

**SUMMARY OF THE HEARING (INCLUDING DETAIL OF INDIVIDUAL SUBMITTER COMMENTS) OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY, 27 MAY 2014**

**OPENING OF MEETING**

- The meeting of the Special Committee was declared open by Gavin Cator, CEO, at 1:00pm on Tuesday, 27 May 2014.

**ELECTION OF CHAIR**

- The CEO recommended that the Special Committee appoint a Chair.
- There was a motion put to elect Cr Jennifer Houlihan as the Chair of the Special Committee. The motion was moved by Cr Michael Polan and seconded by Cr Dennis Patterson.
- The motion was unanimously carried by the Special Committee.

**MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE PRESENT AT THE MEETING**

- The following members of the Special Committee were present for the entire duration of the meeting, from 1:00pm until the meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm:
  - Cr Jenny Houlihan;
  - Cr Fern Summer;
  - Cr Kevin Ryan; and
  - Cr Michael Polan.
- Cr Les Oroszvary was present from 2:47pm until the meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm.
- Cr Dennis Patterson was present from 1:00pm until 6:30pm.
- It is also noted that a number of Council officers and two representatives from Russell Kennedy Lawyers attended the meeting, as well as security officers.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- There were no declarations of interest.

**RECORDING OF MEETING**

- The Chair noted that the meeting was being recorded for minuting purposes.

## **PURPOSE OF MEETING**

The Chair explained, as follows.

- The meeting was a meeting of a committee of Council appointed to consider and hear submissions under section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 in relation to a proposal to:
  - discontinue part of Andrew Fairley Avenue; and
  - sell that discontinued part to SPCA, or one of its corporate group.
- The task of this Committee is to consider the submissions made, including hearing people who asked to speak to their submissions or a representative.
- The Committee will not decide on either of the items above, that will be for the Council itself to decide at a Council meeting which will occur at a later date.
- The Special Committee must prepare a report for that Council meeting to consider which can only occur after all submissions have been made and considered.

## **ORGANISATION OF MEETING**

The Chair explained, as follows.

- There were over one thousand submissions, many in favour and many against the proposal.
- The meeting was to make sure people who wish to speak are given that opportunity and it is a significant organisational task that arises from the requirement of the Local Government Act 1989.
- Many people signed pro forma submissions and it appeared that some of those people did not realise that in signing such a pro forma they asked to speak at the meeting.
- Council officers had attempted to establish who did and who did not wish to speak. This has included letters, telephone calls and emails and some special arrangements for the meeting.
- Council prepared a list allocating times to speak, as follows.
  - Times had been allocated to people who responded to the request to register.
  - People may register to speak at the desk outside and be allocated a time to speak.
  - People may register at any time to speak.
- At the end of the meeting if anyone wished to speak that had not registered, they would be given an opportunity.
- No submitter was required to stay for the whole meeting, but people may stay if they wished.

- Times would be approximate and people may need to wait to speak after their allocated time had passed.
- It is possible that the meeting may need to be reconvened to allow enough time to hear all submissions.

**CONDUCT OF MEETING**

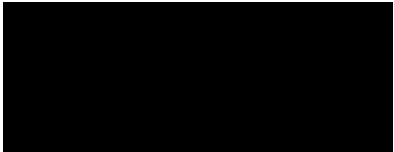
The Chair explained, as follows.

- All speakers must be provided with courtesy and respect at all times.
- Interruptions or remarks from the public gallery would not be tolerated as they interfere with that person’s right to be heard and cause delay.
- Due to the large number of submitters a time limit of 5 minutes per speaker applied. It is possible that some may go shorter and others may go marginally over time. A time limit is necessary and is in accordance with Local Law No. 2.
- A number of submissions may raise similar arguments and points and it is up to each submitter to decide whether to repeat arguments or not.
- Each written submission, including late submissions, has been provided to each member of the Special Committee.
- There will be a timekeeper on the five minute limit. A bell will ring at the four minute mark and then again at the five minute mark.
- The meeting was an opportunity to make submissions, not to ask questions of the committee.
- It is unlikely that the committee would ask questions, other than for clarification.
- Council officers were available to answer any queries or questions.

**SUMMARY OF THE HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS IN SESSION ONE**

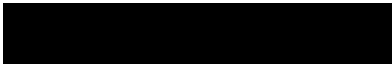

Time commenced: 1:08pm

Time concluded: 3:08pm

TIME	SUBMISSION NUMBER	NAME OF SUBMITTER	FOR / AGAINST	SUBMISSIONS
1:08pm	8.138		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1996 proposal rejected for sound reasons</li> <li>• Concerned by the process adopted by the CEO</li> <li>• SPCA has been provided many opportunities to put its case</li> <li>• Ratepayers have only provided 5 minutes</li> <li>• Councillors not independent, not for Council to fix private problems.</li> </ul>

