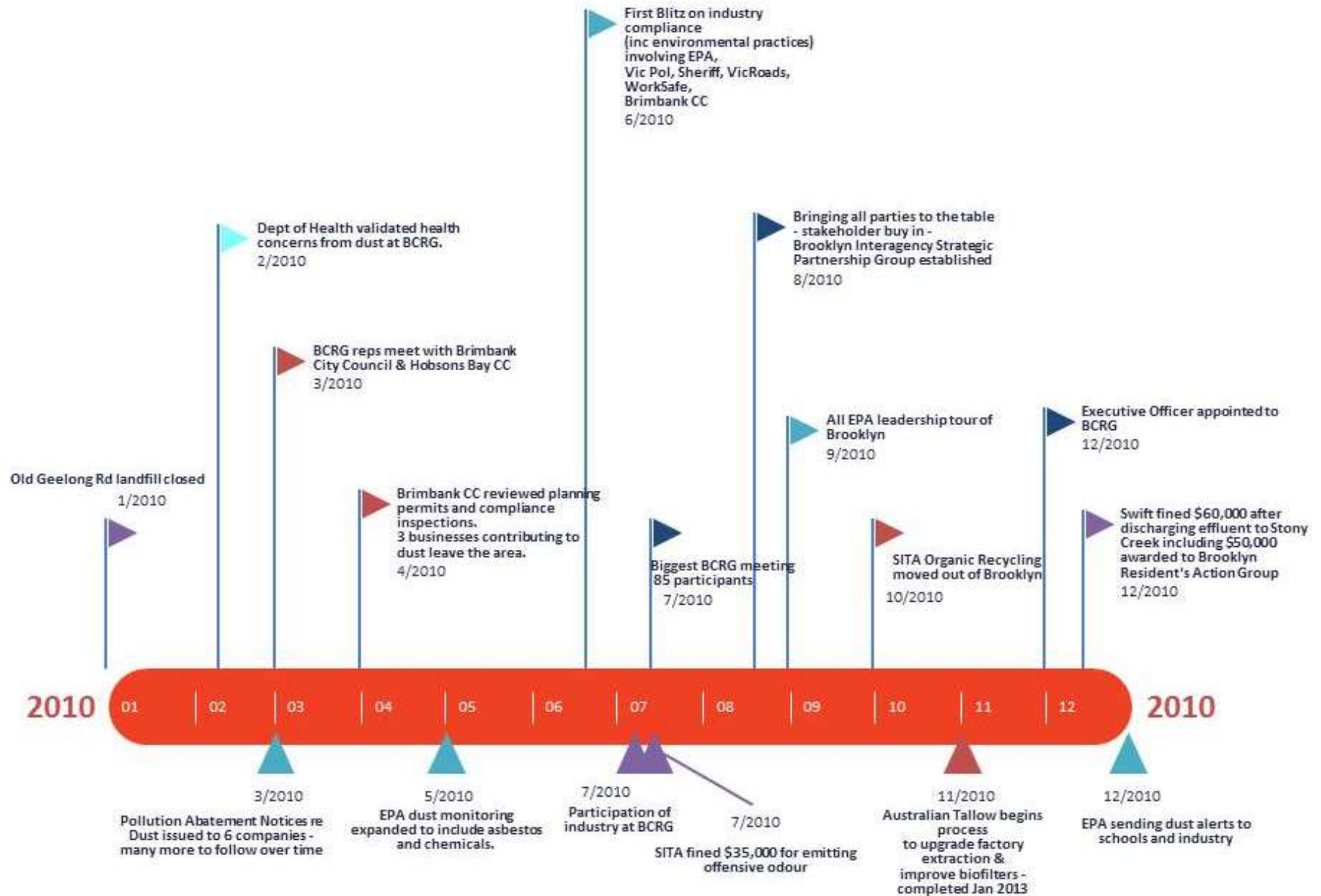


An opportunity to listen

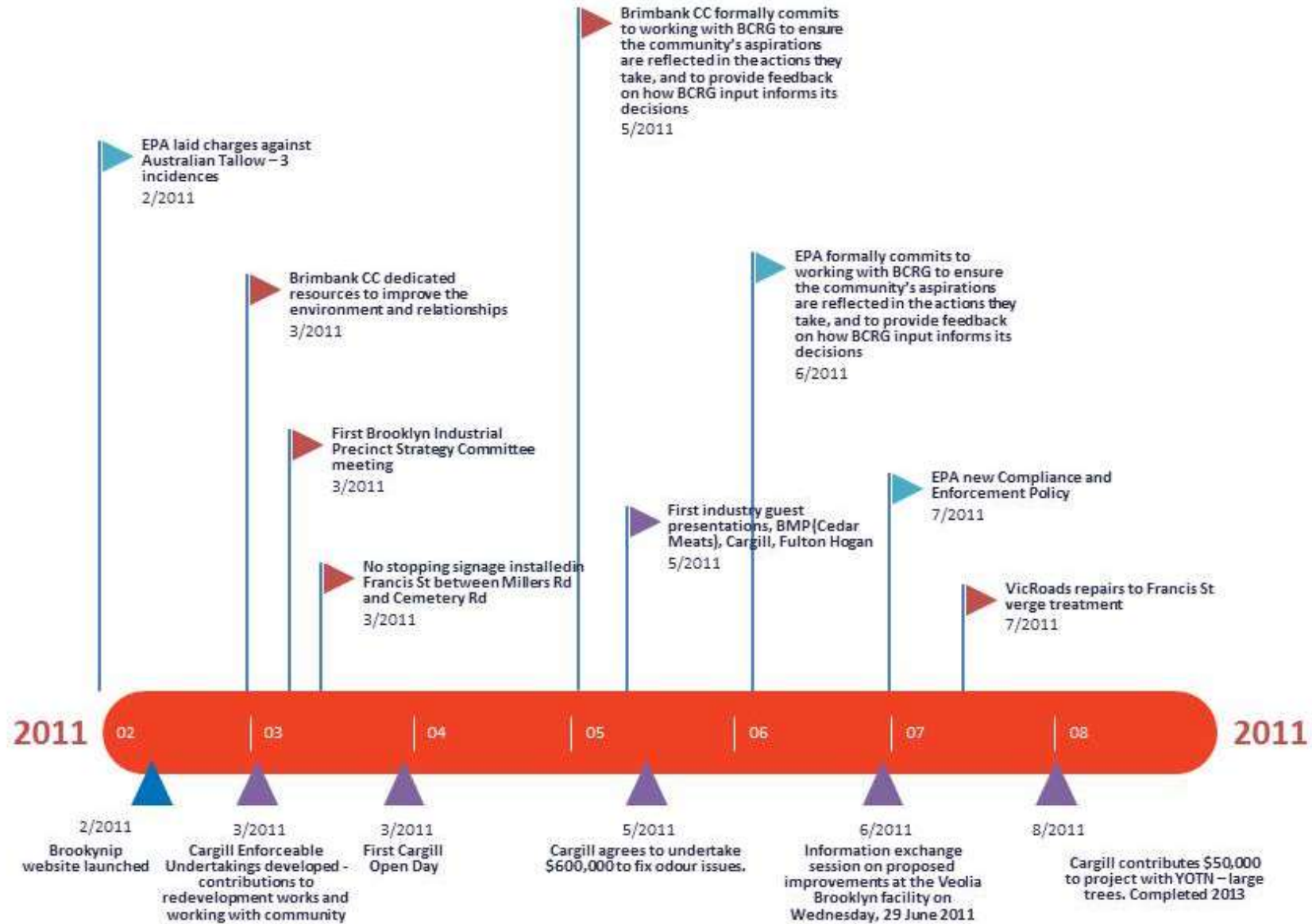
Early Beginnings



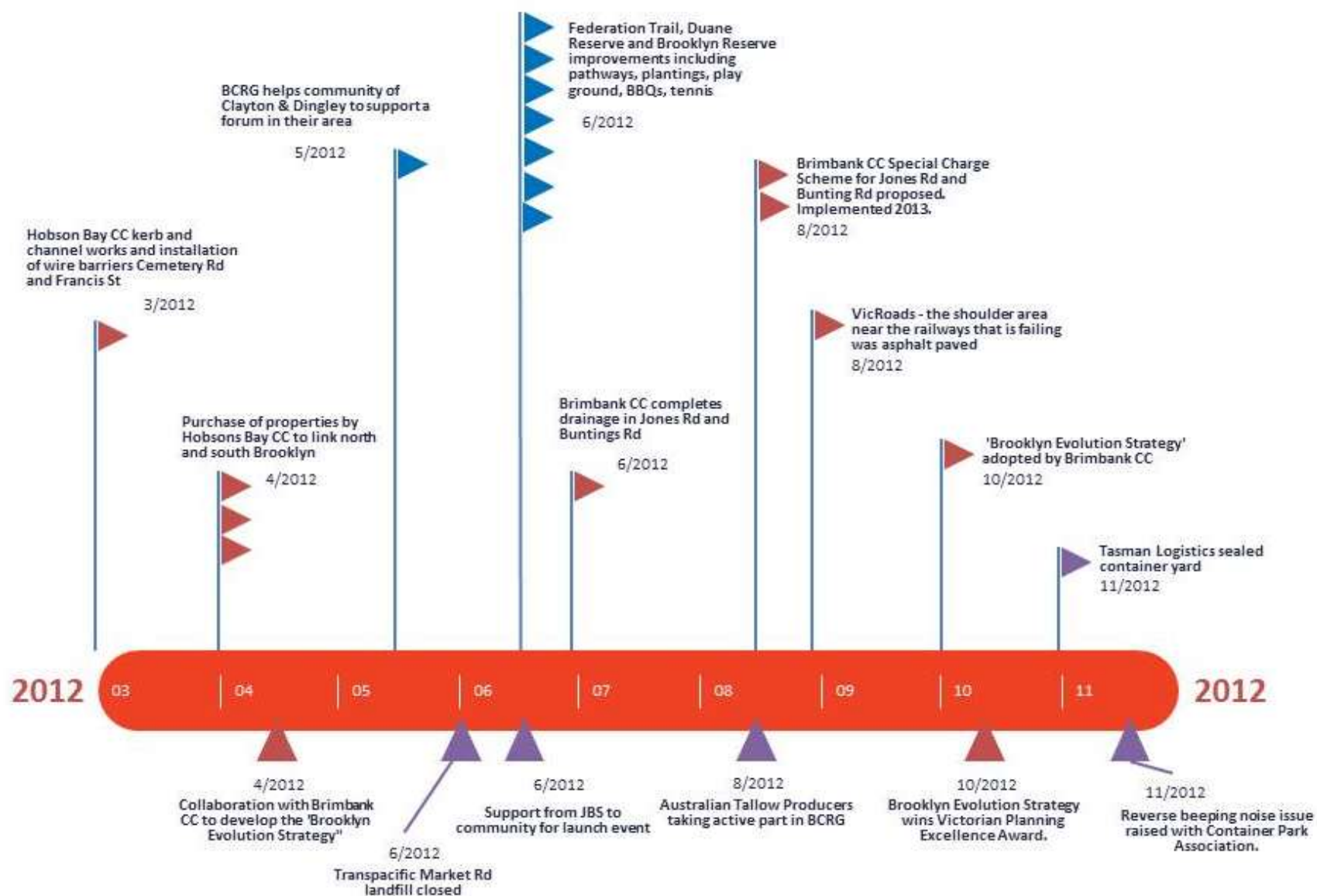
Actions Begin



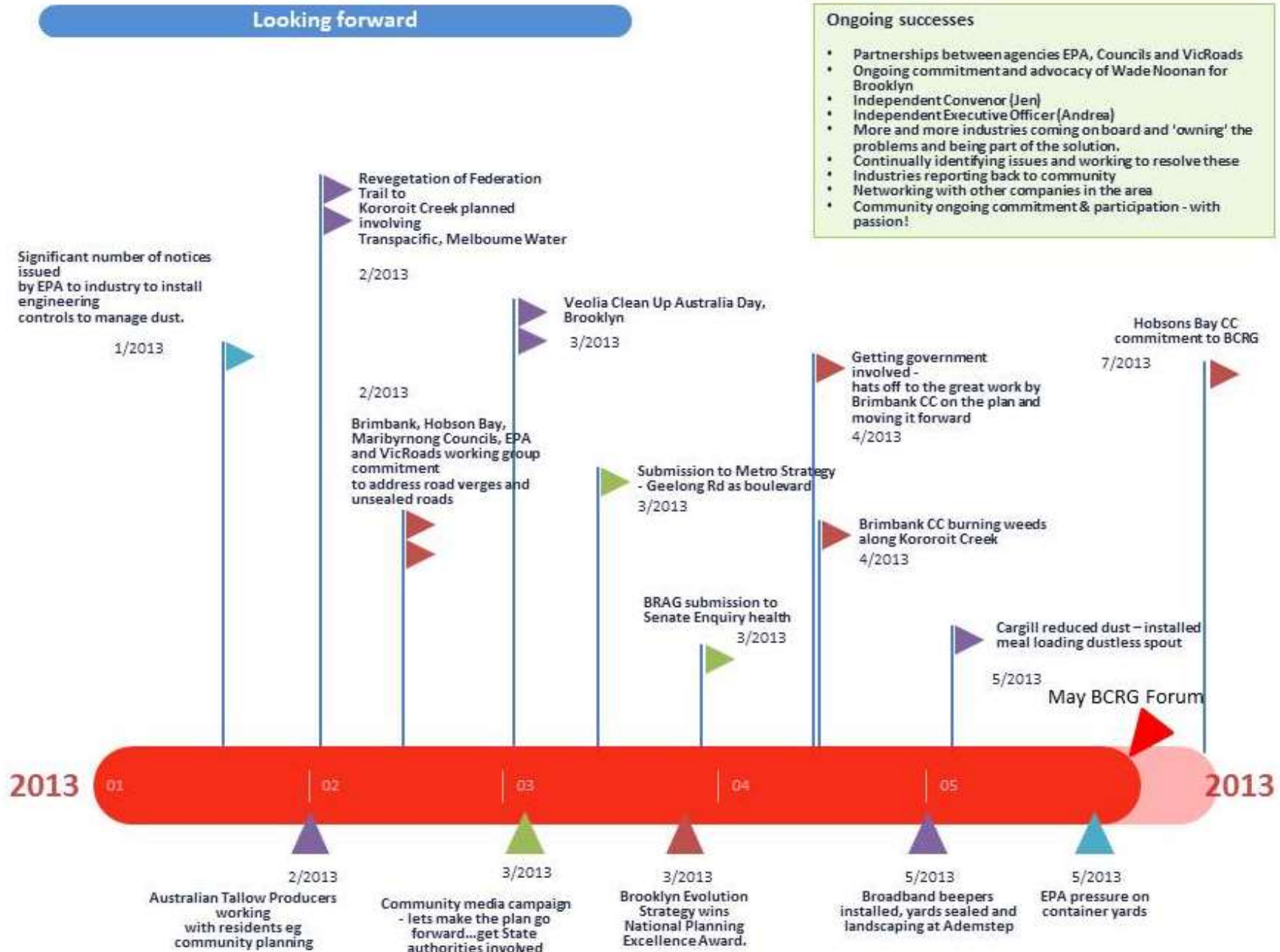
More resources applied



Some great progress



Looking forward



Ongoing successes

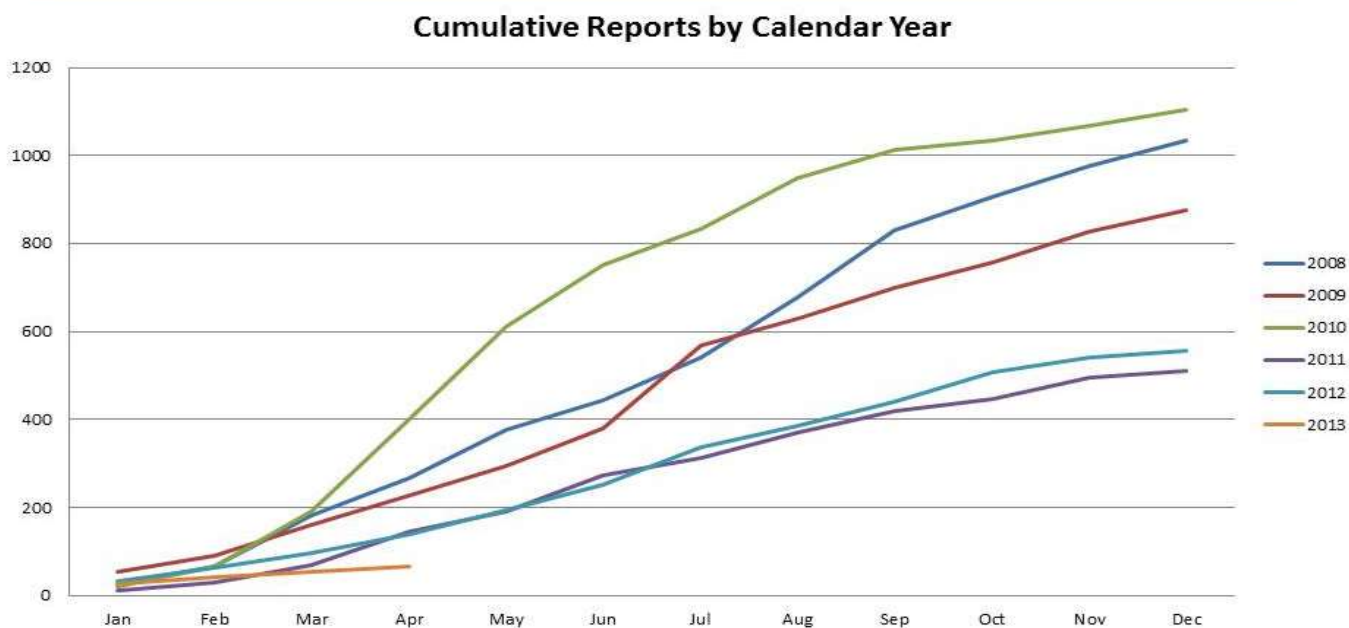
- Partnerships between agencies EPA, Councils and VicRoads
- Ongoing commitment and advocacy of Wade Noonan for Brooklyn
- Independent Convenor (Jen)
- Independent Executive Officer (Andrea)
- More and more industries coming on board and 'owning' the problems and being part of the solution.
- Continually identifying issues and working to resolve these
- Industries reporting back to community
- Networking with other companies in the area
- Community ongoing commitment & participation - with passion!

Item 3. Richard Marks, Manager, Metro, EPA Victoria - Update on dust, noise and odour program

Slide 2 Our Role

- Ensuring industry complies with the laws under the EP Act 1970;
- Working collaboratively with co-regulators, e.g local government; and
- Being accountable to the Victorian community

Slide 3 Odour update



BCRG Update 15 May 2013 3

Fig 1 Slide 3

- The control of odour sources has improved in the region, and while is an ongoing concern for EPA, it has been found that odour reports this calendar year are tracking as the lowest since monitoring began (68 total). In fact, February, March and April had some of the lowest number of reports recorded so far (15, 13 and 12, respectively). This is due to bringing the two major sources of odour under control:
 - Australian Tallow: Changes to operations and processes required by EPA.
 - Western Land Reclamation landfill fire: As outlined at the previous meeting, EPA issued a remedial notice on the company that required the fire to be extinguished, which has now been complied with.
- EPA had two recent incidents of multiple reports received in Brooklyn on 9 May (5) and 13 May (7), EPA officers were sent out and investigations are underway.

