

WEST ST KILDA RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

NEWS BULLETIN No. 35 October 2018

PO Box 2022, St Kilda West VIC 3182 <http://wskra.asn.au/>

wskra@netspace.net.au

President: Leigh Hardy
Secretary: Peter Hanway

0400 923 231
0411 495 071

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7.45 for 8.00 pm, Wednesday 16 October
West Beach Bathers' Pavilion
Beaconsfield Parade

After a brief business meeting, there will be discussion of action in the neighbourhood led by representatives of nearby action groups - Middle Park Library Action Group, Resident Action St Kilda & Friends of St Kilda Hill - each of them active around issues affecting West St Kilda residents.

TRAFFIC CONGESTION

In May, Port Phillip Council decided to take steps to ease evening peak traffic congestion in West St Kilda's minor streets. WSKRA subsequently met with Council staff & VicRoads. Details are on the WSKRA website [above]. After years of agitating for solutions, even since May residents have seen no action on the ground to solve the problem. WSKRA is seeking answers on what's being done. We hope to report some progress at the AGM.

MIDDLE PARK LIBRARY

After an outcry from residents, in March, Council decided to defer action on its decision to remove books and book-related services, pending enhancement of operations at Middle Park and review of the Port Phillip Library Service. WSKRA has continuing liaison with the Middle Park Library Action Group [MPLAG]. The principal focus is at present on opening hours, data on library use, enhancing the stock of children's books and ensuring MPLAG involvement in review of CoPP's Library Service. We hope to hear from MPLAG at the AGM.

EVENTS

Some residents will have received prior notice of the fencing off of Catani Gardens and the closure of Pier Red for almost a week in late September for the "Listen Out" event which was expected to be attended by up to 18,000 people. Many residents heard the event! Perhaps their rates should be discounted and the funds foregone made up by higher permit fees for those who rob residents of local amenity? WSKRA is maintaining liaison with Resident Action St Kilda [RASK], a group on the other side of Fitzroy Street born of the noise and disruption caused by permitted events. RASK is now gearing up for the events season which we'll be enduring until April next year! We'll hear from RASK at the AGM.

FITZROY STREET

There have been big changes. Loch Street has been at last re-opened after *The Block* did its thing at The Gatwick. Expect large crowds when the apartments go on sale!

Steps are being taken to amend the local Planning Scheme to permit construction of the Victorian Pride Centre - to be five storeys on the corner of Jackson St.

WSKRA has an observer on the Centre's Community Advisory Group. As a condition of the change to the Planning Scheme, the Centre is to be required to create a Good Neighbour Protocol directly with neighbouring residents to establish a clear understanding of expected amenity outcomes and to provide a pathway to resolve any disputes.

Among traders and some residents of Fitzroy, Little Grey & Dalgety Streets, concerns at disruptive behaviour and threats to safety in their neighbourhood have crystallised in an informal advocacy group, the Friends of St Kilda Hill [FOSH]. FOSH has been lobbying Council, Victoria Police, and the St Kilda Housing Association which operates The Regal & The Beach House, rooming houses in Little Grey Street. FOSH has also taken positions on street furniture in Fitzroy Street, tram-stop planning and traffic management at Fitzroy Street's junction with Canterbury Road & Grey Street. FOSH are dismayed at the timeline of years before CoPP's placemaking process could bring change. We'll hear from FOSH at the AGM.

FLOOD MITIGATION

As we approach customary flood time in West St Kilda [nine occasions in ten years, from December to March], WSKRA is assembling accumulated data to pass to Melbourne Water, providing the detail which they have sought for planning purposes.

INTEGRATED TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Arising from recognition that Port Phillip's population is set to grow by about 25% over the next ten years - from less than 115,000 now to 136,000 in 2028 - and that the space in which we all exist at that time will be only the space we have now, Council has been formulating a strategy - dubbed *Move, Connect, Live* - intended "to ensure that as a community we can adapt to the increasing number of trips and the challenges of increased congestion, while creating travel choices, prioritising effective and equitable access to transport options

and ensuring the liveability and safety of our streets.”

WSKRA's submission on the draft strategy is on our website [above]. Some key points of WSKRA's submission:

- Speed, cost, safety and ease for residents need to be clearly identified as being important to residents and guiding the development of the strategy. These factors also need to be explicitly identified in measuring and reporting on the strategy.
- Community consultation should be explicitly noted as a key aspect of developing and rolling out the strategy.

- The strategy needs to recognise explicitly the impacts of through traffic on residents and to manage these impacts by protecting minor streets.
- Extended community impacts of actions, which are likely to be identified through related community consultation, should be explicitly identified and managed from the outset and in documentation of the strategy.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 16 October 2018

7.45 pm Gathering and greetings

8.00 pm Annual General Meeting

The usual brief routine business matters will come first:

- Reports on WSKRA activities and finances
- Setting the Annual membership fee for 2019-20
- Electing the WSKRA Committee for 2018-9

Nominations for the Committee will be accepted before or at the meeting. The WSKRA Committee comprises President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, up to six other members, and we're hoping one of those will be our new Webmaster. If you're interested in being involved with your community as a Committee member, you may wish to discuss this with the current President or Secretary (details on front page).

After the AGM, a special event – What's Happening Around Us?

Discussion with representatives of nearby action groups focussed on issues affecting West St Kilda residents

After the discussion, we'll enjoy coffee, tea, light refreshments and informal discussion.

Membership of the Association: Membership fees for 2018-9 can be paid at the AGM. The cost is \$10 per person and covers statutory fees, stationery, postage & meeting costs. To renew your membership, to re-join after a lapse or to join for the first time, complete the form below and bring it to the meeting.

WEST ST KILDA RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION Inc

Membership renewal / application for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

Names[s].....
Address
Phone(s) (home) (mobile)
Email(s).....
.....

Amount enclosed: membership fee \$..... (\$10 per person)

Donation \$.....

TOTAL \$.....

Bring this form with cash or cheque to the AGM
or mail to: WSKRA, PO Box 2022, St Kilda West, VIC 3182
or hand-deliver to 61 Park St, St Kilda West
or hand to any WSKRA Committee member