				<p>Direct / indirect association with SPCA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School children - safety concerns</li> <li>• Job losses – not relevant</li> <li>• Once the Road closes it closes forever</li> <li>• Stifle local business if the Road is closed</li> <li>• Valuation of land to the east has already dropped</li> <li>• Dodgy traffic report and bandaid solutions. The Road is still reasonably required</li> <li>• SPCA has told workers to support the closure. Claims workers will be replaced if they do not support the road closure – name not disclosed of worker who called</li> <li>• Shepparton should be better than this and put the community before SPCA</li> <li>• Main east west arterial road, keep open for the people of Shepparton</li> </ul>
1:13pm	5.115 8.10		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Owned local business for 21 years in [REDACTED]</li> <li>• If the Road closes it would not be a minor inconvenience, but added costs: personal \$2k per year, \$6k business per year</li> <li>• Other larger business would have added costs</li> <li>• Presented some pictures of the Road network</li> <li>• If the Road is closed added 1.9km of travel distance that will separate and divide Shepparton</li> <li>• Extra time for emergency services</li> <li>• Emergency vehicles will be delayed due to increased congestion on other Roads</li> <li>• Alternative routes can be flooded</li> <li>• Clearways will affect local businesses too</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traffic report says poor conditions will be experienced in 10 years time</li> <li>• More heavy vehicles will be brought into Shepparton</li> <li>• SPCA staff union will not support the Road closure</li> <li>• Business to the east of the Road employ many more than SPCA</li> <li>• Divide the city in two</li> </ul>
1:20pm	8.59 8.135	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opposed due to poor process and unrealistic timeline and lack of due process</li> <li>• Developer pays principle not applied to SPCA</li> <li>• \$3.3m in road works alone</li> <li>• Assume that taxpayers and ratepayers should pay for SPCA</li> <li>• Alternatives not truly uneconomic if SPCA had to pay for road works required to close the Road</li> <li>• Alternatives have not been provided due consideration</li> <li>• There should be no costs to the ratepayers associated with SPCA expansion</li> <li>• There will be many costs to ratepayers, including added time</li> <li>• No cost benefit analysis done to understand the consequences. Council can't make an informed decision on the proposal.</li> <li>• No trust in Councillors. Councillors relying on remarks from Deputy Premier. Can't just bulldoze this proposal through the community.</li> </ul>
1:25pm	5.121 7.150 8.62 8.110	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shepparton resident for 25 years, used daily for work 17.5 years.</li> <li>• Grab for financial advantage by SPCA</li> <li>• Ratepayers should not give money. State Government will not give SPCA anymore money. Federal Government won't give SPCA any money.</li> <li>• Sanity should prevail and the Council should say no to SPCA</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total disregard for businesses in eastern estate, residents, school children, ratepayers for road structure</li> <li>• SPCA land needs to be used more efficiently</li> <li>• Build an overpass over the Road as an alternative. Chain conveyers, plate conveyers, etc. 100 of options. Think outside the box.</li> </ul>
1:30pm	7.145		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPCA has many options to remain profitable while keeping the Road open</li> <li>• SPCA can't guarantee they will be operating in 5 years</li> <li>• Ardmona site is a better option and is only 6 kilometres from Shepparton</li> <li>• If Ardmona is used all heavy trucks would be out of Shepparton</li> <li>• Many hectares of land available with good road and rail access</li> <li>• Why is Ardmona not a viable option. Valuable plant and equipment already installed there.</li> <li>• Build a multi deck car park at Shepparton to free up more land or build up</li> <li>• Reconfigure the existing boom gates to allow more efficient access</li> <li>• Alternative road alignment option drawn on a plan presented to Chair</li> <li>• Predetermination potential, don't be bullied into closing the Road. Be adaptive to survive.</li> <li>• Extra expense will be incurred by other businesses and consumers in the area</li> <li>• Ardmona should be considered as an alternative</li> </ul>
1:40pm	7.144		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety will be an issue as emergency services will be delayed</li> <li>• Trucks will be forced to travel on other roads and congest Shepparton</li> <li>• More efficient to travel along the Road and Lockwood Drive than other routes</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land could be sold by company in future for huge profits</li> <li>• Community support is thin for SPCA</li> <li>• SPCA is not the biggest employer in Shepparton</li> <li>• Council should comply with its own policies and procedures</li> <li>• Council should fight for the little guy, for the community. SPCA should fix their own inefficiencies</li> </ul>
1:42pm	8.140		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The bus company will be directly affected. We employ 30 people at [REDACTED] directly affected. Opposite [REDACTED]</li> <li>• The buses have to go down the Road to access the school runs, estimated 16 times per day plus excursions</li> <li>• Estimate \$5k of extra fuel due to extra distance. With wages this will be extra \$20k total</li> <li>• Town has grown and it takes longer to get children to school with the system under maximum pressure already. Current system will not get kids to school in time.</li> <li>• When extra traffic congests the system, in the immediate term, the buses will take longer</li> <li>• Bus safety is a huge issue and bus interchange point at Balaclava Road will be affected by congestion. Bus Safety Act requires safe pick up and departure points</li> <li>• Gordon Street will become a car park. Devalue our business and our land. Insult us to close the Road</li> </ul>
1:48pm	5.60 8.80		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opposed to the Road closure. Criminal act to close the Road</li> <li>• Few enough railway crossings and SPCA are not here for the long haul</li> <li>• SPCA foreign owned. SPCA will be on-sold in 5yrs time to another foreign company</li> <li>• SPCA told growers to remove the peach trees</li> <li>• The Road is a very attractive piece of land for Coca Cola Amatil to sell</li> </ul>

				<p>for profit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Road is a major access link</li> <li>• SPCA bring heavy traffic into Shepparton CBD and add to costs of maintain roads in town. What will happen to the Mooroopna site?</li> <li>• SPCA efficiency gains will be minimal and will be at the cost to workers</li> <li>• Canning of spaghetti and baked beans will not be to the benefit of growers</li> <li>• If the Road is closed and granted or sold the Council will sell out the people of Shepparton</li> </ul>
1:53pm	8.75	████████████████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He has nothing to benefit if the Road is kept open, but is a concerned ratepayer and citizen</li> <li>• Know the Road and the area very well</li> <li>• The Road has always affected SPCA</li> <li>• The Road is a very important road and access link for Shepparton</li> <li>• SPCA is affected by other problems and will not be fixed by the Road closure</li> <li>• Closing the Road is an act of madness</li> </ul>
2:00pm	19.1	████████████████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live close to the Road</li> <li>• The Road is an important access road and most direct route into the city centre</li> <li>• Increased traffic of 8,000 vehicles will congest other roads and will delay emergency services vehicles</li> <li>• Balaclava Road route is already at a standstill at certain times of the day</li> <li>• Proposed traffic lights will not fix the problem</li> <li>• He has chronically ill children and this issue will affect my children if emergency services cannot access us efficiently</li> </ul>



				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Train traffic and shunting is another issue that the traffic report should address</li> <li>• Land values will be affected if the Road is closed</li> <li>• SPCA efficiency concerns should be solved using their own land</li> </ul>
2:02pm	8.140	████████████████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bus driver</li> <li>• Use the Road everyday</li> <li>• Road closure will cause delay getting to and from work</li> <li>• Already horrific traffic on other roads and silly behaviour in congested traffic</li> <li>• Traffic increase in the future will also cause problems</li> <li>• Major east-west thoroughfare that will be taken away</li> <li>• Shouldn't close of the road for a private business that has other options</li> <li>• Safety aspects for the children should be a key consideration for the Council</li> <li>• SPCA already has enough room to do what they need to – wouldn't be considered for growth for other business e.g. fords buses</li> </ul>
2:06pm	5.46	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dairy farmer</li> <li>• Close the Road will add extra 10 minutes travel time to his wife's journey to work</li> <li>• Long term cost of the Road closure will outweigh any benefits to SPCA</li> <li>• Significant community opposition should be listened to by Council</li> </ul>
2:08pm	5.79 7.180	████████████████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Owns land in the vicinity at ██████████</li> <li>• From 2:30 to 4:00pm, 1,504 cars travelling east west along New Dookie Road on 26/05/2014. Already too much traffic on this road and will take years to get traffic lights installed</li> <li>• Use the Road daily and if the Road is closed it will be permanent</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Particular vehicle counts for particular times were also provided</li> <li>• If the Road is closed additional traffic will congest New Dookie Road and roads will be damaged</li> </ul>
2:13pm	7.284	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used to work at SPCA and at no stage did SPCA claim that production inefficiencies were due to the Road</li> <li>• Significant management issues are a problem for SPCA</li> <li>• Lost efficiency has already been caused to SPCA by deskilling their workforce sacking maintenance workers</li> <li>• 50% reduction in canned fruit sales worldwide, SPCA will not be saved by closing the Road</li> <li>• The closure of the Road will not get the heavy trucks out of Shepparton. This is an inconsistent position by Council</li> <li>• SPCA will not be here in 5 to 10 years</li> <li>• West is where the orchards need to be</li> <li>• SPCA will stay in Shepparton instead of doing the right thing and moving out of the CBD. Rosella, Heinz – sold land to ensure they were viable.</li> <li>• The ambulance uses the Road. This should be the primary consideration</li> <li>• Where is your independence and integrity</li> <li>• Asbestos in roof of cannery and inefficient machinery</li> <li>• Collusion between SPCA and Council</li> </ul>
2:17pm	7.237	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ABC news interview on March 14, Peter Kelly stated the business is in good shape</li> <li>• Now claim that without closure of the Road SPCA would be unviable</li> <li>• Lack of transparency and due diligence</li> <li>• Increase of efficiency not proved by cost benefit analysis. No</li> </ul>

