



BROOKLYN COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE GROUP

***OUR PURPOSE:** to facilitate community, industry, local government and EPA working together to ensure that public concerns and aspirations regarding odour, noise and dust in the general Brooklyn area are consistently understood and considered.*

NOVEMBER 2014 MEETING SNAPSHOTS

Tashia Dixon, Living Brooklyn Project Manager: The **Living Brooklyn Project** brings industry and government together to identify practical solutions to Brooklyn's dust and amenity issues. Its vision is *A World Class Industrial Eco-Park that is the pride of place for the people working and living in Brooklyn.*

The first project underway is development of a wetland and landscaped area at the Brooklyn Gateway site near the crossing of Geelong Road over Kororoit Creek.



Ray Martin, Brimbank CC: Following the recent VCAT decision to negate the special charge scheme to seal **Jones Road**, Brimbank City Council has also abandoned its plans to initiate a similar scheme to seal **Bunting Road**.

In response, members of Brooklyn Residents Action Group suggested a suite of alternative proposals to the August BCRG meeting, including various traffic control measures, kerb/channel works, and closing of Jones Road. Brimbank CC will discuss these options further with BRAG in early December.

The status of the government's \$900,000 Sustainability Fund commitment to contribute to the works is unknown given the election. The alignment of the proposed East-West Link may have impact on the future development of Bunting Road. These issues will become standing items at future BCRG meetings.





The Environment Protection Authority CEO, **Nial Finegan**, was welcomed by the group. He confirmed EPA's commitment to improving the environment in Brooklyn.

Nial commented on the marked improvements in Brooklyn over the last few years and complimented the community action groups that have remained strong and continue to hold the EPA and others to account. He added that the EPA understands the impact of dust on the community and remains committed to addressing the issue in Brooklyn until it is no longer such a huge concern.

Richard Marks, EPA Manager Melbourne Metro gave an update on monitoring results so far for the financial year:

- There has been the lowest number (55) of odour reports since 2008-9
- There has been the lowest number (7) of PM10 dust exceedances since 2011-12
- With two months of 2014 still to go, Brooklyn has already experienced more dry days with northerly winds than any other year since air monitoring began in the suburb. This is significant because those are the weather conditions that facilitate the transport of PM10 from the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct to the neighbouring residential area to the south.



In addition,

- There are currently 29 Active notices in Brooklyn.
- EPA is continuing to see positive works being undertaken by industry, with a strong focus on long term engineering solutions. Several sites have come into compliance in the previous 3 months.
- By 31 December 2014, 65% of sites will have reached their final notice compliance date.

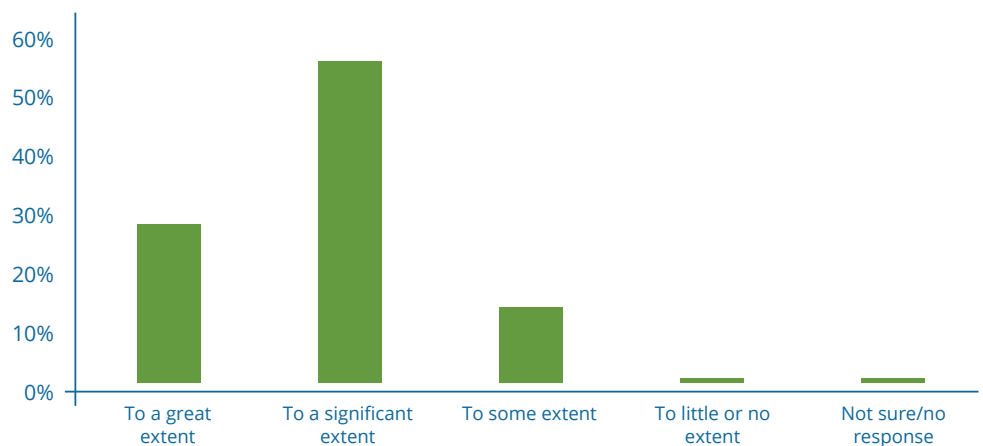


Cr Sandra Wilson spoke of two areas in which she has been advocating for Brooklyn:

- Federal Minister Hunt has asked state and territory environment ministers to put forward key areas of concern for inclusion within a national clean air agreement. Cr Wilson will follow up any contribution that may have been made from the Victorian Government.
- Cr Wilson will continue to advocate for a longitudinal health impacts study for Brooklyn residents

BCRG participants were asked several questions, including

To what extent does BCRG influence decisions about the Brooklyn environment?



Meeting dates for 2015: Wednesday 4 March, 22 July and 11 November.
Attendance by open invitation: contact eo.bcr@gmail.com

See the meeting notes at <http://www.brooklynip.com.au/bcr-g-meeting-notes> for a full account of what took place at the meeting.

