

# RETAILERS MARKET ADVISORY COMMITTEE – MINUTES

HELD AT THE MELBOURNE MARKET AUTHORITY BOARD ROOM  
TUESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2012, 10.15AM – 11.30AM

## ATTENDEES & APOLOGIES

### Retailer's Advisory Committee Members

Paul Ahern – Chairman, Retailer Advisory Committee  
Trevor Wilson  
John Chapman  
Glynn Harvey  
John Psarakos

### DBI Representatives

Jane Niall  
Mary Baker

### MMA Representatives

Allan Crosthwaite – CEO, MMA  
Aurora Kostezky – Legal Counsel, MMA  
Rozita Hana – Minute Taker, MMA  
Marisa Di Pietro – Minute Taker, MMA

## Apologies

Meeting opened at 10.15am

- An overview of the discussion papers available on the MMA corporate website was provided. The Minister is encouraging and has invited comments from all the market community.
- The committee are encouraged to provide their comments on the discussion papers regarding any issues raised in the submissions that may impact on buyers.
- The committee were advised relocation information has also been distributed through email, SMS (mobile), hard copy available at the MMA reception and customer service, the advisory committee members as well as the website.
- The committee were encouraged to provide suggestions of how to attract buyers to the Epping market.
- The committee raised the following;
  - Loading/unloading of vehicles and restrictions that may apply
  - Undercover parking of trucks
  - Width of bays and space between trucks for loading and unloading.

### Width of bays

- The new market allows for truck loading and unloading from both sides however the committee noted that at the current market, it is difficult for trucks as they're becoming larger and when loading and unloading, are often sharing the bay with an adjacent retailer. The committee noted there needs to be sufficient space provided for forklift movement on both sides of the trucks at Epping.
- It was suggested that a tour of the Epping site for the advisory committee members be organised.
- The committee requested a truck with bay dimensions be marked out for better visualisation at the new market. The committee were informed that unfortunately this is not possible due to construction still continuing at Epping.

### Forklift Storage

- The committee were informed there will be provision for forklift storage.

### Warehousing

- The committee noted that store and stand allocation is taking priority at the moment, discussions around 24 hour access to warehousing for retailers will be conducted at a later date. The committee noted that retailers need more storage for forklifts, empty bins and produce.

### Attracting Buyers to Epping

- The committee were requested to speak with their industry, gain feedback and recommend to the Minister an appropriate strategy to attract buyers to the new market.

### Trading Floor

- The Committee noted the number of grower's stands in the new market has been cut significantly. The decrease resulted from an analysis conducted in 2004 that predicted a declining trading stands area. Observations also show that a large number of stands are currently being used for storage, display or other purposes.
- The committee noted that the grower's advisory committee were requested to gain feedback from the growers industry regarding the number of stands and which operational months are necessary for the seasonal growers. This will help identify how many stands will be needed at Epping. The committee requested they be kept informed of the growers recommendations.

### Operational Hours

- The committee noted that operating times of the new market will require consideration at a later date.

### Rents/Cost Structure

- The committee noted that rental information and other costs is still being determined.

### Parking

- The committee noted that all vehicle bays are appropriately sized for the type of vehicle.

### Forklift

- The committee noted that fork lifts are not permitted on the buyers walk, only on designated fork lift paths. The committee noted that plans will be provided at the next committee meeting to discuss operational issues.

### General

- The committee were advised the estimated time to relocate is still scheduled for 2014/15.

### **WEST MELBOURNE**

- The committee noted there are rules around early buying that are always enforced.

### **ACTIONS ARISING**

- Members to be provided with the Epping Market plan at the next Retailers Advisory Committee meeting - **DBI**
- Organise a market tour the Retailers Advisory members only. Proposed date 17 April 2012 at 8:00am, to be confirmed by DBI and Chair - **MMA**

Meeting closed at 11.30am