				<p>transparency or due diligence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not assume silence implies consent. Council is a legal fiction exists to serve the community and their property rights</li> <li>• Council must not act unlawfully and illegal actions render ratepayers liable for harm and damage</li> <li>• Councillor code of conduct breached by unfair advantage to SPCA and harm to community</li> <li>• The Road should be open at all times for public use and enjoyment</li> </ul>
2:21pm	5.90	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes Minister attitude by Council</li> <li>• Rubber stamp decisions and accept advice blindly</li> <li>• Developers ride roughshod over Council</li> <li>• Council does not have public support</li> <li>• Council must act with conscience, with commonsense</li> <li>• Councillors not part of the community by supporting these crazy ideas</li> <li>• Traffic studies undertaken at certain times to reflect figures. The closure of the Road is a mistake for the long term</li> </ul>
2:27pm	5.76	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handed up a plan</li> <li>• Mother and student</li> <li>• Closing the Road will impact on the traffic and surrounding area. Why make these issues worse?</li> <li>• Emergency services will be delayed if the Road is closed and improved road infrastructure will not address this issue.</li> <li>• The closure of the Road will impact daily life</li> <li>• Bus interchange improvements will mean moving the bus interchange</li> <li>• The Road closure will have ripple effects on traffic and bring forward traffic works and associated expenses. Lights won't relieve congestion</li> </ul>

				<p>and dangers will still exist for school children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is nothing concrete to base the decision on. It is only “ifs” and “maybes”</li> <li>• The Council should put the community before the interests of SPCA</li> <li>• The Road is a much needed and utilised Road</li> </ul>
2:32pm	3.7 5.39 9.21	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is massive waste of money and time. Time and expense could have been more productive</li> <li>• Emergency services will be affected</li> <li>• Shepparton is bigger than SPCA and it is not the Council’s job to close the Road</li> <li>• The Council should help SPCA but not by selling the Road</li> <li>• Alternative design options and available for SPCA</li> <li>• Shame on SPCA for asking to buy the Road. It is not our road to sell.</li> <li>• Is this the thanks we get for supporting SPCA?</li> </ul>
2:35pm	17.7 18.60	██████████	Neutral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time using High Street takes about 1 minute longer</li> <li>• Not too much negative impact on my business</li> </ul>
2:36pm	8.12	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incredibly important decision for the Council</li> <li>• This issue is putting huge strain on the community, including many fragile members of the community. Bringing elderly people to tears due to impact on them picking up grandchildren to school</li> <li>• Some people are not confident enough to be heard</li> <li>• 1 minute delay to emergency vehicles is too long. Concerns – house fire time to save property and life, heart attack or stroke</li> <li>• The closure of the Road would be morally and ethically wrong</li> <li>• The closure of the Road will affect the property values and rental prices</li> <li>• Coca Colo Amatil, SPCA have been evasive and can only blame</li> </ul>

				<p>themselves for the huge opposition to the proposal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Similar proposal in 1979 and the Council made the right decision</li> <li>• Council should make the right decision</li> </ul>
2:41pm		██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is an issue of good governance</li> <li>• Council must maintain its road network and must retain its roads</li> <li>• Council has arguably prejudged the issue</li> <li>• The process has been terrible. Lack of policy on this issue. There is no Council road discontinuance policy.</li> <li>• There are 8,000 reasons per day as to why the Road should not be closed</li> <li>• To discontinue a road it must not be reasonably required</li> <li>• Any road or land that forms a through route should not be considered for discontinuance</li> <li>• This is not an issue about SPCA. It is an issue about the Road</li> </ul>
2:46pm	8.136	████████████████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong objection to Road closure</li> <li>• The Road is not surplus land. 8000 people do not consider it to be surplus.</li> <li>• The closure of the Road will affect traffic congestion on other roads</li> <li>• Local business operating in the area depend on the Road</li> <li>• SPCA has surplus land that it should use more efficiently</li> <li>• The solution to the SPCA problem should not be at the expense of the residents. Already bad internal networks – this proposal will exhaust them</li> <li>• There are important services and infrastructure pipelines under the Road and these will have to be decommissioned</li> <li>• Council has demonstrated a heavy bias towards SPCA</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council should support the community as the Road is demonstrably required by use as a roadway</li> </ul>
2:52pm	7.486	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local business owner</li> <li>• The Road is required for local services, including emergency services</li> <li>• Council will have potential legal action</li> <li>• \$3,800 added business costs due to fuel and delay</li> <li>• We are only one of 19 businesses in Lockwood Road</li> <li>• Clearways will restrict the operation of our business as our peak delivery and dispatch time is at peak hours</li> <li>• SPCA has not done anything for the community in the last 10 to 15 years, they have hurt the orchardists</li> <li>• Shepparton do not require SPCA</li> <li>• Our land values will be affected by the Road closure</li> </ul>
2:55pm	7.440	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home owner. Use the Road everyday</li> <li>• SPCA and Council force this on us</li> <li>• Only way out is to use Byass Street, which is a terrible alternative</li> <li>• Cannot get out into Lockwood Road as it is too busy</li> <li>• Old Dookie Road goes through to the Road</li> <li>• We would be hemmed in if the Road is closed</li> <li>• Emergency vehicles would be delayed and the main route would be threatened</li> <li>• Sick family members that would be potentially affected by the Road closure. Can't afford to relocate. Sick husband and grandchildren. We don't get to move our home if the Road is closed</li> <li>• No one has counted the pedestrians. The Road is the only safe route for school children</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why have the emergency services not been contacted for a submission?</li> <li>• SPCA contacted the emergency services representatives, not the Council</li> </ul>
3:03pm	5.48 8.72	[REDACTED]	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff parking could be moved</li> <li>• There are alternative options including realigning the Road or building a conveyor. Address SPC cost problems and efficiencies</li> <li>• Propose a relatively simple solution – move staff parking. Suggest the Road be realigned to the north of the building.</li> <li>• Construction of a bridge or mechanical transport on north of the road. Result no interruption of traffic flow.</li> </ul>

**FIRST ADJOURNMENT**


- At 3:08pm, Cr Michael Polan moved that the meeting be adjourned for a break and that the meeting be reconvened at 3:45pm. This was seconded by Cr Les Oroszvary and the motion was unanimously carried.