Days that exceed air quality objectives

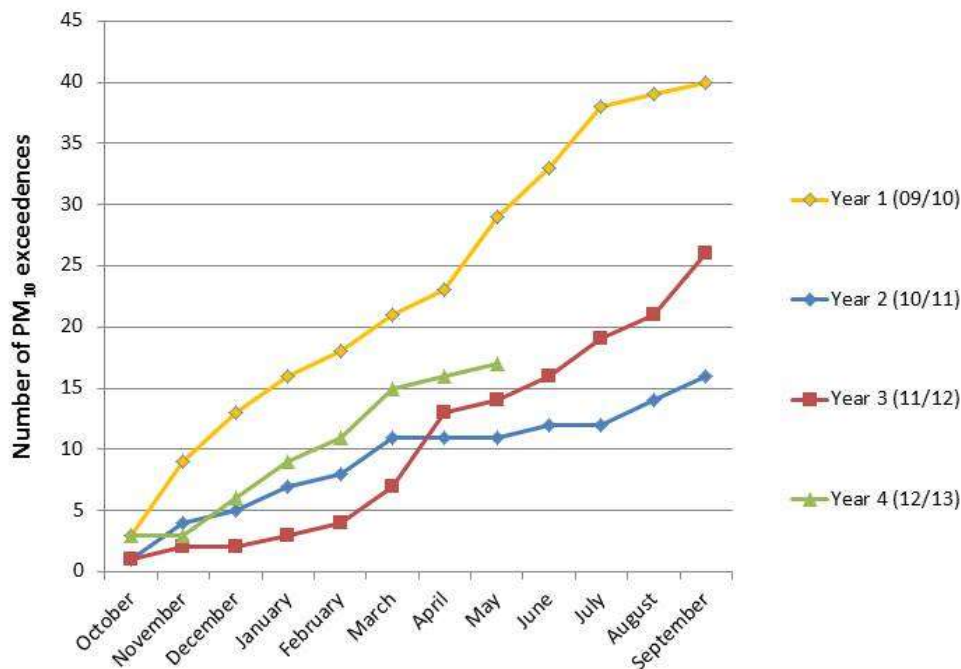


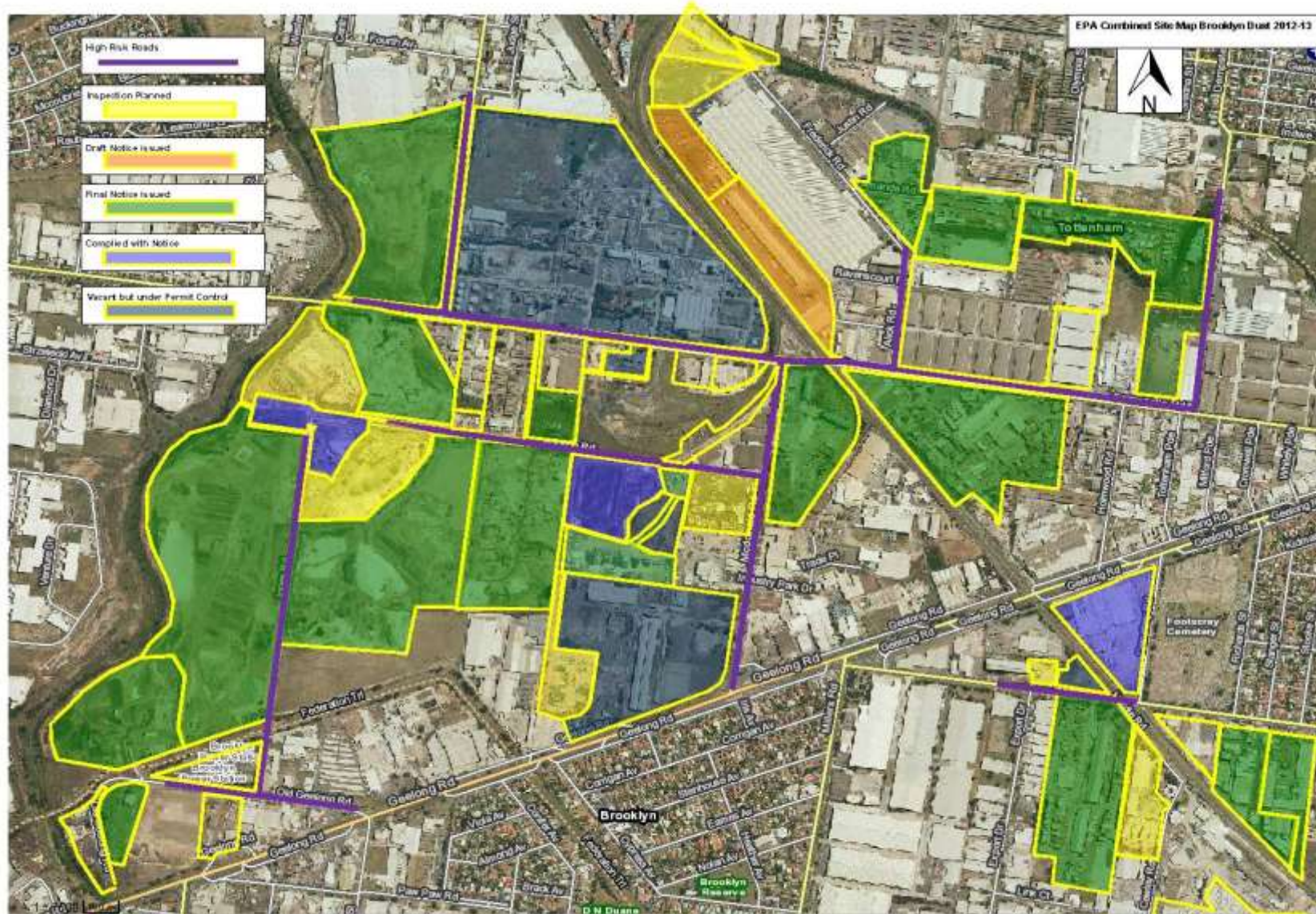
Fig 2 Slide 4

- This graph shows each year of air monitoring since 2008 (in monitoring years). This is different to the older graph that included extrapolation for the first year of monitoring.
- EPA issues alerts to councils, schools and industry for high risk days has been no rain for last ~3 days and strong, persistent northerly winds.
- Climatic conditions in 2012/13 have created more risk for potential poor air quality than the last two years.
- Dust exceedences are tracking slightly lower than 2009/10, but higher than 2010/11/12; and
- Poorest conditions are usually during the morning from 6-10am and this is due to traffic movement, primarily going in and out of industrial sites.

Slides 5 & 6 Actions - Dust

- **Compliance**
- **15 PANs issued since January 2013 with requirements including engineered controls**
- **12 of these have been finalised**
- **A further 14 sites are planned for next stage of compliance plan**

Fig 3 The notice tracking map indicates which sites and at which stage of the process these sites are that are currently being investigated by the EPA.



- In the first phase of the compliance plan (the first 15 PANs) there has been consultation with the sites to try to ensure they understand scope of the issue and what the notice means. There has been some negotiation around timelines for compliance to align with long term infrastructure upgrades (e.g. Sealing of roads) and lease agreements.
- The requirements contained within the notices have been based on a standard list that accounts for the layout and activities of each specific site. This helps maintain consistency in the notices and tries to ensure sites are on a level playing field.
- Example, specific for container parks:
 - By xxx date you must modify all areas used to stack shipping containers so that they have an all-weather surface to withstand shipping container loads and lifting equipment to prevent the generation of airborne dust.
- Specific for materials recyclers:
 - By xxx date you must install engineered controls so that screening, stockpiling, sorting and materials handling on the site does not generate airborne dust.
- Requirements are generally 3-6 months for management controls, and 12-18 months for sealing of large areas/other major works (ON AVERAGE?)
- Big investment required and physically takes a long time to implement (even if funds are available and company goes ahead best case is 18 months).

Collaboration and Coordination

- **Air quality monitoring and technical advice**
- **Roads working group**
- **Compliance activities**
- **Identifying opportunities through Brooklyn Evolution**

EPA is also collaborating with other government agencies to facilitate improvements across the region. This is through:

- Contributing monitoring and technical advice to aid in reducing dust from roads
- Assisting in the development of a roads action plan that is now being implemented through a working group (including an increase in road maintenance and commitment to engineering works)
- Coordinating compliance activities with Brimbank City Council to achieve better outcomes (ensuring compliance at different stages of development and using complementary regulatory tools)
- Identifying opportunities for integration with the Brooklyn Evolution Strategy.

