



METRO EAST BICYCLE USER GROUP INC.

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## MeBUG Matters October 2018

We have been busy in recent months on various projects and activities. The following is a brief summary.

### Ringwood to Croydon path.

We have developed a [comprehensive proposal](#) for a shared path linking Ringwood to Croydon. This path when built, would connect the Box Hill to Ringwood path with the Croydon to Lilydale path now in the final stages of construction.

We have been busy promoting this concept with state MPs from all parties, as well as Maroondah Council. We had a very useful meeting with Maroondah Council on 24 September and were pleased to learn that they have developed a plan very similar to ours. They will be proceeding to a more detailed design and cost-benefit study in the near future. We will be watching progress and lobbying for funding over the months ahead.

### Box Hill to Ringwood Path

We are gratified to note that the Ringwood section of the path between Eastlink and Ringwood has recently been completed and is now open. It includes traffic lights at crossings of Molan Street and New Street in Ringwood.

The last remaining section is the Blackburn-Laburnum section. We had a meeting with VicRoads on 14 September and received an update on the current status. Work will begin shortly on the section between Sagoe Lane and Middleborough Road (behind Box Hill High School).

There has been a further refinement of the alignment of the Laburnum section which entails (heading west from Blackburn station)

- Off road 3m path on west side of Main St to Laburnum St;
- Possible adjustment to road and kerb alignment of Main St and at South Parade corner;
- On road along Laburnum St with appropriate treatments still being determined such as sharrows and traffic calming;
- Consideration of traffic signals on Laburnum St near the rail bridge;
- New 3m path through Laburnum Park
- Widening of the footpath on Middleborough Rd rail bridge.

Whitehorse Council are understood to be largely agreeable to this scheme, but want a further round of community consultation.

At Springvale Road, there will be new traffic lights installed opposite Walker Road in early 2019 that will avoid the need to traverse the footpath to access the existing pedestrian lights.

### North East Link

MeBUG is part of the community consultation group for Walking and Cycling and have now attended three meetings on plans for walking and cycling paths. The project includes some 25kms of new or upgraded shared paths. Details to optimise the design by eliminating as far as possible traffic lights and other impediments to bike travel are still being debated. We are pleased to see that the project will provide a bypass for the infamous Belford Road hill on the Main Yarra Trail as well as an underpass at Bulleen Road on the Koonung Trail. See the Projects page on our website for more details.

## Burwood Highway

We were pleased to see the [government allocated \\$4M](#) for a new section of path along Burwood Highway linking the Eastlink and Dandenong Creek paths. We are lobbying for this project to be slightly extended to provide 'cut throughs' to connect the new path with the eastbound and westbound service lanes, thus working towards our plan for Burwood Highway service lanes to become a fully functional bicycle route.

## Whitehorse and Monash Councils

We are continuing to work with both councils to encourage greater investment in bike/shared paths. Following on from the rejection of all our proposals for council funding in the current financial year by Whitehorse Council, we recently met with officers to discuss broad cycling priorities. We were pleased that Council agreed to join us on a familiarisation ride to see first hand, opportunities to improve cycling facilities.



MeBUG members (L-R) Scott Green, Michael Hassett and David Simm with Council engineer Chris Hui

## Ride 2 Work and Bike It

Whitehorse and Maroondah councils have both approached us to participate in these cycle promotion activities. We have agreed to support all of these events. Ride 2 Work day is 17 October. Whitehorse Bike It is 21 November and Maroondah Bike It is 27 November. Let us know if you would like to participate.

## MeBUG Jerseys

Some months ago, we were successful in obtaining a state government grant of \$825 to purchase our own jerseys for use in community activities such as Bike It. These jerseys have now been delivered and are available for our members' use for such events.



Michael Hassett  
Secretary  
23 October 2018