**SUMMARY OF THE HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS IN SESSION TWO**

Time commenced: 3:45pm

Time concluded: 6:26pm

TIME	SUBMISSION NUMBER	NAME AND ADDRESS OF SUBMITTER	SPEAKING FOR/AGAINST	SUBMISSIONS
3:45pm	19.25	[REDACTED]	For	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPCA suffered some difficult trading over last couple of years</li> <li>• Turnaround involves efficiency improvement and innovation</li> <li>• Need to become as efficient as possible. Request for road is due to this reason.</li> <li>• Economic impacts of not proceeding with the proposal would be significant. Benefits will outweigh negative impacts</li> </ul>


				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traffic impacts would be manageable</li> <li>• A “no” decision would have a long legacy for Shepparton. Jobs at stake, both directly and indirectly.</li> <li>• Three primary concerns are considered to be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ traffic congestion, which will be lessened by changing our shift times;</li> <li>○ fairness, which will be achieved by returning the road to Council if SPCA ever stops business; and</li> <li>○ safety, which will be improved especially for pedestrians.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Urge Council to consider broader perspectives and the potential loss to Shepparton if SPCA closes</li> <li>• This is not a status quo situation, but there will be change either way</li> </ul>
3:51pm	17.5 17.6 17.8		For	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a difficult decision for Shepparton</li> <li>• Decision must be that Shepparton is open for business</li> <li>• Top three sectors in Shepparton, include manufacturing and agriculture</li> <li>• Milk products is a key industry and at a local level this industry is recovering</li> <li>• In contrast SPCA is dealing with a perfect storm</li> <li>• SPCA is at the crossroads</li> <li>• SPCA supports over 560 local businesses and 3,500 employees both directly and indirectly in the Goulburn Valley</li> <li>• The investment is to improve the efficiency and packaging of SPCA to get the company back on track</li> <li>• However, if SPCA is not back on track, the CEO admitted that Coca Cola Amatil is under huge stress and pressure</li> <li>• Board will reconsider their investment if this decision does not go ahead and potentially close the site</li> <li>• Debate not over road closure, but stating that Shepparton is open for</li> </ul>



				<p>business and open for growth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPCA should be the centre of Shepparton as the centre of high quality agricultural business and product</li> <li>• We need to strengthen SPCA to make it strong</li> </ul>
3:56pm	7.138	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Former SPCA engineer</li> <li>• Coca Cola Amatil have no knowledge of fruit industry technology and decisions made by SPCA have been out of character for the fruit industry</li> <li>• We can't compete with cheap overseas labour and the economics of fruit overseas</li> <li>• SPCA should work within its own boundaries</li> <li>• They only did 9,000 tonnes of pears and 3,000 tonnes of peaches</li> <li>• It will end up a tomato and jam factory</li> <li>• A public road should not be given to a private company</li> <li>• The Council should represent the views of the ratepayers and the community and do everything in its power to retain this road</li> <li>• The Road is an important road that is required for the community</li> <li>• 3-5% efficiency will not save SPCA</li> <li>• The closure of the Road will impact on the community and everyday life in Shepparton</li> <li>• The Council should not entertain the proposal as it is misconceived</li> </ul>
4:02pm	5.19 8.11 8.50	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council's decision is predetermined</li> <li>• Will the Council attempt to complete the road upgrades to other roads before proceeding with the closure of the Road</li> <li>• The Road services the industrial part of Shepparton and is an important road</li> <li>• Why is Drummond road not listed as a high priority road with two</li> </ul>

				connecting intersections?
4:04pm	7.139	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is not about SPCA and 3-5% efficiency, this is about a land grab</li> <li>• The Road is prime real estate – financial benefit</li> <li>• Fruit production will remain in Shepparton even if Coca Cola Amatil does not continue to own SPCA</li> <li>• Council should not base its decision on fear</li> <li>• Misleading information has been promoted by SPCA and Council</li> <li>• There is no independent analysis that has been carried out and untested advice of SPCA should not form the basis of the decision</li> <li>• There has been overwhelming rejection of the proposal by the community</li> <li>• The residents need answers to be truly informed</li> <li>• The proposal has been rushed and the local businesses in the east have not been adequately considered</li> <li>• There is no guarantee that SPCA will remain in Shepparton. SPCA has history of poor management</li> <li>• Council must be unbiased and appear to be unbiased and the Road is reasonably required for use by the 8,000 road users per day</li> </ul>
4:09pm	8.152	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPCA has been a big part of my life. Feel betrayed</li> <li>• Submitted Plan on how all of this could be done on site.</li> <li>• The Council must read the submissions. The Road is the safe and economical way for schools and businesses to travel to east</li> <li>• The issue is about whether the Road is needed for the community and the 8,000 road users</li> <li>• The Road is needed for emergency vehicle access</li> <li>• The Council is required to protect the value of its property and the Road</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local businesses in the area are against the closure of the Road</li> <li>• The closure of the Road is a risk to children and safety as it will no longer safe to walk around that area</li> <li>• Population growth means the Road will be required even more into future</li> <li>• Trucks are a safety issue, especially as the truck drivers practice long hours and use stimulants</li> <li>• The closure of the Road will be a huge cost to ratepayers</li> </ul>
4:14pm	4.2	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shifted business to Shepparton 14 years ago to grow business</li> <li>• Has spent a lot of money on land, rates and building in Shepparton</li> <li>• Over the last 14 years the Council has not progressed</li> <li>• The closure of the Road is an absolute no</li> <li>• There are other businesses that are important to Shepparton</li> <li>• Council supports SPCA, but does not support other businesses in the CBD. Look at what we are trying to achieve and our direction for the town</li> <li>• The Road is an important connection for Shepparton</li> <li>• We don't need to close the Road</li> <li>• SPCA has enough other land</li> </ul>
4:18pm	5.30 8.141	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As a regular traveller around Shepparton the Road is needed as an alternative route to High St and Balaclava Rd to get to east Shepparton</li> <li>• Peter Kelley has stated that heavy vehicles will use major Roads to access SPCA</li> <li>• The trucks must use the smaller roads, especially when travelling from the west</li> <li>• Who will pay for the maintenance and upkeep of the roads</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who will pay for the removal of infrastructure in the Road</li> <li>• There are other alternatives for SPCA to use its land more efficiently. Vacant car parking spaces and empty drums taking up space in SPCA yard – most people have to walk 1-2 blocks from the car park</li> <li>• Object strongly to the lease of the Road to SPCA</li> <li>• The Road is a community asset and the Road is required for the community</li> <li>• Do SPCA receive a reduced Council rate payment?</li> <li>• New companies to Shepparton will replace any jobs lost from SPCA</li> <li>• If the Road is closed, the Council is indicated that it will apply for a grant for the required road upgrade works</li> <li>• If a grant is available it will still be the taxpayers who will pay</li> </ul>
4:24pm	5.38 5.101 8.137		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strongly object to the Road closure</li> <li>• The Road closure will not proceed as it will only benefit SPCA and will be to the detriment of the community</li> <li>• No evidence or study has been carried out in relation to the costs and benefits to the community and land values</li> <li>• Council does not have sufficient information to make a decision</li> <li>• The closure of the Road will have a significant impact on local businesses. Direct financial impact on business and employees</li> <li>• 102 employees use this Road consistently</li> <li>• Added business cost estimated to be \$48k per year, based on 30 employees taking an extra 6 minutes to access worksites</li> <li>• This cost will be significant when cumulated for other businesses in the area</li> <li>• Residents will also be impacted, including those who attend schools in the area</li> <li>• There are only 4 options to enter or leave the area and the proposal</li> </ul>

