

# RTBU EXPRESS

The Official Newsletter of the Rail Divisions of the RTBU Victorian Branch  
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## THE TIME IS NOW!

### Luba Grigorovitch

State Secretary



Air travel to and from Melbourne Airport is expected to double over the next 20 years to 60 million air passenger trips a year. This is a figure comparable with Heathrow Airport

today.

With a growing population and ballooning travel times, Melbourne can't afford to wait any longer. While car travel remains the dominant travel option to the airport, traffic and congestion continues to grind down broader economic opportunity, capacity and quality of life in the North West.

The RTBU has started a campaign to lobby both the State and Federal Government to do what should have been done decades ago and that is to build a rail line to the airport.

There are a number of options available to make this happen. The State Government recently announced funding towards a feasibility study. We have made a point in letting them know that we support this, however it needs to happen sooner rather than later and an actual commitment to works needs to occur as a matter of urgency. We are expecting this feasibility study to be complete by the end of the year, with an expectation that funding will be allocated in the budget early in 2018 for works to commence as a matter of urgency.


A smart Government would ensure that this project also provides better rail coverage in the North West. Victorians, Governments and Planners have been calling for this critical project for decades. I am sure that

the long awaited Melbourne Airport Rail Link will be welcomed by all.

Victoria needs certainty and commitment to ensuring Melbourne Airport and its economy is supported by infrastructure for the 21st century. Victorians are sick of waiting for a project that should have been delivered in the 90s.

If any RTBU members would like to get involved in the campaign please do so by contacting the office and speaking to the RTBU Campaigns, Communications & Industrial Officer Amedeo D'Aprano or myself. ■

**Luba Grigorovitch**  
- State Secretary



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# MONTHLY DELEGATE MEETINGS



## Darren Galea

Organiser

Monthly delegate meetings across the state are proving to be an effective way to raise and resolve issues with the companies.

While management have historically been able to drag their feet on issues, minuted RTBU Monthly Delegates Meetings are an excellent way to document issues discussed and ensure progress is made from month to month.

This week meetings were held at Transport House for Metrol Train Controllers,

Timetables, Rosters, Schedulers and Signallers as well as Seymour for the Shepparton and Albury lines.

At the V/Line meeting RTBU members were well represented by Delegates Jeff Ford, Todd Anton and Brock Boddington. I must take this opportunity to commend the work of these three Delegates in the region. Throughout the meeting, they demonstrated an outstanding understanding of their Enterprise Agreement and referencing it like lightning. This level of knowledge is truly formidable when being represented against management.

Throughout the meeting, along with pushing for progress on open issues, new issues

such as lighting around stations, dealing with unruly passengers, and EDOs on public holidays were raised.

Keep an eye out for the next set of minutes and get in touch with your delegate should you wish to find out more or raise any further issues. ■



# AROUND THE TRAPS



## Joe Maisano

Organiser

Over the next week Luba and I will be visiting Central Locations in the Metropolitan area saying Hello to the

Membership. It is great to see Branch Secretary Luba Grigorovitch and other organisers out and about in all the areas.

We often get comments from members saying, "hey, we haven't seen you for a while" but rest assured, we are visiting locations on a regular basis, and with the monthly Delegates meetings in all areas of rail, we are sure to be there at least once a month. RTBU

Officials and Delegates do try their best to get out and say hello, however with the differences in shifts for members, it is often hard to catch everyone.

Flinders Street Station which is well known as a landmark in Melbourne is currently undergoing refurbishments, receiving a face lift and other internal works.

At the moment the station building is surrounded with scaffolding, which is not much to be desired for, however at the completion of building works the updated station will bring good energy to the station atmosphere which is our main hub in Melbourne. ■



## Contact us

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**State Secretary**  
Luba Grigorovitch

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