Clean Up Australia Day – 3 March 2013



Fig 4 Slide 7

Question: How many dust exceedences have there been since monitoring began?

Response (Chris Bydder, EPA): 98

Question: Is there an objective measure for odour?

Response (Richard Marks, EPA): There is no equipment that can detect odour to the degree the human nose does.

Question: Is there anyone monitoring water quality and any effects from runoff into the waterways?

Response (Richard Marks, EPA): Melbourne Water is the responsible agency for water quality and they report to the EPA.

Response (Geoff Mitchelmore): Waterwatch monitors Kororoit Creek monthly in partnership with Melbourne Water.

Question: What do you mean by 'finalised PAN'?

Response (Richard Marks, EPA): The notice has been served on the company and comes into force within 28 days of issue.

Question: Can the residents be compensated by industry for the distress resulting from odour and dust from industries?

Response (Bert Boere, BRAG): BRAG and other community groups have investigated this option before and concluded that it would be very difficult and likely to be unsuccessful. The focus is now on using BCRG as a means of communicating ongoing concerns.

Comment: Cathy Palmer from Australian Tallow Producers noted the value to industry of being able to explain what they do and develop relationships with the community through BCRG.

Item 4. Priority Issues

Participants were asked: What are the priority issues that you would like to see addressed? (The "little wins" that will make a difference to air quality in your area. The following are the responses recorded.

- Community to identify properties with loud beepers – refer to the list from EPA in 2008.
- Identify which industries in Brooklyn triangle that do not turn up eg. Skins processor – machinery noise, odour, dust.
- Little beepers – The Victorian Transport Association needs to be made aware of the issue with beepers.
- HELP! – we need little reverse beepers – residents of Corrigan Ave were woken on 14th May 2013 at 3am.

After the meeting...

16/05/13 Email received from Carmen Largaiolli re beepers - in response to (resident) Richard Mataska's email plea to EPA bout beeper noise in Brooklyn.

I spoke with Leigh from Melbourne Reefer Services at BCRG, Chair Victorian Container Association, who has done a lot of work 'promoting' the broadband beepers amongst the (now) small number of members. This group was only formed in 2011. Leigh also liaises with Victorian Transport Association and I asked whether he could undertake the same promotion of broadband beepers with this organisation, which is a much larger group catering to the transport industry (established for many years now). He claims that he has already done so, emphasising that nothing can be enforced - only recommended.

Richard, I totally share your sentiments on the level of noise we have to put up with in Brooklyn, and the EPA team are fully aware of the community's long standing campaign to address this ongoing issue. I fully back your idea that EPA should approach VTA on the subject of low frequency beepers, especially given the growth of the logistics industry over recent years, and the likelihood of increased presence in the Brooklyn area over coming years.

Action 1: Carmen suggested that the EPA approach the VTA with a view to addressing the VTA conference on 27/28 May regarding low frequency beepers.

The conference focus is:

A rich program of business and transport logistics industry experts guaranteed to leave you with practical, take-home advice to help improve business.

*Key sessions will cover Improving Productivity & Profitability; **Latest Technology Trends**; Business Sustainability; **Improving Safety & Compliance**; Managing People and Investing in Training for the Future; Industrial Relations & Changes to Superannuation Laws, and Future Logistics Solutions.*

- With Innova starting production in 2014, could this potentially increase dusts, odours and pollution issues within the Brooklyn Community? Jason Price, Hobsons Bay Resident's Association.
- The community has been betrayed by the EPA by supporting a toxic soil facility to operate in the Hobsons Bay Community. Hobsons Bay has now become the toxic soil dumping ground supported by the EPA. When will the EPA listen to the community and act in a manner to safe guard communities from companies such as Innova? Colin Palmer, co – Convenor, Hobsons Bay Resident's Association.

After the meeting...

The EPA has been asked to respond to these 2 issues regarding Innova. As they are considered to be outside the scope of BCRG we will send the responses directly to the people who raised them.

Item 5. Feedback on proposed logo and community satisfaction

Participants were asked to record their preference for a logo for BCRG. Option B was the most favoured.



Fig 5

Participants were also asked to mark on the survey on their way out to gauge community satisfaction regarding processes to resolve odour and dust problems in the general Brooklyn area.

Satisfaction of BCRG participants regarding processes to resolve odour problems in the general Brooklyn area