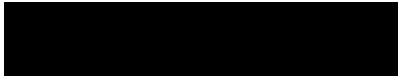

				<p>will close one of these roads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no study or analysis to understand what impacts there will be if the Road is closed</li> <li>• There are substantial road works that will be required and there is no funding secured for this work</li> <li>• There is major infrastructure in the Road</li> <li>• SPCA has not provided detailed costing and evidence in support of its proposal</li> <li>• Timeframe SPCA has given for Council to move on this matter has been unfair</li> <li>• I support SPCA and they are important for Shepparton, however, I cannot support the closure of the Road due to the associated consequences for Shepparton</li> <li>• Council needs to consider all the facts before making a decision</li> </ul>
4:33pm	5.53	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business owner and ratepayer</li> <li>• Council's job is not to prop up SPCA</li> <li>• If Council does this, then it should support all local business. Dangerous precedence to set</li> <li>• The Councillors does not own the Road</li> <li>• The Road is used daily, up to 4 or more times. I will not be compensated for the extra cost and delay</li> <li>• The Council has handled this issue poorly and the process is unfair</li> <li>• SPCA is attempting to bullshit and extort the Council</li> <li>• The Council needs to make the right decision</li> <li>• The way to support SPCA is to buy canned fruit. SPCA should not be given the Road</li> </ul>
4:36pm	8.34	████████████████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I oppose the closure of the Road</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The traffic is already bad enough as it is</li> <li>• SPCA does not really need the Road</li> <li>• There are alternatives, including a tunnel</li> <li>• If the alternatives are not possible the Road should not be closed</li> </ul>
4:38pm	8.145	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council process has been terrible and mismanaged</li> <li>• SPCA have been afforded preferential treatment</li> <li>• How do you become a “preferred” ratepayer like SPCA?</li> <li>• Council is being manipulated by SPCA</li> <li>• The Road is an important access for 8,000 vehicles per day</li> <li>• With over 1,000 submissions against the proposal the Road should not be closed</li> </ul>
4:43pm	5.65 5.96 19.5	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A good street network is very important for Shepparton</li> <li>• The Council must not sell the Road to SPCA</li> <li>• Provided examples of previous road closure attempts and proposals to tunnel under the Road</li> <li>• In October 1996 engineers recommended SPC construct a tunnel under AFA which would save money – company chose not to do so</li> <li>• The Road being kept open was previously a condition of funding and the Road should be kept open</li> <li>• The Road is vital to secure future manufacturing plants</li> </ul>
4:48pm	8.54	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I use the Road regularly and experience traffic congestion in the surrounding roads</li> <li>• School buses and school traffic contribute to this congestion</li> <li>• The surrounding roads must not be required to accommodate additional congestion and traffic</li> </ul>

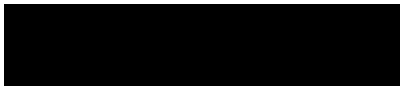
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The upgrade works will be terribly expensive, likely more than \$3m</li> <li>• SPCA must not be given the Road, they have already been granted land and are big enough and smart enough to survive without the Road</li> <li>• SPCA will bring more heavy trucks into town if the Road is closed</li> <li>• The Road closure will impact property values and it must not be closed</li> </ul>
4:51pm	5.142	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The main industry in the Shepparton area is the dairy industry. The second most important industry is the fruit industry, at about 30% of which SPCA contributes 20% ie SPCA contributes 6% of total economy</li> <li>• SPCA is not as important to Shepparton as it thinks. SPCA is not a co-op, but is a private business</li> <li>• SPCA should move further out of town and leave the Road alone</li> </ul>
4:55pm	8.112	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Road is one of only four methods to get across the railway</li> <li>• The other routes are problematic, either due to traffic, flooding or additional travelling time</li> <li>• About 500 hours additional travel time per day by the community will be required if the Road is closed</li> <li>• There are a number of services, including high voltage power cables going over or under the Road</li> <li>• Powercor plans show the renaming of some roads to Fryers Street, has the Road already been closed</li> <li>• School children would be required to travel further, an additional 3km per day with increased traffic. The Road should not be closed</li> </ul>
5:00pm	8.144	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lawyers and security are not required to be hired by the Council</li> <li>• The Council should provide amazing support to every other business in Shepparton, not just SPCA</li> <li>• SPCA has advised that the Road is required for efficiencies</li> <li>• ASX guidelines may have been breached by Coca Cola Amatil</li> </ul>



				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Was there an agreement to close and sell the Road prior to 13 February 2014?</li> <li>• Is SPCA providing misleading statements to the Council?</li> <li>• Is the Council biased, if so it is open to challenge</li> <li>• The Council decision may be set aside if only one Councillor is biased</li> <li>• The Council must have an open mind and listen to the people of Shepparton</li> <li>• The Road must not be closed</li> <li>• The procedure of Council is not in accordance with section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989</li> </ul>
5:07pm	8.14	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worked there for 30 years</li> <li>• SPCA previously wanted direct route to Old Dookie Road</li> <li>• SPCA gifted the construction of the Road to the public</li> <li>• Until this date, it has been used without issue and without a justifiable reason to close it</li> <li>• SPCA should use their time to optimise their product</li> </ul>
5:09pm	8.147 19.39 19.56	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The residents have supported SPCA for decades</li> <li>• SPCA are now demanding our cooperation</li> <li>• The cost of this cooperation is too high</li> <li>• Is Shepparton open for business, perhaps for SPCA if the Road is closed. What about for other businesses to the east?</li> <li>• Former Councillors put a line in the sand in 1996 and the Road has been used constantly since</li> <li>• That was a very wise decision with the benefit of hindsight</li> <li>• Upgrade works are already required and will do little to easy congestion that will occur if the Road is closed</li> </ul>




