

12 December 2019

## **Committee for Melbourne Advocacy**

### **General principles:**

- We contribute to a range of public policy discussions on Melbourne's future economy, liveability, infrastructure and urban optimisation consistent with our purpose of Shaping a Better Future for Melbourne
- Our Secretariat works with our members to research issues and develop our views
- Our policy advocacy positions on the key issues are prepared by the Committee for Melbourne Secretariat and approved by the Board
- We do not advocate for individual members, rather we speak to important issues on behalf of members for the good of Melbourne
- We are apolitical and do not have state or federal government funding, however we work closely with Government to achieve our outcomes
- Our Secretariat is expected to remain free of any conflict of interest
- Conflicts of interest will arise for our individual Board Directors from time to time. Conflicts are fully disclosed and Directors so conflicted recuse themselves from the discussion and from any voting on the position that the Committee via the Secretariat may take on that issue
- Who we are as a member organisation and as Directors, and what we do, is fully disclosed on our web-site
- All media enquiries are directed to the Secretariat, and the CEO of the Committee for Melbourne is the Committee's official spokesperson

### **With respect to the Airport Rail Link you will have seen this approach in practice:**

- Our members have rated the Airport Rail Link as one of the key issues the city needs to address
- We have hosted 3-member forums since 2017 and have published conclusion and recommendations from those forums, including our support for the Sunshine route
- The Committee for Melbourne has a long held public position on the benefit of the Airport Rail Link to the city and to making regional Victoria more accessible
- The key elements of that held position include dedicated rolling stock for baggage, dedicated rail lines, regular and rapid trip times and increasing overall rail capacity to cater for rapid population growth
- Our recent statement on this issue was a joint statement from a number of Victorian Committee for Cities and Regions
- A recent addition to our Board of Directors (Danny Elia) works for IFM which is part of a market led proposal to part fund the Airport Rail Link, to match the \$5billion pledges from the Federal and State governments
- Consistent with our policies on managing conflicts of interest Danny recused himself from any Board discussions relating to the Airport Rail Link and did not vote on the recent public statement we issued