

Minutes of a public meeting held on Wednesday 25 March 2025 at 5.34pm at the City Hall, Hobart, in response to a petition submitted by the Confederation of Greater Hobart Business.

1. Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country and Introduction

The independent Chairperson, Mr Michael Stedman, opened the meeting, gave an acknowledgement of country and provided an overview on how the meeting will be conducted.

The chairperson asked attendees:

- to be respectful of everyone's viewpoints and opinions;
- to show the courtesy of listening to speakers;
- do their part to ensure the meeting was constructive and that everyone feels safe to express their points of view.

The Chairperson noted that 30 minutes was allocated on the agenda to take contributions from the floor. Attendees were asked to keep points short, clear and relevant to the subject contained in the petition. Each person was given three minutes to speak and a bell rang warning them that they were near the end of their three minutes.

To provide a balance: the microphone on the Chairperson's:

- right was for people speaking for the proposed bike lane trial; and
- left was for people speaking against the bike lane trail.

The Chairperson asked that if there were people who had mobility issues and would like to speak, to make themselves known to Council staff (in high vis vests).

2. Project Overview

Neil Noye, Director Strategic and Regulatory Services provided a project overview.

3. Summary of Submission Received

Michael Stretton, Chief Executive Officer provided an overview of submissions received which was noted by the meeting.

4. Speakers and Questions

(a) The Lead Petitioner, Edwin Johnstone (Chair Confederation of Greater Hobart Business) and Andrew Edwards (Confederation member) were invited to speak to their concerns.

(b) The Chairperson invited members of the audience to address the meeting.

The following speakers from the floor addressed the meeting.

1. Anna – Lenah Valley (in support)
2. Jeff – Hobart (in opposition)
3. Ben – South Hobart - *Representing the South Hobart Sustainability Group* (in support)
4. Dennis – Hobart (in opposition)
5. Kate - Sandy Bay (in support)
6. Maria – Battery Point (in opposition)
7. Helen – North Hobart (in support)
8. Chris - Sandy Bay (in opposition)

Chris asked two questions of Mr Noye:

- (i) Why cant we have an 'in' lane in the morning and an 'out' lane in the afternoon?
- (ii) Can you tell me how much more exhaust pollution shall be created by 2800 cars per day coming from the CBD and having only one lane outside of Artery if they want to go up Collins Street they will share with all other traffic that wants to go to: New Town / West Hobart, Bathurst Street the traffic that wants to go to South Hobart, Huonville.....

Neil Noye responded that:

- 1. Chris's second question has been previously answered and I do not propose to repeat this answer again tonight.**
- 2. In relation to the first question, that was considered by Council but was rejected because Council wanted to provide triple 'A' safety solution both ways at all times of the day.**

9. Mark – Lindisfarne – *Representing Hobart Bike kitchen* (in support)
10. Jonathon – West Hobart (in opposition)

The Chairperson noted that there had been five speakers for the proposal and five speakers against the proposal.

The Chair invited any people with accessibility and mobility issues to speak.

11. Carmel – South Hobart (in opposition)

5. Motions

At the conclusion of the discussion, a mover and a seconder was called from the floor.

The mover of the motion was given three minutes to speak in favour of the motion. Then one person was invited to speak against the motion and was also given three minutes to speak against the motion. The mover was then given one minute to sum up (or hand over the sum-up rights to another individual).

Each motion was displayed on the screens set up on either side of the stage and was read out by the Chairperson.

The Chairperson put the following motions to the vote:

Motion 1

Moved: Edwin Johnstone

Seconded: Jody Fassina

Edwin spoke to the motion.

Bruce of South Hobart spoke against the motion.

The Chairperson put the following motion:

That the meeting supports no installation of bike lanes on Collins Street.

MOTION LOST

Motion 2

Moved: Allison Hetherington

Seconded: Jerry DeGryse

Allison spoke to the motion.

Jody, eastern shore and citizen of greater Hobart spoke against the motion.

The Chairperson put the following motion:

That the meeting supports the Collins Street trial, as endorsed by the City of Hobart on 16 September 2024.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion 3

Moved: Jeff Briscoe

Seconded: Maria Riedl

Jeff spoke to the motion.

Stephen of South Hobart spoke against the motion.

The Chairperson put the following motion:

That the Hobart City Council:

- (a) note the valid and widespread concerns regarding the Collins Street paths on both sides of the road, which eliminates the majority of parking, and*
- (b) Immediately rescind the decision to implement the current plan, and.*
- (c) Implement a shared bike and car plan from Molle to Victoria Street's, similar to what has been proposed for Murray to Victoria Street's with a 30kph speed limit, and.*
- (d) Provide all collected data on current car and bike movements on Collins Street, in a format easily read by the public.*
- (e) Enable an elector poll to be held subject to associated statutory requirements being met.*

MOTION LOST

Motion 4

Moved: Andrew Edwards

Seconded: Maria Riedl

Andrew spoke to the motion

Liam of Taroona spoke against the motion.

The Chairperson put the following motion:

That Council undertake and adhere to their stated criteria of conducting credible research and respect professional consultant's advice when Council undertakes planning and policy decisions, and, further, that they maintain a high ethical and transparent credible standard in respecting the effect of their decisions on all affected parties.

MOTION LOST

NOTE: The Chairperson was able to see a clear outcome of all votes, as such there was no need for Council staff to count and tally the votes.

6. Closure

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 7.19pm.