

# All Aboard Action Network

## DRAFT Minutes

1:00pm . 3:00pm, Wednesday, 11 January 2011  
VCOSS Board Room  
Level 8, 128 Exhibition St, Melbourne

### 1. Welcome & introductions

#### **Present:**

Alicia Appleby (individual advocate)  
Beck Feldman . (YDAS)  
Bob Claffey (BCA . Geelong)  
Brandon Ah Tong Pereira (Vision Australia, Facilitator)  
Charybdys Carlyon - Geelong City Council  
Cindy Seagraves (individual advocate)  
David Brant (individual advocate)  
Graeme Newman (Scope)  
James Riddel (Individual Advocate)  
Llewellyn Reynders . VCOSS (facilitator)  
Michael Dali (Brimbank DAC)  
Michelle Lane . VCOSS (minutes)  
Peter Fletcher - (BCA, DRC and DAS)  
Ray Jordan (Darebin DAC, Muscular Dystrophy Australia)

#### **Apologies:**

Andrew Langley (SCOPE)  
Brendan Bennett (individual advocate)  
Darren Ray (VLGA)  
Tyrell Heathcote  
Gordon Trott (Frankston DAIC) is no longer able to participate in the Network.

### 2. Minutes of the previous meeting

#### **a. Confirmation of minutes – December**

- James Riddel moved and Brandon Ah-Tong Pereira seconded the meeting minutes.

#### **b. Action Items**

Outstanding action items from the December 14 meeting were tabled for review.

**Pursue seating change on trams in allocated space, 14 Dec 2011 (Ray)**

- Ray contacted Yarra Trams regarding seating change in allocated space and was referred to a general phone line but promised follow up.
- Members discussed trams and the examples of impact of inaccessibility for individuals.

**Update on Progress of Taxi Inquiry, 9 Nov 2011 (Llewellyn)**

- Llewellyn provided an update on the Victorian Government's Taxi Industry Inquiry, noting the Inquiry's release of survey results showing most people do not lodge complaints. The release of the Inquiry's draft report has been delayed from January until March, with consultation on the draft report to follow. Member noted that the taxi industry has expressed some backlash during the Inquiry. Member raised a New York City taxi authority ruling to increase accessible taxis supply.

**Update on Progress of Taxi Inquiry, 9 Nov 2011 (Llewellyn)**

- Victorian Taxi Directorate is seeking nominations for its disability advisory group. VCOSS currently sits on the group, which meets three times yearly and functions more like a reference group to review proposals. Members discussed the usefulness of engagement with the group. A new program is being rolled out for driver training in November as a result of advice from this group over time and this could be an opportunity for traction for the campaign. Members discussed the recognition of driver behaviour and driver treatment.

**Inquiry as to the status of PTAC, 9 Nov 2011 (Llewellyn)**

- Llewellyn inquired about the status of PTAC at the Department of Transport. There are currently no further developments as this decision is stalled in the Minister's office.

**ACTION** - Members to write individual letters to Minister regarding the status of PTAC.

- Llewellyn was going to contact Bob Claffey regarding members' decision not to launch the campaign at the VALID conference. Members agreed to launch at a central location but keep Geelong Station in mind for other public actions. Members noted the inaccessible footbridge at Geelong Station with golf buggy to transport those with mobility issues. Member suggested providing documentation about the All Aboard campaign for the VALID conference.

**Contact member who suggested launching during VALID conference, 9 Nov 2011 (Llewellyn)**

**ACTION** . Members to revisit the kind of documentation to make available at the VALID conference in February.

**Contact member suggested for Campaign Group, 9 Nov 2011 (Llewellyn)**

- Llewellyn extended to an invitation to Beck Feldman (YDAS) to join the campaign group.

### **Follow-up discussion of taxi bays at Melbourne Airport, 9 Nov 2011 (Llewellyn/James)**

**ACTION** . Llewellyn and James to discuss Melbourne Airport taxi access issues and report back at the February meeting.

### **Ask whether there is progress on bridging plates, 9 Nov 2011 (Llewellyn)**

- Ray received a letter regarding bridging plates on trams, but while this might resolve horizontal gap issues but not vertical height issues (around 30mm). Member mentioned Bombardier trams in Sydney have conductors to assist with arrival and departure. The Department trialled bridging plates on trams and these didn't work so as too much variation in platforms. Now considering rubber combing that can support weight.
- Members discussed VLINE accessibility. VLINE assured Llewellyn that people with wheelchairs can pre-book particular spaces 48 hours in advance. Member commented that there are only 2 spaces on each train for wheelchairs, though VLINE will usually arrange taxis if unable to accommodate passengers.

### **Send question about All Aboard meeting time to list, 9 Nov 2011 (Llewellyn)**

- Members agreed to continue to schedule meetings on Wednesdays.

#### **c. Matters arising**

- Logo with name of organisation and campaign raised for discussion under campaigning.

### **3. Confirmation of agenda**

- Agenda confirmed with additions mentioned in matters arising.