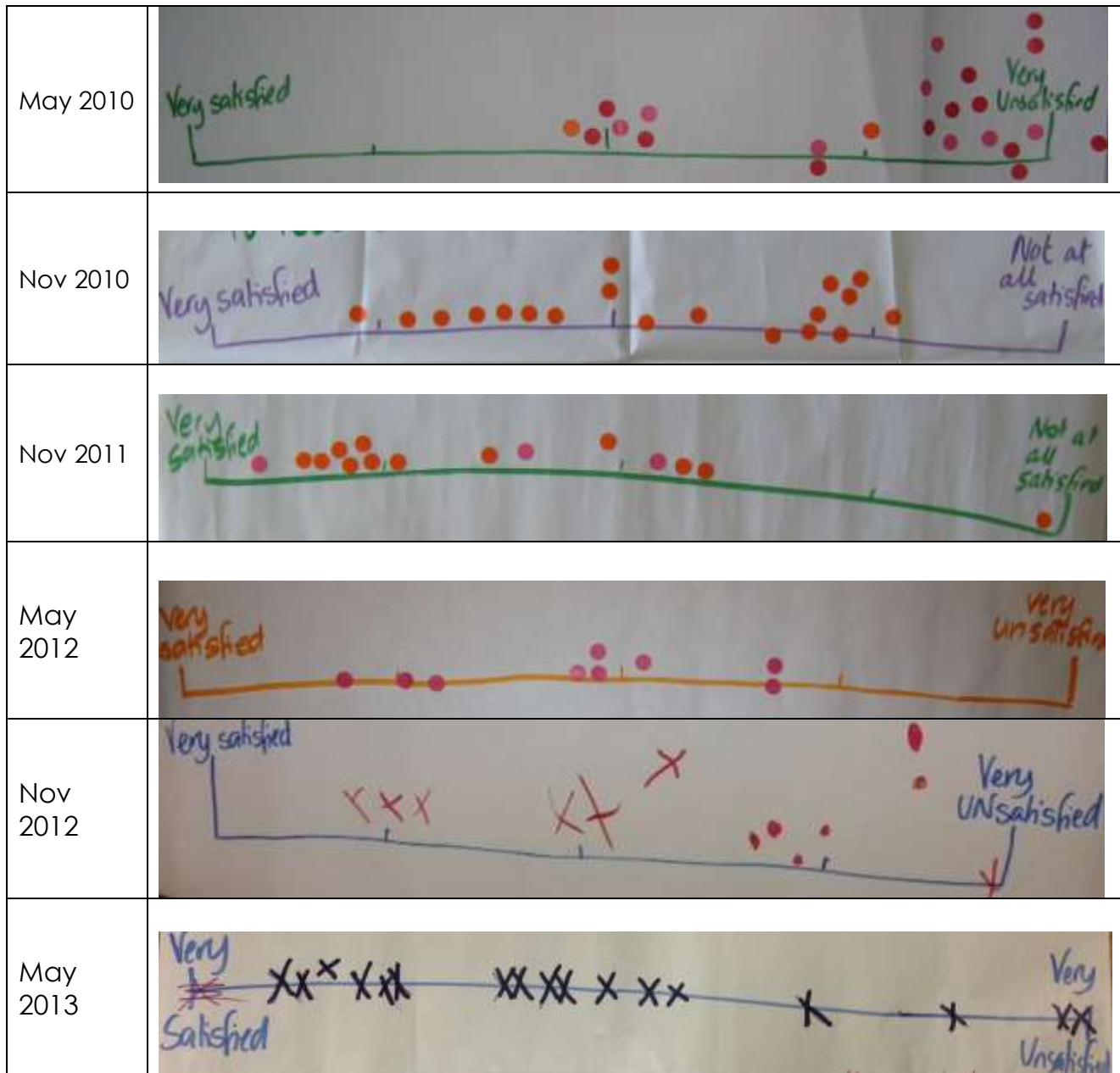


Fig 6

Satisfaction of BCRG participants regarding processes to resolve dust problems in the general Brooklyn area:

