

Sorrento Ferry Terminal Traffic Advisory Committee

Terms of Reference

Version: 19 June 2017

Advisory Committee appointed pursuant to Part 7, Section 151 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to report, concurrently with a potential Planning Panel considering Amendment C209 to the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme, on measures that can be implemented to improve traffic and transport in the Sorrento area.

Name

1. The Advisory Committee is to be known as the 'Sorrento Ferry Terminal Traffic Advisory Committee'.
2. The Advisory Committee is to have members with the following skills:
 - Land use planning;
 - Traffic engineering; and
 - Transport planning.

Purpose

3. The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to compliment the potential Panel considering submissions to Amendment C209 to the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme and to concurrently advise the Minister for Planning and Mornington Peninsula Shire Council on:
 - All relevant matters concerning the design and control of traffic for the Sorrento ferry terminal and local traffic network between the ferry terminal and the Sorrento town centre as defined in the submitted Planning Scheme Amendment documents; and
 - Prioritising the delivery of future traffic improvements to the local road networks between the terminal and the Sorrento town centre.

Background

4. Mornington Peninsula Shire Council has requested the Minister for Planning, the Hon. Richard Wynne MP, to appoint an Advisory Committee under Section 151 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (the Act) to consider matters related to the design and control of traffic for the Sorrento ferry terminal, as well as future stages of improvements to the local traffic network between the terminal and Sorrento town centre.
5. The Advisory Committee will complement the potential Panel for Amendment C209 that the Minister for Planning will appoint at the appropriate time pursuant to Sections 153 and 155 of the Act to consider any submissions made to the planning scheme amendment at 10, 12 and 14 Esplanade and part 3154, 3176 and 3300 Point Nepean Road, Sorrento.
6. Amendment C209 proposes a new Incorporated Document to be inserted at Clause 52.03 and the Schedule to Clause 81 of the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme to facilitate the redevelopment of the Searoad Ferries Sorrento Ferry Terminal.
7. Searoad Ferries operates a car and passenger ferry service between Sorrento and Queenscliff. Carrying over 700,000 passengers per annum, it provides a vital transport link between the Bellarine and Mornington Peninsulas. The proposed terminal building and improvements to the car loading area will result in changes to the traffic layout within the forecourt of the Sorrento ferry terminal.

8. Future stages of improvements to the local traffic networks between the terminal and Sorrento town centre have also been developed jointly by Searoad Ferries, Mornington Peninsula Shire Council and VicRoads. The objective was to improve traffic circulation around Sorrento and encourage increased visitation of the Sorrento town centre by ferry passengers, in response to requests by local traders to Mornington Peninsula Shire Council.
9. The proponent, Searoad Ferries, has prepared a draft incorporated document which will be exhibited concurrently with Amendment C209.
10. Mornington Peninsula Shire Council has requested that the Panel and Advisory Committee operate concurrently with the dual role of hearing submissions in response to Amendment C209, as well as submissions related to traffic issues associated with the redevelopment of the Sorrento ferry terminal and future stages of improvements to the traffic networks between the terminal and Sorrento town centre. The joint Panel and Advisory Committee will provide interested parties, who have made submissions on the amendment and / or traffic design issues, to have their views heard at a single forum.
11. Mornington Peninsula Shire Council is the planning authority for the planning scheme amendment, and the responsible authority for administering and enforcing the planning scheme.
12. On 26 May 2017, the Minister for Planning authorised Planning Scheme Amendment C209 to the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme.

Method

13. The Advisory Committee must:
 - Review and assess all relevant matters concerning the design and control of traffic for the Sorrento ferry terminal, and staged improvements to the local traffic networks between the terminal and Sorrento town centre as defined in the submitted Planning Scheme Amendment documents; and
 - Review and assess all submissions made in regard to traffic issues.
14. The Advisory Committee may inform itself in anyway it sees fit, but must have regard to:
 - All statutory documentation, including the Planning Scheme Amendment documents;
 - The objectives of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and any relevant provisions in the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme;
 - Sorrento Foreshore Management Plan;
 - Road Management Act 2004 and all relevant road standards and guidelines; and
 - Any public submissions.
15. The Advisory Committee is not expected to carry out any additional public notice or referral, but may do so if it considers it to be appropriate.
16. The Advisory Committee is expected to carry out a public hearing.
17. The Advisory Committee shall provide the following parties with an opportunity to make a submission and be heard¹:
 - Mornington Peninsula Shire Council;
 - VicRoads;

¹ Note: As the Advisory Committee will be operating concurrently with the independent Planning Panel on Amendment C209, submissions to the amendment will be heard at the same time as submissions on the traffic issues.

- Public Transport Victoria;
 - The proponent and their representatives; and
 - Any person who has made a submission regarding traffic issues related to the proposed ferry terminal redevelopment and future improvements to the traffic networks between the terminal and Sorrento town centre.
18. Petitions and pro-forma letters will be treated as a single submission, and only the first person to appear will receive correspondence in relation to this matter.
 19. The Advisory Committee may meet and invite others to meet with them when there is a quorum of at least two of the Committee members.
 20. The Advisory Committee may limit the time of parties appearing before it.
 21. The Advisory Committee may prohibit or regulate cross-examination.
 22. The Advisory Committee may apply to vary these Terms of Reference in any way it sees fit prior to the submission of its report,

Submissions are public documents

23. The Advisory Committee must retain a library of any written submissions or other supporting documentation provided to it directly to it until a decision has been made on its report or five years has passed from the time of its appointment.
24. Any written submissions or other supporting documentation provided to the Advisory Committee must be available for public inspection until the submission of its report, unless the Advisory Committee specifically directs that the material is to remain 'in camera'.

Outcomes

25. The Advisory Committee must produce a written report for the Minister for Planning, Mornington Peninsula Shire Council and VicRoads providing:
 - An assessment of the proposed design and control of traffic associated with the Sorrento ferry terminal redevelopment, and any staged improvements to the local traffic networks between the terminal and the Sorrento town centre in line with Mornington Peninsula Shire Council's objective of encouraging increased visits to of the Sorrento town centre by ferry passengers;
 - An assessment of whether the proposed traffic and car parking design, and staging of works should be supported;
 - An assessment of submissions to the Advisory Committee;
 - Any other relevant matters raised in the course of the Advisory Committee hearing;
 - A list of persons who made submissions considered by the Advisory Committee; and
 - A list of persons consulted or heard.
26. The report is to be prepared as a single report in conjunction with the Panel for Amendment C209.

Timing

27. The Advisory Committee is required to complete its hearings within the hearing timeframe set aside for the Panel for Amendment C209.
28. The Advisory Committee is required to submit its report in writing as soon as practicable but no later than 40 business days from the completion of its hearing.

Fee

29. The fee for the Advisory Committee will be set at the current rate for a Panel appointed under Part 8 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.
30. The costs of the Advisory Committee will be met by Mornington Peninsula Shire Council and Searoad Ferries.



Hon. Richard Wynne MP

Minister for Planning

Date:

29/6/17

The following information does not form part the Terms of Reference.

Project Management

1. Day to day liaison for this matter will be through Matthew Sacco, Planning Services, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning on 8392 5505 or by email at matthew.sacco@delwp.vic.gov.au
2. Inquiries regarding the Advisory Committee process will be through Andrea Harwood, Senior Project Manager with Planning Panels Victoria on 8392 5123 or by email at andrea.harwood@delwp.vic.gov.au.