

Boroondara BUG Meeting, 7.00pm, Wednesday 9th June 2021

By Zoom

MINUTES

Attendance: Glennys Jones, John Parker, Philip Mallis, David Hall, Julia Blunden, David Farrow, Mal Faul, Kate Prest

Apologies: Cr Victor Franco

Minutes of May Meeting: Accepted.

Correspondence

In

- Sundry emails from other BUGs including newsletters, and links to surveys
- Sundry commercial offers

Out

- Submission to Council budget

Matters arising

1. **North East Bicycle Corridor and North East Link:** Glennys reported that she would be attending a CLG meeting the next day and would send round an email after that.
2. **Walmer St Bridge:** There is \$2.39M in the Boroondara Council budget for the replacement of the land bridge. An application will be made to Heritage Victoria to allow this to happen.
3. **Jacka Trail:** There is mention of \$700,000 allocated for this in the council budget. Bushan Jani is doing the design. Julia Blunden has emailed Bushan listing features the BUG want included in this and other crossings.
4. **Hawthorn to Box Hill Trail:** Glennys Jones reported that Jane Waldock is now working two days a week as a transport engineer for Boroondara Council. Jane has a history of successful advocacy for sustainable transport. John Parker reported that he and Peter Campbell would be meeting with Jane via Zoom. Julia Blunden agreed to host this meeting.
5. **Toorak Rd Crossing on Anniversary Trail:** There is money allocated in the State Government budget for the preparation of a business case, and more money is to be allocated in next year's budget, hopefully for the bridge to be built. MP Will Fowles has been very supportive of this project. Glennys Jones offered to write a letter of thanks for his help.
6. **Gardiners Creek Underpass at Toorak Rd:** The BUG now believes that this needs to be divided into three projects: lighting under the bridge; reducing the gradient of the approaches on both sides; and dealing with the flooding and silting by either raising the level of the path under the bridge or constructing flood walls. Flood walls were ruled out by Melbourne Water in 2011, but many such walls have been built since then so this option needs to be re-investigated. Glennys Jones will send the video she made riding the underpass in the dark to the council officers to support the case for lighting under the bridge. Kate Prest pointed out that there may be a problem with dividing the project into three, as once any work is done the council will become liable if there is an accident.
7. **Shared Path / Local intersection priorities:** There is \$120,000 in the council budget for this project. Philip Mallis has compiled a list of intersections that need to be considered for reverse priority. Kate Prest

has put this on Slack. There was some suggestion that the Urqhart St – The Boulevard/Swinburne Ave crossing had been chosen for the first round of works. There was a consensus that this crossing is a low priority, whereas the Anniversary Trail-Abercrombie St crossing is a high priority. This needs to be raised at the next Cycle Advisory Committee meeting.

8. **Ferndale Trail – Need for widening and realignment between Summerhill and Ferndale Rds:** Nil to report.
9. **BBUG Strategic Advocacy Planning:** Nil to report.
10. **Boroondara Bicycle Strategy:** The draft strategy has still not been released. This too needs to be raised at the next CAC meeting.
11. **Frog Hollow to Ferndale Trail:** Glennys Jones reported that she has written a submission to Council about this. There is some funding in the council budget but it is not clear what the plan is. \$40,000 has been allocated to investigate a path link from Denman Ave to Somerset Rd via Back Creek. It is not clear whether the BUG needs to push for this to be extended through to Toorak Rd in the future. Another agenda item for the CAC meeting.
12. **Guide dogs- change to access arrangements:** Nil to report
13. **Web Site:** The web site was down for a while. This can be expected with a free site. Kate Prest has been loading more material onto the new site. The question of getting a BUG Google drive, and putting this on Slack, was raised. Kate offered to look into the cost of this.
14. **Twitter account:** Nil to report.
15. **Treasurer’s report:** Mal Faul reported that the BUG bank balance is relatively unchanged.

New Business

1. **Ride2School Funding:** Julia Blunden reported that she had received an email from Ros Spence, Minister for Community Sport, saying that ‘Bicycle Network will receive continued funding from the Andrews Labor Government for a further two years to deliver the Ride2School program’. Julia agreed to forward this letter to BUG members.
2. **BUG Presentation on Council Budget:** Peter Campbell was not present but Glennys Jones offered to send a link to the relevant part of the council meeting.

Other Business

1. **Belford Rd – Asquith St/Valerie St Roundabout:** Philip Mallis reported that this roundabout, and the east and west approach roads, need completely redesigning, and narrowing. The generous width allows for more road traffic than the route actually carries. The current design encourages speed and makes the roundabout unnecessarily dangerous for both cyclists and pedestrians. Another agenda item for the CAC meeting.
2. **Darebin Creek Trail - Farm Rd Link:** David Hall reported that the Community Coalition for the Darebin-Yarra Link has been re-activated, with James Thyer as head. James has been attending meetings with various people working on the link. It looks hopeful that local MP Kat Theophanos will secure funding to build an elevated path over the golf course along the preferred alignment for the link.

3. **Inkerman Rd Bike Lanes:** David Hall reported that Glen Eira and Port Phillip Councils have agreed to install a bike lane along Inkerman Rd. Design and development are currently underway.
4. **Markham Reserve:** Glennys Jones reported that she has received an email from Boroondara landscape developer Katherine Knight regarding access to the playground across the shared path. (Have I got that right Glennys?) Julia Blunden reminded the group that the BUG has previously suggested re-routing the shared path closer to Gardiners Creek to avoid passing the entrance to the planned housing development as well as the playground.
5. **Chicane on Anniversary Trail near East Camberwell Station:** John Parker has written to Council about the installation of an additional bollard at this already difficult and dangerous corner, Transport Engineer Bushan Jani was supposed to be investigating this but has now handed it over to Sustainable Transport Officer, Gael Reid.
6. **Next CAC Meeting:** The last time BUG representatives met with the two councillors on the CAC and Traffic and Transport staff was in late March. There was general agreement that we would like to meet again in early July. Julia Blunden agreed to try to arrange a meeting.
7. **Streets Alive:** Kate Prest reported that Streets Alive is a movement that brings cyclists and pedestrians together to work for their common good. Both Yarra and Darebin have Streets Alive groups. David Hall mentioned the Whitehorse Active Transport Group which has a similar goal.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 14th July 2021

Notes prepared by Julia Blunden