

## **Fruit & Vegetable Wholesalers Advisory Committee Meeting**

### **Microsoft Teams Meeting**

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

**9:30am – 10:30am**

**In attendance:** Harry Kapiris (Chair), Jason Cooper, Thanh Truong, Mark Maskiell, David Whitchelo, David Power, Malcolm Lum, David Beatty, Lauren Kitchener, Rob Rotondi, Amanda Flannery & Georgie Christerson (Minute Taker).

**Apologies:** Brett Collins & Michael Barker

**Confirmation of Minutes from Previous Meeting:** MMA COO welcomed all committee members to the Wholesalers Advisory Committee Meeting. Minutes were approved from the previous meeting held on 31 May 2021. Management commenced the meeting at 9:30am and permission was requested to record the meeting.

### **MATTERS ARISING**

- **Advisory Committee Nominations 2022:** The Advisory Committee election for 2022 will commence later this year. Committee members to think about re-nominating and/ or recommending other wholesalers to nominate as part of the Committee.
- **Vaccination Hub – 2<sup>nd</sup> Dose:** The onsite vaccination hub is in its final week of administering the Covid vaccination. Management will keep the market community abreast of all communications relating to a potential future onsite visit by Austin Health to administer the 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccination.
- **Racism in the Market:** Management will continue to work with the market community on this issue. Item to be added as an agenda item in the December meeting.
- **Speed humps:** MMA to investigate the feasibility of speed humps at cross overs within the market.
- **Access cards:** MMA will create a process of cancelling market access cards within the customer portal to ensure quick turnaround.

### **OPERATIONS**

- **Market Incident – Traffic Management & Pedestrian Crossings:** Management discussed the tragic market fatality that occurred onsite in August 2021. The MMA are continuously working on improving traffic management. Management have installed additional handrails and Armco railings in the carpark and high traffic areas to increase safety measures, most recently, behind Store 02, identified as a blind corner. Management presented a video of a forklift incident that occurred recently between 2 forklifts, of which thankfully no one was seriously injured.
- **Forklift Safety Initiative. Incident CCTV:** Management are working on a forklift safety initiative, to reward good behaviour in the market. The MMA will continue to work with Business principals in relation to this initiative and request feedback on any suggestions to avoid incidents occurring. Management will investigate a similar TAC campaign in the market to publicise incidents, which in turn aim to avoid incidents.
- **OH&S Committee:** The MMA & FreshState are working together to form a Safety Committee in the Melbourne Market. The Committee is in its finalisation stage and the first meeting will be held in the coming weeks. A suggestion from the Committee was to install speed humps in certain areas in the market to control traffic flow. Designs and locations are being considered.
- **Solar Canopy Project – Update:** The Solar canopy construction is on schedule and progressing well. The first two canopies now have solar panels installed, with the two second canopies to follow.
- **Early Buyers:** Management have been investigating the ongoing issue of early buyers entering the market pre trade and continue to enforce the market operating hours.
- **Parking Relocation:** Management are continuously working with market tenants to ensure a smooth transition of relocating parking bays, to minimise disruption and accommodate the solar canopy works.
- **Café relocation:** Moon Bean Café are relocating from their current premises and will continue to operate via a “a pop-up café” outside the Deli location, being their new location. By the end of the first week in October, Moon Bean will be operating out of their new premises, which will include an onsite bakery.



- **Warehousing Development Eastern Boundary:** Management are continuing to work with market tenants of whom have shown interest in additional future market warehousing. Final submissions are to be received by the end of September.

### **MARKETING & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

- **A Better Choice (ABC) – Update:** Spring campaign is set to commence at the end of September and will consist of raising money for sporting clubs within their local area. Merchandising will unfortunately be delayed until lockdown restrictions ease. Management, together with Fresh State and the FMA are looking to recruit a merchandiser to work with retailers going forward.
- **Greengrocer III Program:** Management are continuing to promote the Greengrocer course and discussed the benefits of enrolling retail personnel in the course.
- **Market TV Screens:** The large TV screen has been installed in the market, together with an additional screen in the flower market. The screens will be used for advertising within the market, both internally and externally. Feedback received by the Committee was positive, highlighting infringements that have occurred in the market, ideally to increase safety awareness.
- **Food Services Australia – Exhibition (February 2022):** Due to lockdown restrictions, the Exhibition is now scheduled in February 2022. The MMA will reach out to the Market community to see if they would like to be involved closer to the date.
- **Artwork Mural - Admin Building:** The new artwork mural is in its finalisation stage, displayed on the side of the admin building. Feedback to date has been positive and well received by the market community.
- **40 Year Celebration Wall – Feedback:** The 40 Year Celebration wall has been installed, and whilst Management had hoped to have an unveiling of the wall with the market community, this will now be delayed due to lockdown restrictions. For those whose names are yet to be installed onto the wall, will need to apply through the MMA and Customer service team.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

- **Digital Transformation Customer Portal Demonstration:** Management provided a live demonstration of the new customer portal during the advisory meeting. Market tenants will now once on-boarded be able to view their account details online, contact details, make any amendments to their account and request works to be undertaken in your market premises.
- **Advisory Committee Nominations 2022:** The Advisory Committee election for 2022 will commence later in the year. Management will commence encouraging Committee nominations.

Meeting closed at 10:50am.