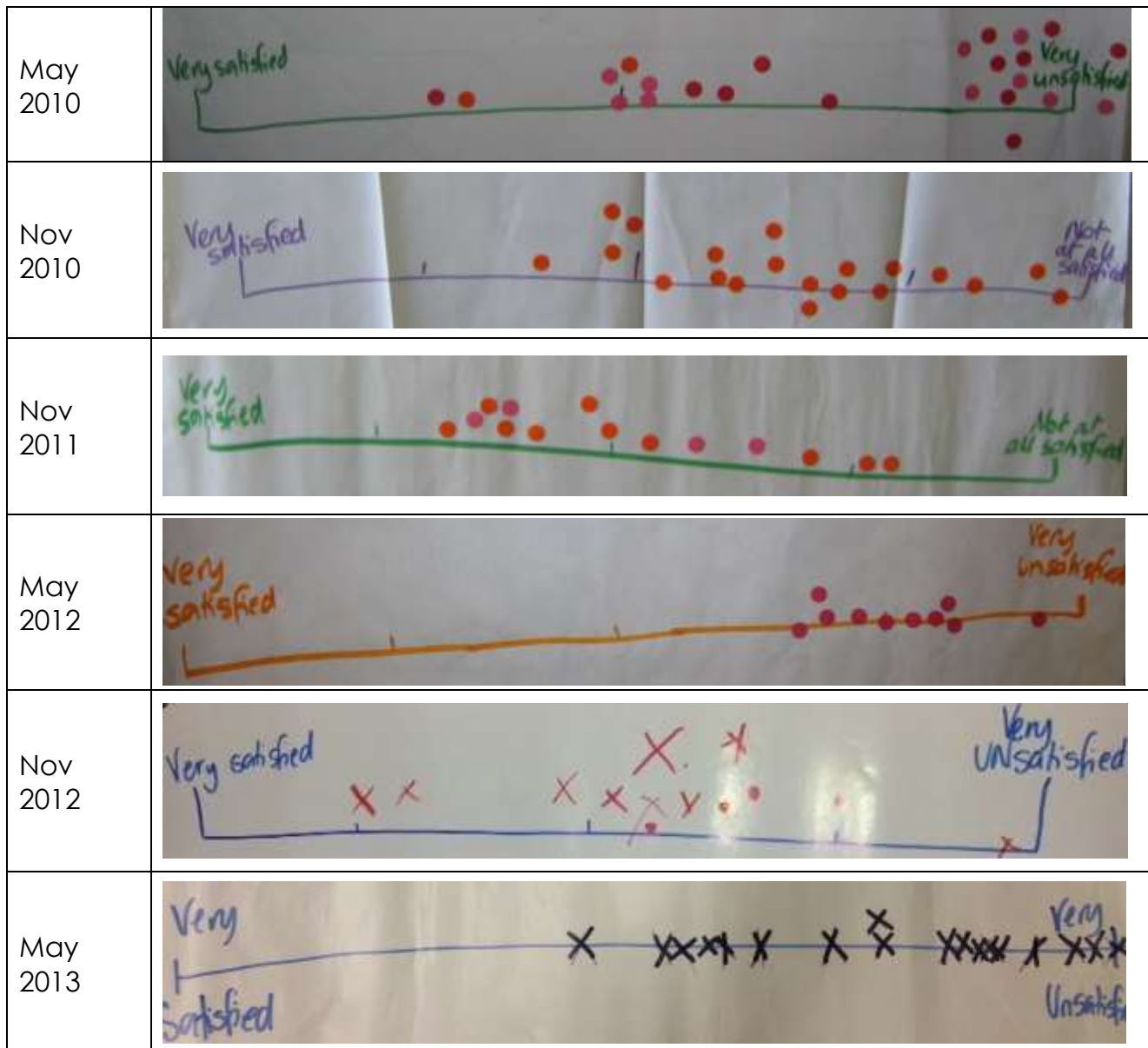


Fig 7

Update from Simon Vittorio, Brimbank CC

Simon's full report can be seen in [Appendix A](#).

Meeting Closed: 8:30

Meeting Attendance Record – 15 May, 2012

62 people attended the forum. The following registered their attendance.

| Name | Organisation | Name | Organisation |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Adrian East | Resident | Ian Butterworth | Maribyrnong City Council |
| Alex Kozeniauskas | Delta Group | Irene Roberts | Resident |
| Andrea Mason | Executive Officer, BCRG | Jane Nathan | Brimbank City Council |
| Anne Palmer | Hobsons Bay Residents Assoc | Jason Price | Hobsons Bay Residents Assoc |
| Anita Scordia | EPA Victoria | Jen Lilburn | BCRG Chair |
| Bert Boere | BRAG | Joe Coleiro | Cargill |
| Bill Cole | Resident | Keith Greaves | Chit Chat |
| Brian Long | BRAG | Laurie Bell | BRAG |
| Bruce Light | On The Nose | Leigh Taylor | Business |
| Bruce Howden | OneSteel | Leighton Black | Aust Tallow Producers |
| Cameron Gordon | Resident | Lorraine Bedella | ANSCC |
| Carmen Largaiolli | Resident | Malcolm Ramsay | Hobsons Bay City Council |
| Cathy Palmer | Aust Tallow Producers | Matthew Sheridan | Transpacific |
| Charles Fiorini | Hobsons Bay Residents Assoc | Nicole Valicek | Star News |
| Cheryl Valneris | Vic Container Management | Olga Ghiri | Transpacific |
| Chloe Carpenter | Pacific Hydro | Peter Gaschk | Hobsons Bay City Council |
| Chris Bydder | EPA Victoria | Peter Morley | Aust Tallow Producers |
| Colin Palmer | Hobsons Bay Residents Assoc | Richard Marks | EPA Victoria |
| Daniel Watts | Veolia | Richard Mataska | Resident |
| Don Bedella | ANSCC | Roger Isaac | Resident |
| Donald Chilcott | Resident | Rosemary Moody | ANSCC |
| Eimear Hardiman | Resident | Sandra Wilson (Cr) | Hobsons Bay City Council |
| Evelyn Chilcott | Resident | Simon Vittorio | Brimbank City Council |
| Foti Beratis | Maribyrnong City Council | Steven Koptchak | Resident |
| Geoff Mitchelmore | Resident Altona North | Steven Voser | Resident |
| Glenn O'Sullivan | Hobsons Bay City Council | Susan Fitton | Brimbank City Council |
| Ha Le, Le | Brooklyn Strategy Committee | Tony Kairouz | Cedar Meats |
| Heath Davis | OneSteel | Troy Kraska | EPA Victoria |
| Heather Humphreys | Resident | Wade Noonan MP | Member for Williamstown |
| Helen Paterson | Container Logistics | | |

| Apologies | | | |
|--------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Graeme Birch | Chalmers Containers | Michael Sfetkidis | Charters Papers |
| Rahim Jassim | Cedar Meats | | |