### **4. Strategic campaigning**

#### **a. Final sign off of Campaign Statement and Endorsement Letter**

- Member gave an overview of the purpose and function of the campaign statement and endorsement letter.
- Member stated that different names for the organisation and the campaign (All Aboard Action Network and *All Aboard*), as listed in the endorsement letter, are confusing.
- Member commented that the campaign is larger than the Action Network.
- Member commented that logo is a product of the network.
- Member commented that consistency is important.
- Member noted that the endorsement letter is asking people to endorse the campaign, not to join the network, so should reference the campaign rather than the network.
- Members moved to remove ~~the Action Network~~ from the ~~All Aboard~~ reference in the second paragraph of the endorsement letter. The letter would then read:  
 The All Aboard campaign is a collaborative initiative between accessibility

advocates, community sector organisations and local government officers to raise concerns about the level of access provided by Victoria's public transport system.

- Member suggested personalising endorsement letters with addressee's correspondence address and the spokesperson's name into the contact field.
- Members agreed to add the correspondence address and note their own names as contacts for the campaign.
- Members reviewed the final draft of the campaign statement and drafted changes to the second paragraph 'What do we want?' Changes were agreed to remove the 'and from and parents with prams' also to remove 'counted as equals' wording from 'all people must be counted as equals in our public transport system' and replace with 'have full and equal access'

**ACTION** – Michelle to update changes to the endorsement letter and campaign statement agreed by all members.

#### **b. Launch planning**

- Llewellyn tabled the draft launch planning document with members.
- Members reviewed discussion from the December meeting with plans to launch outside Parliament when Cabinet sits.
- Suggestion for cabinet meeting when Parliament is sitting.
- Llewellyn raised the difference between seeking political attention and seeking public attention.
- Member noted that the launch is also a message to MPs that accessible transport is a local issue.
- Member noted that there is a need to be mindful of other issues Cabinet will discuss at the time of the launch as media space could be eclipsed.
- Member noted that achieving media attention will be successful with the right message and that planning activities for the launch will ensure public attention.
- Llewellyn noted that the campaign group and John Kelly (VCOSS) can further develop launch plans.
- Suggestion to invite Minister and Opposition and Greens spokespeople.
- Member suggested keeping the relationship building part of the campaign separate from the launch.
- Member noted that the campaign needs to be long term and multi-faceted, and should accelerate if decision makers are unresponsive.
- Member suggested having satellite rallies in regions on the day of the launch.
- Member responded that it is more strategic to continue with a regional media activity and easier to get stories into regional papers that have high impact.
- Member requested to allocate spokespeople. It was noted that there should be male and female spokespeople to address specific issues.
- Members agreed it is too early in the campaign to elect spokespeople, but should eventually elect people to speak on particular topics, with media training support from John Kelly (VCOSS).

- Member suggestion for an online space or Wiki where people from the network can access all documents.
- Member suggestion for Beck analyse the All Aboard facebook content for improvements.

**ACTION** . Beck to think about online engagement tools for the next meeting.

**ACTION** - Members to do general thinking for the February meeting regarding online engagement of their networks.

**c. Data collection – Social media and Google maps**

- Member noted concern that this exercise could be an intensive workload for someone to create, monitor and collect.
- Suggestion for members to trial usefulness of this content by offering their public transport blackspotsq
- Member related back to a suggestion for launch activity to get people to bring their stories and perhaps pin them all to a mosaic.

**ACTION** - Llewellyn to send email to Network requesting stories and photographs of public transport blackspotsq

**ACTION** . Llewellyn to discuss ways to visually represent the data collected with VCOSS IT support.

**d. Working groups for the 3 key areas of the campaign (vehicles, infrastructure, information)**

- Member defined the Working Groupsqfunction as to start thinking about target audiences in those areas for the campaign.
- Member noted issues with older bus rolling stock, eg. Ventura
- Proposal for rural and regional working group and metro group.
- Proposal for longer-term strategy work to be done in campaign group.

**ACTION** - Llewellyn to circulate email to group calling for volunteers to join rural and region and metro groups.

**ACTION** - Brandon to draft guidelines for working groups.

**e. Endorsements (feedback)**

**ACTION** - Llewellyn to circulate email requesting members report back any endorsements.

**ACTION** - Michelle to update endorsement letter by Thursday 12/1/12.

**5. Items for discussion**

No items for discussion.

**6. Standing Items**

**a. Report from Campaign group**

- Group will meet and report back at the February meeting.

## **7. Information Updates**

### **a. Bus Forum Report**

- Report was circulated widely in November.

### **b. Bus Specifications**

Llewellyn tabled the confidential Department of Transport's Bus Specifications report (\*not for circulation).

- The report is an attempt to influence the bus specifications process as a result of consultations at the Bus Access Forum.
- Member noted processes are underway to increase the accessibility of buses in Geelong.

### **c. Station User Panel**

- Useability principles are being finalised after consultation on the draft principles developed by the Panel in November.

### **d. Melbourne Airport (doc tabled)**

Llewellyn tabled the response of Melbourne Airport to his letter regarding changes to taxi access on 25 October.

### **e. Tram Accessibility**

### **f. Community Radio (Dan Davidson)**

Item deferred as member was not present at the meeting.

## **8. Agenda items for next meeting**

- Campaign group to report back
- Online engagement

## **9. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held at 1:00pm, Wednesday 8 February, 2012.