



Aurora Community Association General Meeting

Wednesday 20th February 2013, 7pm

Epping Memorial Hall

1. Welcome/ Apologies

Apologies: Amanda, Vim

Welcome

The meeting had to be moved to the Epping Memorial Hall from the Epping Views Primary School due to the recent fires in the Epping area and the CFA called a Community Meeting the same night as the ACA General meeting.

2. Acceptance of minutes of previous meeting

Minutes from last meeting: Not available at this time due to changed nature of meeting.

3. Business arising from previous minutes:

a) Transport working group

The "Transport Working Group" was reinvigorated after the last General meeting and has been meeting regularly since. Cara as Chair spoke about the group-

Its been a busy few months with the O'herns rd petition starting our advocacy work. The petition was tabled by Danielle Green in parliament. The petition went to the minister for roads, the Hon Terry Mulder MP. Mr Mulder responded to the Petition on the 4th February 2013, stating that:

"VicRoads has advised me that the recently completed strategic modelling for the Northern Growth Corridor indicated that beyond 2046, with ultimate development, there is a need for O'Herns Road interchange, the O'Herns Road duplication and the Edgars Road extension. Further work on these matters will assist in determining the relative priority of these proposals in the context of other competing priorities and determine the desirable timing of these initiatives."

This letter is obviously shocking and disappointing to all of us that live in Epping North/ Wollert and for those that could use the interchange to access the freeway instead of using the clogged High St/ Cooper St route. Griff Davis, General Manager Advocacy & Comms at City of Whittlesea, in an email to the ACA regarding the letter, says:

"The reference in the Minister's letter to 2046 is correct and has been made because the initial year of traffic demand modelling for the Northern Growth Corridor is 2046. VicRoads does not have any modelling results for years earlier than that so by sticking to those facts the statement is correct but the context in which it was made was not explained and therefore could look silly.

The work that Council is currently undertaking to support the need for road improvements is traffic modelling for 2016 and 2021 which we believe will show the same conclusion ie saturated roads but 25-30 years earlier. " Griff expects this report in the next month or so.

The ACA has spoken with the Office of Mr Mulder MP about the project timeline and has requested a clearer statement regarding the interchange be written to clear up the confusion. We will post this revised statement when we receive it.

On the 30th January 2013 the ACA transport working group sent in submissions to both the State and Federal Governments regarding the funding of the Hume Freeway Interchange at O'Herns Rd and also the Epping North train line extension in the 2013-14 financial year. It has had letters of support written by local parliamentarians including the Hon MPs Danielle Green, Harry Jenkins, Craig Ondarchie and Rob Mitchell.

We have had numerous mentions in articles in locals newspapers as well as The Age. We are expanding and strengthening our local networks and working closely with City of Whittlesea, especially Griff Davis and Mary Agostino. We are at present working on a strategic plan for the group as well as continuing being vocal about our transport needs.

If you wish to join the transport working group please email enquiry@aurora.asn.au. Our next meeting is this Thursday 28th February 2013. You can read more about what we have been doing at <http://www.aurora.asn.au/working-groups/public-transport-working-group/>

b) Banner, Business Cards and Poster

Look out for us at events and see our new banner/ poster. We also have business cards.

4. New Business:

- a) Submissions to Federal Government (as per above TWG info)
 - a. Hume Interchange and Edgars Rd Extension
 - b. Epping North Railway line
 - c. Youth Mental Health Services
- b) Submissions to State Government (as per above TWG info)
 - a. Hume Interchange and Edgars Rd Extension
 - b. Epping North Railway line
- c) Community Consultation Meeting with Places Victoria– starting Thurs 28th February 2013, 4pm. Probably quarterly meetings, more info to come after first meeting. If you wish to be involved please email enquiry@aurora.asn.au and we can provide details of the meeting.
- d) City of Whittlesea Community Plan consultation finishes on the 20th March. Sam Dureau who was supposed to run a workshop tonight would still like to run this workshop on another day for the community. ACA will consult with Sam and find a couple of suitable dates and let you know via email so we can work out which date suits the most people.
- e) Trivia Night- Sat 16th March 2013. Great fun family friendly night, all in the name of a good cause- fundraising for the ACA so that we can pay our Public Liability insurance and also web hosting fees. Don't worry about not being super smart- it's a collective table effort, so you don't need to know everything!! Its a fun night with plenty of games and activities to break up the trivia questions. Find out more at <http://www.aurora.asn.au/events/trivia-night>
- f) Letterbox drop- more helpers needed for a more broad letterbox drop than normal between 2nd and 10th march. If you can help please email enquiry@aurora.asn.au
- g) Epping North fires- people shared their experiences of the grass fire on Monday 18th Feb 2013, including clogged roads, messages, no messages being received, gratitude to fire fighters etc.

5. Closure and date of next meeting

Meeting closed 7.28pm.

Next meetings:

Social night- Trivia night Sat 16th march 2013

Coffee and Chat- 21st April 2013, General Meeting- 15th May 2013