				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPCA is a private business out to get what they can</li> <li>• No real alternatives have been suggested by SPCA</li> <li>• The offer to return the Road is patronising and insincere, without full details of how this would occur</li> <li>• The community has not been provided full information</li> <li>• The Road is vital for continued development of Shepparton</li> <li>• SPCA has provided no guarantee to stay in Shepparton. SPCA business is not what it was. 'Borrow the road' – is not genuine. Only part of the story.</li> <li>• The Council must safeguard the city of Shepparton and put its interests before the interests of SPCA</li> <li>• Many feel information provided is fragmented and not substantial to make an informed decision.</li> <li>• The Road is vital for continued development of Shepparton</li> </ul>
5:14pm	19.67		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attracted 213 supporters online</li> <li>• A strong message was the importance of convenience of the Road</li> <li>• The closure of the Road will add cost to local business and residents</li> <li>• Council has failed to provide information to residents. When will the Council provide clear answers</li> <li>• Preserve what we have left</li> </ul>
5:18pm	19.11		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worked for SPCA for 22 years</li> <li>• I did 18.5 years at Ardmona site</li> <li>• There has been a lot of waste by SPCA by the management</li> <li>• The main efficiency SPCA is asking for is to use the weigh bridge to weigh trucks on the site when they come onto the site and leave the site</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They will still need to use the fruit ripening sheds to the north</li> <li>• An alternative will be to put in a set of special traffic lights with a weigh bridge where the current boom gates are</li> <li>• The main this is the tipping of the trucks into the main space. This can be done from the current car park on the main site</li> <li>• There will also be buildings and things that they also want, but the community shouldn't have to pay for that</li> <li>• Forklifts will not be any faster by closing the Road</li> <li>• We should not be contemplating given them the Road</li> <li>• Lack of sufficient time to investigate options.</li> <li>• A set of traffic lights would be much more acceptable solution that would keep the traffic on the Road</li> <li>• Main entry point through Wheeler street and the traffic lights could be a cost effective compromise</li> </ul>
5:24pm	7.404		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council are giving SPCA too much</li> <li>• There are many other industries who are not being treated equally. Residents feel they are being lied to</li> <li>• SPCA are bullies and do not care for Shepparton, only investors</li> </ul>
5:25pm	7.405		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closing the Road will cause significant delays, including to emergency vehicles, risking lives</li> <li>• The Road closure will create huge inconvenience for road users</li> <li>• The closure will be permanent</li> <li>• A trial should be held to consider the impact of the Road closure</li> </ul>
5:32pm	19.24		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aware of long term history and surprised by the process Council took.</li> <li>• Worst executed public consultation in 25 years experience</li> <li>• Claims were made prematurely by Council. Only logical assumption -</li> </ul>


				<p>Council has been privy to SPCA's plans long before</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The norm for this process is to carry out research first and then proceed with the statutory process</li> <li>• What processes were streamlined by Council for SPCA</li> <li>• ASX announcement occurred within one week</li> <li>• Traffic counters does not constitute a comprehensive traffic analysis that this proposal warrants</li> <li>• Additional analysis is required. Traffic growth has been 100% in 18 years. More time and funds needed – problem with methodology and credibility</li> <li>• Development to the east remains a priority of the Council</li> <li>• The closure of the Road will create serious access problems inconsistent with Council policy and strategy.</li> <li>• Information flow from the Council has been a disaster and a confusing mess</li> <li>• Council and SPCA placed advertisements in the Shepparton News on the same day</li> <li>• Social media posts by Council have caused anger and anxiety. Social media comment only message being received until SPCA and Council put full page spread in Shepparton News same day – cohesion</li> <li>• I personally use the Road and will be required to use other Roads that are already congested</li> <li>• The Road is still reasonably required for public use</li> <li>• The Council is perceived as partisan and in favour of SPCA</li> <li>• The proposal should be abandoned</li> </ul>
5:39pm	5.165		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillor statements on the website</li> <li>• Les is going to be a team player, that listens to the community</li> <li>• Fern you say you are a voice of Shepparton and it is not a choice given</li> </ul>

				<p>the public reaction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jenny – follow facts. SPCA workers voted against the closure of the Road</li> <li>• Big business should not trump the community. Look after who voted you in.</li> <li>• In speeches to the public – Mayor has discussed what can be done for SPCA. Never what can be done for the people. Council has not spoken about the people who will be hurt by the decision to close the Road</li> <li>• Jenny, you have said that the bypass is important to get the trucks out of Shepparton, but the proposal will not get the trucks out of Shepparton. This is going to bring more into Shepparton</li> <li>• The Road will not be given back, valuations are being sought on the Road, and the Road will be sold to SPCA</li> </ul>
5:44pm	5.166		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dennis, you say the community is strong and integrity is important, but that is hard for some people. You said the decision on the Road would be difficult.</li> <li>• Kevin, you speak about the passion for smaller towns. Shepparton will be split into two towns if the Road is closed. Look after the community of Shepparton. It is stupid for the Council to have considered it.</li> <li>• SPCA said it is the only place they can build a new factory. That is rubbish.</li> <li>• Water main goes under the Road. If the proposal goes ahead this will need to be resolved. If cracked, it will stop factory to repair.</li> <li>• Don't close the Road.</li> </ul>
5:48pm	7.458		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small business may lose trade and incur extra costs</li> <li>• The value of land and businesses to the east may be significantly reduced. This has already happened.</li> <li>• There will be a huge expense to the community. What is the point if SPCA close in 5 years anyway? SPCA are already talking about</li> </ul>

