



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

**MMA Boardroom & Via Zoom**

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022**

**9:30am – 10:30am**

**In attendance:** Adrian Antonello (Chair), Brett Collins, Michael Barker, Thanh Truong, Jason Cooper, Mark Maskiell, David Beatty, Amy Dyer, Lauren Kitchener, David Power, Amanda Flannery & Georgie Christerson (Minute Taker)

**Apologies:** David Witchelo, Malcolm Lum & Rob Rotondi

**Confirmation of Minutes from Previous Meeting:** MMA CEO welcomed all committee members to the Wholesalers Advisory Committee Meeting. Minutes were approved from the previous meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021. Management mentioned Harry Kapisiris no longer being in the Wholesale Advisory Committee, with Adrian Antonello stepping into the role.

### **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (DEC 2021)**

- **Speed humps:** Management considered this request, although due to the damage to produce when forklifts/ buggies were to drive over the speedhumps. Management have shot blasted the concrete on the forklift crossovers to create a non-slip surface.
- **Gate 2 & 3:** Gates 2 & 3 are now re-opened, noting Gate 3 is only for vehicles *exiting* the market.
- **Access cards:** The ability to apply for and cancel access cards is now available via the customer portal.

### **OPERATIONS**

- **Safety issues and matters raised at Safety Committee meeting:** To date, three Safety Committee meetings have been held. Management mentioned the low attendance rate at the meetings and discussed the benefits, being a valuable tool for the market community to voice and express their opinions if utilised correctly.
  - Gate 1 – the MMA are currently looking into traffic management upon entering the market. A suggestion is for Gate 1 to be a dedicated “no access card” lane for entry.
  - Gates 2 & 3 have re-opened and traffic barriers installed in the market for safety and the ease of traffic flow.
  - And the implementation of one-way traffic through certain areas of the market.
- **WorkSafe Seatbelt initiative – Electric vehicles:** A directive from a recent WorkSafe visit to the market is to install seatbelts in all electric market vehicles. Management will work with WorkSafe on this matter and will continue to keep the market community abreast of all updates.
- **Cultural Transformation – Better Together:** The Cultural Transformation Project, Better Together will be rolled out in the market over the coming months. The MMA are working with Time2Talk (external Consultant appointed to the project) to form working groups to represent the market community.
  - This will commence in late June, with the first meeting being held in early July from 6am.
- **Solar Canopy Project – Update:** The solar canopy project is completed, with discussions between Management and SP AusNet for connection to the grid.
- **Parking on hard stands:** Management are working through parking bay issues, reviewing and clearing up specific areas, making it safer for the market community. The process has been ongoing for 3-4 months.
- **Warehousing Development Eastern Boundary:** Due to an overwhelming response for additional market warehousing, Management have identified the demand to build Warehouses 10 & 11 onsite. Projects are in place for import/ export hub and the MMA are working with the State Government and will continue to provide the market community with updates.

### **MARKETING & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

- **Market Industry Open Days:** Management provided the Committee with an update of attendee numbers from the recent Market Industry Open day, 5 May and are aiming to host these events quarterly, with the next one planned for September. The MMA thanked the Wholesalers who provided produce on the day to make it a successful event.



- **Melbourne Market's Great Big Feast – 23 February 2023:** Management are seeking sponsorship for this event. Committee provided feedback from the Company requesting sponsorship, and David Power, Business Commercial Manager will further discuss with Thanh Truong, Aus Asia Produce.
- **A Better Choice:** The current A Better Choice promotion is the Retailer of the Year, which has been rolled out into stores. Zac Egan, State Program Coordinator will assist with any queries anyone has about the new promotion and the campaign. The current promotion "Are you Australia's Favourite Fruit & Veg Shop?" The new A Better Choice Campaign has commenced to win a holiday and a video has been released to promote the campaign. Feedback from the video has been positive.
- **Website & App Development:** MMA confirmed a tender to redevelop the MMA website and app have been released, closing mid-June. Management confirmed the app will have all businesses details listed, with push notifications for businesses to include their product lines and availability.
- **Children in the Market – 29 June 2022:** The Children in the Market event in June 2022 will partner with Heart Kids Charity, featuring heroes in the market, superheroes and to encourage a sense of community. Breakfast will be provided on the day and all proceeds will go to charity.
- **Everyday Gourmet: Justine Schofield:** Filming is well underway for the 10 episodes onsite at the Market with Justine Schofield, Everyday Gourmet. The first episode will "go live" in June. Management hope the tv segments will showcase fresh produce & the market overall.

#### **ACTIONS ARISING FROM CURRENT MEETING:**

- **Safety issues and matters raised at Safety Committee meeting:** Management discussed how to report a safety issue in the market and will communicate this with the market community. For any safety concerns in the market to contact the Operations team: 0438 513 894 to report the issue.
- **WorkSafe Seatbelt initiative – Electric vehicles:** Whilst Management investigate the seatbelt implementation into all electric market vehicles, to also consider installing speed inhibitors in each vehicle.
- **Melbourne Market's Great Big Feast:** David Power, Business Commercial Manager will further discuss the feedback provided by Thanh Truong, Aus Asia Produce regarding Peanut Productions pitch for sponsorship for the event.

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

- Nil

Meeting closed at 10:30am.