



All Aboard Action Network

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

1:00pm . 3:00pm, Wednesday 12 August 2020
Zoom teleconference

Present:

John Adams (Individual Advocate)
Alicia Appleby (Individual Advocate)
Roger Bruhn (WYNDAG)
Brian Caccianiga (Individual Advocate)
Ray Jordan (Admin All Aboard, DDAC, Chair)
Parry Serafim (BusVic)
David Simmonds (PTV Inclusion Team)
Chris Stewart (Disability Planner . City of Greater Dandenong)
Prof Carolyn Unsworth (Central Queensland University)
Rhiannon Wapling (VCOSS)
Bonnie Watt (PhD student Central Queensland University)

Apologies:

James Griffiths (Shire of Wellington Access Inclusion and Advisory Group)
Karleen Plunkett (Individual Advocate)

1. Welcome and introductions

This was the second fully teleconferenced meeting of the All Aboard network. The Chair welcomed everyone and we all introduced ourselves.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

- a. The minutes of the previous meeting (June 2020) were not confirmed . oops we forgot!
- b. Outstanding items: none.

3. Confirmation of Agenda

4. Presentation and Discussion

Brian said that travelling on public transport during the pandemic is not particularly appealing. People seem to be opting more for private transport and taxis. One of the

problems with public transport is that many people, including those with disabilities, can't choose where they sit or who sits or stands near them.

Rhiannon . it can be problematic where people are using public transport to get COVID testing. Taxi waiting costs while waiting in line at a testing facility can be prohibitive. The Call to Test+program has started recently. VCOSS has been very involved.

<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/call-to-test-covid-19>

Parry . BusVic has been working on boarding procedures and many other projects in cooperation with the Department of Transport.

Carolyn . air travel innovations. Developments at airports . tactile maps, navigation, virtual tours, optional identification lanyards for people who might want support.

Changes to Australian Road Rules - safety of motorised mobility devices

Scooters and motorised wheelchairs are now being classified separately

National Transport Commission

MMD . motorised mobility devices . further subdivided into motorised wheelchairs and mobility scooters

PMD . personal recreational vehicles . electric scooters, electric skateboards etc

Looking at weight and speed . kinetic energy = $\frac{1}{2}$ mass x velocity squared

Classified as pedestrians?

<https://ntc.gov.au/transport-reform/ntc-projects/Barriers-to-the-safe-use-of-innovative-vehicles-and-motorised-mobility-devices>

Chris . State Disability Plan

Victorian Disability Legislation review soon. Graeme Innes chairing a committee

National Disability Strategy

Roger . In the City of Melbourne, construction crews have been blocking footpaths and not providing wheelchair access to go around. People are required to go on the road. Serious safety concerns. Council should have bylaws for these circumstances.

Bonnie . working on her PhD and it at the literature stage - bus driver attitudes and procedures. Planning to interview and do surveys with bus passengers to see where improvements need to be made.

Geo-tracking in real time.

Recommendations for a training tool.

Alicia bus driver stories . refusing to pick up. How much does it weigh? Feeling uncomfortable.

What would a good bus trip look like? I would just like to be treated nicely like everyone else. Bus design and bus drivers can both be problematic.

Chris . 95% bus drivers helpful and courteous. Guide dogs and other assistance animals . there is not enough consistency in applying the rules.

Identification of assistance animals is not consistent, with many different agencies providing certification.

Ray described personal experience between AU and US bus boarding experience.

Chris . noticed drivers using satnav while driving to identify stops.

John has noticed drivers being time conscious of wheelchair tie-down time on those few buses that are fitted with them.

Parry reports that live tracking is being introduced in buses.

Transdev is putting together a accessibility reference group.

Brian . some wide ticket gates have apparently been closing while a wheelchair is going through - staff not in attendance. Gates are supposed to be left open while no staff are in attendance. Policy is that gate can only be closed if staff is close by.

David . stimulus packages for economic activity:

1. Accessibility development funds . bus and train stop accessibility.
2. 2 wheelchair restraint live trials in a lab environment. Moving platform representing lateral and longitudinal forces. Also use accelerometer equipment on real route buses.

Recruiting within Inclusive Transport branch . manager strategy and policy. New person starting September. Alistair Stewart.

Chris . noted that Jeroen Wiemar moved to Department of Health. This is a loss to transport.

New Head of Transport Services, Department of Transport is Nick Foa.

We had lots more to discuss, but ran out of time.

a. Trains

No formal discussion except that above.

b. Buses

No formal discussion except that above.

c. Trams

No formal discussion except that above.

d. Taxis and Hire Cars

No formal discussion.

e. Air Travel

No discussion.

f. Ferries

No discussion.

5. Other items

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6. Close

The meeting closed at 3:15 pm

Next meeting: Wednesday 14 October 2020 . probably on Zoom only

Actions Outstanding

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