				<p>selling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The road upgrades will take 2 years, but it can be closed in only 4 months.</li> <li>• SPCA CFO implied that SPCA will close if it doesn't get the Road. That is blackmail.</li> <li>• The Road closure will split Shepparton into two.</li> <li>• Why doesn't SPCA relocate to Mooroopna?</li> <li>• There is general concern and unrest by SPCA workers losing their jobs. Consultants taking over SPCA and staff walking away</li> <li>• Many people are concerned that the matter has been predetermined. Belief that prior arrangements were made between SPCA and Council</li> <li>• The efficiency of 3-5% to SPCA does not warrant disturbing the whole community.</li> <li>• Do not close the Road.</li> </ul>
5:54pm	7.459		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Michael, you say that you listen, well open your ears. People don't want the Road closed.</li> <li>• Jenny, you say you know what the community wants. You say you understand the community. You are not listening to the people and you don't know what the community wants. If you did the proposal would not have been put forward.</li> <li>• March Ordinary Council Meeting minutes. The financial implications for the Council in its report were said to be none as they would be borne by the applicant. That is not correct.</li> <li>• Risk management, in the report referred to as "low risk". The closure of the Road is not a low risk.</li> <li>• Out of all the businesses to the east of the railway, there were only about 4 that support the Road closure.</li> <li>• Jenny commented protest was 'silly'. We have a democratic right to protest.</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chamber Board made a decision to back the Road closure. The members turned that decision around.</li> <li>• Conflicts of interest are problems for a few of you.</li> <li>• Don't close the Road.</li> </ul>
6:00pm	9.35 7.238	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drive a bus for Rubalara</li> <li>• It is difficult to get through the roundabouts now without closing the Road</li> <li>• Gridlock is a problem from about 3:00pm to 5:00pm</li> <li>• If the Road is closed it will create more congestion</li> <li>• The Road closure will not improve SPCA viability</li> <li>• We can't have the Road closed due to congestion</li> <li>• There is congestion problems that need to be resolved whether or not this proposal goes ahead</li> <li>• It is like Russian roulette dealing with the roundabouts currently</li> <li>• It will effectively close Horton Street at the Old Dookie Corner</li> <li>• Don't close any roads</li> </ul>
6:04pm	7.477	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We own property on Lockwood Road. We also have tenants in the properties</li> <li>• The Council has not answered what will happen to our business and land. Trust that Councillors will listen to the people and what they feel is best for the city</li> <li>• There has been no impact study on impacts of the Road closure</li> <li>• No reports have been provided from VicTrack or VLine</li> <li>• The potential impacts on businesses have not been understood</li> <li>• There has not been appropriate process and there has been confusion. Lack of transparency. Build up of frustration.</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council needs to listen to the people, with due respect there must be integrity. Not a rushed decision.</li> <li>• The process must not be rushed and all information needs to be carefully considered</li> <li>• The issue was dealt with in 1996. One company wants this Road closure. A lot of residents and the community does not.</li> </ul>
6:09pm	7.476	████████████████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tenants of the properties in the eastern estate have made great efforts to improve their situation</li> <li>• We hope all business prospers, however, not at the cost of the community</li> </ul>
6:10pm	5.139 19.9	████████████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The road in the vicinity have not been constructed to accommodate the extra traffic</li> <li>• The peak hour traffic is already congested. Moving traffic to Balaclava Rd / Benalla Rd would create mayhem</li> <li>• The 1996 proposal was refused and since then the land to the east has continued</li> <li>• Why is the Council opposed to the businesses in the east in favour of SPCA. Council commitment to SPCA at the detriment of the community</li> <li>• SPCA need to look further than the Road</li> <li>• SPCA have other sites, including at Mooroopna</li> <li>• Why do we need to close the Road for the whole year for a seasonal process</li> <li>• The traffic will only get worse and the closure will only be a bandaid solution. Shepparton is much more than just SPCA</li> </ul>
6:14pm	5.59	████████████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I use the Road daily. Live in Botany Cres, Study Latrobe, Daughter Notre Dame</li> <li>• Other Roads are already at saturation point</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposal will be effective immediately but the upgrade works will take years to complete. Closure diabolical impact on surrounding intersections</li> <li>• All of the above indicate that traffic will be gridlocked at 9am, 3:30pm and at 5:00pm</li> <li>• No funding has been secured for the road works</li> <li>• SPCA will not fund the road works</li> <li>• This will be a disaster should the Road be closed</li> <li>• One submission was lodged by a paramedic against the proposal. This was a key issue in 1996.</li> <li>• The Road should not be handed over to a private business. Numerous other businesses will be negatively impacted.</li> <li>• An efficiency gain for one will be a loss for many.</li> <li>• The businesses will be impacted and they are the lifeblood of the community.</li> <li>• Good governance requires the Road to be maintained and kept open.</li> <li>• The issue has not been handled appropriately. Questioned if issue has been handled with good governance principals.</li> <li>• There are about 10 submissions against for every 1 submission in support</li> <li>• This decision should not be made in haste and the Road should be kept open</li> </ul>
6:20pm	8.111		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other governments are spending money to build tunnels to bring back 'Community' feel</li> <li>• In Shepparton there is a crazy notion that you build a community by dividing a city</li> <li>• We need the Road to connect properly</li> <li>• The Road is vital to achieving a sense of community</li> </ul>



				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A vision for the future is important. Shepparton early planning was carried out without proper vision. Road congestion is already very bad in Shepparton</li> <li>• SPCA is a failed business and its future is problematic regardless of how much money is spent</li> <li>• Backroom deals are not good for the Shepparton</li> <li>• SPCA CFO indicates that SPCA will close if the Road is not closed. This is difficult to believe.</li> <li>• This is laughable. Shepparton must have important road connections.</li> </ul>
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**SECOND ADJOURNMENT**

- At 6:26pm, Cr Michael Polan moved that the meeting be adjourned for a break and that the meeting be reconvened at 7:00pm. This was seconded by Cr Fern Summer and the motion was unanimously carried.

