



Port of Melbourne

Community update

April 2021

Keeping our neighbours informed

Welcome to our Port of Melbourne Community Update.

This quarterly newsletter will keep you informed about what's happening at the port, including upcoming works, community initiatives and events.

If there's anything you'd like to hear about, drop us a line – our contact details are over the page. Thanks for reading!

Port rail expansion gets underway

Port of Melbourne has continued with its commitment to shift more freight by rail, with the Port Rail Transformation Project (PRTTP) achieving a key milestone in February 2021.

We have engaged design and construction companies to develop new rail infrastructure at the port. Site investigations are underway and construction is planned to commence mid year with anticipated completion in the first half of 2023.

Port of Melbourne CEO, Brendan Bourke, said despite the challenges of COVID-19, the port is committed to its 30 year development strategy, including investing in rail.

"As an inner city port, it's critical that we invest in rail as an alternative to moving freight by trucks to lessen the impacts freight movements have on inner city residents. Our 30 year Port Development Strategy provides a clear plan to grow rail infrastructure over the long term and the PRTTP is an important first step in this plan," he said.

You can find out more about the PRTTP on our [website](#).



Brendan Bourke, CEO Port of Melbourne and Minister for Ports Melissa Horne announce contract signing for the next stage of the Port Rail Transformation project

Records tumble at Port of Melbourne

In recent months Port of Melbourne has been visited by three container vessels that have set new records for ships berthing at the port.

In February the port was visited by the OOCL Canada which at the time was the largest and heaviest container ship to have visited the DP World terminal, measuring 335 metres long, 42.9 metres wide, and holding 8,084 TEU.

Just six days later the port was visited by the CMA CGM Loire. While not quite as large as the OOCL Canada, it set a new record for the largest number of containers to arrive on a single vessel, carrying a whopping 9,200 TEU.

These larger container vessels provide a more efficient mechanism to transport containers, with the increased containers per load leading to a reduction in air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions per container moved around the globe.

Finally, in April the Soroe Maersk visited the Port of Melbourne which eclipsed the size of the OOCL Canada with a length of 347m. The Soroe Maersk was visiting Melbourne and other ports in South East Asia to pick up the excess empty containers that have been accumulating at ports during the COVID-19 period.

Movement of ships this size requires extra levels of coordination between the Harbour Master, stevedores and shipping companies to manoeuvre them through the Port of Melbourne and in and out of their destination docks.



The CMA CGM Loire being positioned at DP World Terminal



OOCL Canada arriving at the DP World Terminal

What's a TEU?

TEU stands for twenty-foot equivalent unit and is used to provide a standard measurement of container freight. If you stacked 9,200 containers on top of each other they would be nearly 24km high – that's three times the height of Mount Everest!



Brendan Bourke, CEO Port of Melbourne and Williamstown VFLW Coach
Penny Cula-Reid

Getting behind our local Victorian Football League teams

As part of the port's community partnership program, we are proud to sponsor both the Williamstown Football Club (WFC) and Port Melbourne Football Club (PMFC) for the 2021 and 2022 seasons.

After no football in 2020 due to COVID-19, it's exciting to see the new women's Victorian Football League (VFLW) team, Port Melbourne, joining the league. Competitions in 2021 have expanded to include Victoria, NSW and Queensland in the men's Victorian Football League (VFL) league.

Both clubs have a fantastic community focus which is why Port of Melbourne is delighted to support them. Port of Melbourne will be a key sponsor of WFC's Accelerated Football program running at Williamstown High School and Bayside Secondary College.

Port of Melbourne is participating in PMFC's community subcommittee which focuses on building community connections and inclusivity through the work of its multiple community partners.

We look forward to a successful season for both clubs in the men's and women's leagues.



Partnering with Williamstown Swimming and Life Saving Club

Port of Melbourne was lucky enough to be given a VIP tour of the action at Williamstown Swimming and Life Saving Club's (WSLSC) Open Water Swim in late February. Despite the COVID-19 restrictions in place, the club was still able to put on a fantastic event with 280 people participating in either the 2.5km, 5km or 10km events. An army of 200 volunteers ensured the event ran smoothly and all swimmers were kept safe out on the course.

Port of Melbourne has recently commenced a three year sponsorship of WSLSC which will support the club's swimming and lifesaving programs for primary school, youth and people of different abilities.

WSLSC provides a range of services and support for our local communities which include residents of Williamstown and the communities of the broader western suburbs of Melbourne. We are proud to be partnering with the club.



Keeping an ear on noise

As a city based operational port, Port of Melbourne is a hive of activity 24 hours a day 365 days a year. As such, shipping and freight handling noise have been a constant part of Port Phillip Bay and the Yarra River soundscape for more than 150 years.

During the lockdown periods of 2020, the port's share of the local soundscape became clearer as background noise, such as traffic, dropped and the majority of people were confined to their homes.

As a response to feedback from some residents we commenced a project to better understand the port's contribution to the local soundscape. We are planning to share the findings in a future edition of our newsletter.

In much the same way an airport is crucial for the movement of people interstate and overseas, so too the port is crucial for the movement of freight in and out of the country. We are hoping the findings of the noise study will assist the port and its operators in identifying and developing practical measures that can assist with the management of port noise going forward.

Contact

For more information, please go to the website or contact us via phone or email. Follow project updates on our Port of Melbourne Facebook page.



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