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.

Appendix A

The following report was distributed by Simon Vittorio, Brimbank City Council.

Summary

The Council and 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 and the EPA have to improve the environmental outcomes within the municipality.

Under the MOU, Brimbank and EPA 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.

Council and EPA are close to updating the current MOU to ensure it remains relevant and achieves the best result for the community in Brooklyn and other parts of Brimbank.

Enforcement Activity

The Planning Compliance Unit is continuing to focus on achieving compliance in the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct by working with land owners and industry operators to address areas of non-compliance with the Brimbank Planning Scheme.

Since the last BCRG meeting in February 2013 Council's Planning Compliance Unit has continued to pursue compliance by:

- Visiting the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct on a regular basis and undertaking in-excess of 100 site inspections to meet land owners and industry operators, investigate complaints and work towards addressing issues associated with non-compliant industries.
- Meeting with the EPA on multiple occasions as part of a coordinated approach to share information and work towards achieving compliance on a number of sites within the Precinct. These meetings have been productive and reinforce both organisations commitment to work towards improving amenity and environmental outcomes.
- Attending VCAT on the 10 May 2013 to seek an Enforcement Order against a materials recycling operator located on Bunting Road that would require them to obtain a planning permit for the use or cease operation on the site. VCAT adjourned the case for 2 weeks at the request of the industry operator.
- Pursuing a land owner located on Old Geelong to remove illegal landfill from the subject site and from adjoining land located close to the Kororoit Creek. Council will endeavour to have the land returned to its original state and will pursue this matter at VCAT if the owner does not cooperate.
- Commencing discussions with relevant Stakeholders, including land owners, Melbourne Water, a representative from the Brooklyn Residents Action Group and various Council officers to address the environmental issues, potential dust problems and harm to the Kororoit Creek associated with the stockpiles and bunds located adjacent to the waterway.

Planning Compliance Team

May 2013