**SUMMARY OF THE HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS IN SESSION THREE**

Time commenced: 7:00pm


Time concluded: 7:52pm

TIME	SUBMISSION NUMBER	NAME AND ADDRESS OF SUBMITTER	FOR / AGAINST	SUBMISSIONS
7:03pm	7.143 7.174		Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We condemn the closure of the Road</li> <li>• SPCA may close within 5 years</li> <li>• We recently marched in support of SPCA</li> <li>• However, since this time we have been disappointed by SPCA. Believe it has been a sneaky request put forward by CEO and Mayor.</li> <li>• SPCA appear to be only concerned with the 3-5% efficiency gains</li> <li>• SPCA are not concerned with the surrounding businesses</li> <li>• The proposal to close the Road will have significant traffic congestion impacts. Major concern for the traffic flow following the closure.</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Believe closure will happen but upgrades will not.</li> </ul>
7:07pm	8.132 19.3	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resident in Shepparton 40 years and own Florina childcare opposite SPCA</li> <li>• I have watched the Road be used for a long time</li> <li>• We objected to the closure of the Road in 1996. Since that time traffic flow and use of the Road has greatly increased. There is a significant amount of pedestrian traffic along the Road</li> <li>• There are a lot of socio economic disadvantaged people that may not be aware of the proposal. Observing traffic to Shepparton High school and Notre Dame. Residents are not wealthy, English second language. Do not believe these people are aware of the proposal.</li> <li>• SPCA want exclusive use of the Road and not necessarily to build on the Road</li> <li>• Residents and businesses also have opportunity to increase their profits of potentially 3% should road remain open</li> <li>• Council has invested in the alternative transport hub</li> <li>• Why aren't SPCA being asked to spend the money in Mooroopna site and get the heavy trucks out of Shepparton in line with Logistics centre</li> <li>• SPCA appears to be grey elephant, as most other fruit operations are to the west</li> <li>• Day after submissions closed article in Shepparton news from Peter Kelly assuring that infrastructure works will improve traffic flow. How will the road upgrades be financed?</li> <li>• SPCA did not consult with the childcare and other businesses may not have been consulted adequately</li> </ul>
7:12pm	19.58	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Councillors should be representing the residents of Shepparton, not SPCA</li> <li>• SPCA is a private company and the Councillors represent the ratepayers</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The growers were devastated and the Council did not support the growers</li> <li>• The Council should not support SPCA</li> <li>• It is a bad precedent for the Council to support SPCA</li> <li>• The Council's alliance to the ratepayers is more important than SPCA</li> </ul>
7:15pm	19.29	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I was the school crossing supervisor</li> <li>• The closure of the Road will add to traffic safety issues along Balaclava Road. Endanger school crossing supervisor and children on Balaclava Road on their way to school.</li> <li>• The traffic report does not address Balaclava Road</li> <li>• Flooding issues are also an issue</li> <li>• The closure of the Road will endanger school children</li> </ul>
7:18pm	7.470 8.139 8.140 8.153	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We oppose the closure of the Road. Main east west arterial road.</li> <li>• The Council should have an open mind and consider all submissions. We hope the Councillors can bring an independent mind to the decision</li> <li>• We thank the residents for the effort of making submissions</li> <li>• Where is Peter Kelley today? If he cared he would be here. Peter Kelly summed up three key points of community concerns. There are more than three issues here.</li> <li>• SPCA are in the process of fixing up their affairs to get ready to sell. SPCA are improving their business on paper to improve profit for sale.</li> <li>• SPCA use gate 7 to get fruit into the cool stores</li> <li>• SPCA have enough land to propose other alternatives</li> <li>• SPCA have moved the goal posts</li> <li>• SPCA should look at other alternatives</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPCA need to be managed better</li> <li>• Shepparton will continue to grow, so we will cut off that growth by closing the Road</li> </ul>
7:30pm	8.74	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resident of Shepparton for 65 years</li> <li>• SPCA should be successful, but innovation is the key word</li> <li>• SPCA has received significant assistance in the past, including the closure of previous roads and the gifting of land</li> <li>• In 1946, Andrew Fairley introduced the Shepparton Plan. It became the foundation for Shepparton as we know it today.</li> <li>• The Road provides an important east-west link for Shepparton and the Road is of great historical importance to Shepparton.</li> <li>• I strongly oppose the actions of Council in this matter. Council appears incompetent and the resolution and the public notices are inconsistent</li> <li>• The 5 Councillors made a decision without first seek community engagement</li> <li>• There is an important difference between the two public notices, the plans are different</li> <li>• The whole exercise has been bungled from the beginning</li> <li>• Section 223 requires that the matter subject of submission must be specified and there was no requirement for the Council to resolve to intend to close the Road. If Council in future chooses to close the road unsure how they can prove they were unbiased</li> <li>• A safe pedestrian crossing is required</li> <li>• SPCA can become 3-5% or more efficient without closing the Road</li> </ul>
7:31pm	8.140 19.1	██████████	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have spent a lot of time fighting this</li> <li>• In 1996, Jenny Houlihan opposed the closure of the Road</li> <li>• Our company would be interested in purchasing the Road. CEO has</li> </ul>

				<p>not provided response to letters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peter Kelly is not here today</li> <li>• SPCA should keep its business within its own confines</li> <li>• SPCA should not use the Council's land</li> <li>• If I was a Councillor that closed the Road, I would have to resign</li> <li>• SPCA does not care about others</li> </ul>
7:35pm	17.2		For	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I speak for the closure of the Road. Respectfully acknowledge that it will impact on the community.</li> <li>• SPCA has an important place in the community and it is an important contributor. No one disputes the role SPCA provides to our community. It is the backbone of our community</li> <li>• My need for a job and long term prosperity outweighs my need for the Road, although I use the Road frequently</li> <li>• I won't stop supporting the local businesses just because the Road is closed. Businesses affected will continue to be successful through competitive prices and services</li> <li>• Shepparton is the most suitable place to consolidate SPCA's operations. SPCA has made no secret of this</li> <li>• It is unusual to have a road run through the SPCA workplace</li> <li>• Cars and pedestrians are a constant hazard for forklift drivers using the boom gates</li> <li>• With large numbers of traffic and pedestrians there is a risk of an accident. High volumes of traffic and pedestrians are a bad combination. We should consider pedestrian crossings</li> <li>• The Road is a well known short cut from the pub and impaired drivers are a risk</li> <li>• Job creation and economic prosperity are important considerations</li> </ul>

7:41pm	5.25 8.113	[REDACTED]	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a very serious business</li> <li>• We wish to help SPCA as much as we reasonably can and this should be done as much as can be done without closing the Road</li> <li>• There is no evidence in support of the claimed 3-5% efficiency savings</li> <li>• There are no guarantees that SPCA will continue to operate on here after 5 years. The future is uncertain.</li> <li>• The Council intention to sell the Road should be reversed. The Road is needed more by the public than by SPCA</li> <li>• The Council resolution is of no legal effect. SPCA is an invalid abbreviation and is not defined. The public notice goes beyond the resolution and it is not an authorised notice. Neither notice is on behalf of the Council. There are inconsistencies between the notices. The resolution is void as they do not refer to “discontinuing” the Road.</li> <li>• Supreme Court appeal potential</li> <li>• Traffic congestion issues will follow the closure of the Road. Required by emergency services.</li> <li>• Where is SPCA’s alternative plan</li> <li>• The Council must reject the proposal</li> </ul>
7:47pm	7.121 19.20 8.146	[REDACTED]	Against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council may loose subsequent legal battles if it does not maintain the status quo</li> <li>• The status quo in this instance is the existing process</li> <li>• If the Road is needed for public access then the proposal should not go ahead</li> <li>• The process has denied the residents an opportunity to consult with the Council while it was deliberating. Ratepayers were denied the opportunity to discuss with Councillors.</li> <li>• Council should pay for the legal costs of the submitters</li> <li>• Many children use the Road to walk to school carrying laptops and</li> </ul>

				<p>books. It's a big ask to walk an extra 1.2 kilometres to carry laptops books etc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tomatoes stink. We put up with it, but to consider tomatoes being processed all year round is ridiculous. Odour concerns, noise concerns.</li> <li>• The costs are probably about \$6m for road upgrades. There are also legal costs, officer time and compensation. This is about \$10m.</li> <li>• Council should support other industries in Shepparton.</li> </ul>
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**FINAL ADJOURNMENT**

- At 7:52pm, Cr Michael Polan moved that the meeting be adjourned to reconvene at 4:00pm on Friday, 30 May 2014 to enable the Special Committee to consider a report on its proceedings, including a summary of hearings. This was seconded by Cr Les Oroszvary and the motion was unanimously carried.