

“Linking Communities in the West” Transport Connections Project

Transport Access & Inclusion Forum

“Exploring Transport Access & Inclusion Challenges & Options in a Growth Area”

**Thursday May 13th 2010
9.30am to 3.30pm**

Wyndham City Council Civic Centre, Function Room 1, 45 Princes Highway Werribee

REGISTRATION FORM

Organisation

Name/s Attending

Postal Address

Suburb

Postcode

Contact Phone No.

Fax

Contact Email

If you have any specific dietary requirements or require transport assistance to attend the forum or have other access requirements please contact Transport Connections:

Please RSVP by Thursday 6th May 2010

For further information and to RSVP please contact:

John Huta - Transport Connections Coordinator

“Linking Communities in the West” Transport Connections Project

Wyndham City Council, PO Box 197 Werribee VIC 3030

8734 5430 or 0429 122 532 or john.huta@wyndham.vic.gov.au



Transport Access & Inclusion Forum Agenda

1. **Registration/Tea & Coffee**(9.30am)
2. **Welcome** (10.00am – 10.10am) Councillor Heather Marcus Mayor Wyndham City Council
3. **Key Note Address** (10.10am -10.45am) Professor Graham Currie Chair of Public Transport, Monash University
 - Questions/Discussion (10.45am to 11.00am)
4. **Discussion Group/s** (11.00am – 11.45am)
 - Challenges for Transport Access & Inclusion in a Growth Area
 - Group Feedback/Comments/Discussions
5. **Summary/s from Groups** (11.45am – 12.10 midday)
6. **Lunch** (12.10pm – 1.10pm)
7. **Key Program Address** (1.10pm to 1.45pm) Alison Smith Director Social Transit Unit, Department of Transport
 - Questions/Discussion (1.45pm to 2.00pm)
8. **Discussion Group/s** (2.00pm – 2.45pm)
 - Solutions for Transport Access & Inclusion in a Growth Area
 - Group Feedback/Comments/Discussions
9. **Summary/s from Groups** (2.45pm – 3.00pm)
10. **Where to now** (3.00pm – 3.20pm)
11. **Closing Remarks.** John Huta Wyndham City Council Transport Connections Project Coordinator (3.20pm to 3.30pm)

“The Linking Communities in the West” Transport Connections Project is funded through the Victorian Government’s Transport Connections Program, a cross government initiative to help communities work together to improve local transport

Aims & Objectives:

The ability to access transport to attend employment, education, health, shopping and social activities in critical to all residents in Wyndham

For people who may not drive or do not have family or friends to provide transport have a reliance on public transport services and active transport options

The challenge of moving around Wyndham is especially significant for seniors, the frail aged, disabled, youth and new arrivals from other cultures and communities.

People who experience challenges in getting to places and moving around their community are at risk of being socially excluded and isolated.

The forum is an opportunity for community members, government and non government agencies, transport operators and other service delivery agencies to come together to identify and discuss transport access and inclusion challenges. The aim is to develop solutions and strategies that improve transport access and inclusion in Wyndham

‘Exploring Transport Access & Inclusion Options in a Growth Area’

There are numerous transport options available to members of the community in order to get between locations, access services and shops, and make visits to neighbours, friends and entertainment. They include cars, public transport (PT), walking, cycling, car use, and community transport (CT) services.

Different transport options have different levels of community awareness - public transport options may be available to a particular community but general knowledge of the services available, destinations and timing may not be common knowledge. CT services are generally even less well known to the community it serves.

The dominant transport system in Victoria is road and car-based, yet many people have no access to a car and many more do not drive. ‘People without cars are around twice as likely as those with cars to identify transport as a barrier to participation in a range of social and cultural activities’ (Social Exclusion Unit, 2003)

The options left to these people are various but generally include:

- Dependence on someone else who can drive and does own a car,
- Dependence on public transport systems that operate in the vicinity of their home (if indeed there is any public transport service available) and
- CT services - if the person concerned fits into an appropriate qualifying category for the CT service offered in their area, and if indeed they know that such a service exists.

In its broadest sense CT means transport of whatever mode that allows people to move freely around their community, access services, activities and locations they wish to visit, and engage in civic, social and sustaining life activities. A broad definition is called for in order to correctly identify the need for transport that exists. Once the definition has been extended to reflect the true breadth of need, addressing that need will be done in a more realistic way and be more likely to succeed in addressing the concerning deficit of transport provision that currently exists.

Taken from: Transport Link or Missing Link? An overview of Community Transport and its potential for increasing Community Participation and Food Access, a report prepared for VicHealth July 2003

