

Submission Text: My name is Thuy and I'm 74 years old. I have lived in Richmond since the 80s and have

built my life here for the last 45 years. I immigrated to Australia by myself, my only family here is my child whom I raised as a single mother.

I'm retired and live alone [REDACTED], I don't drive but I have everything close by that I need: the community garden I go to everyday, Citizen park, my GP, the markets and my friends that I have known for many years and see every day.

I had ankle surgery on my left ankle 10 years ago and the ongoing pain has reduced my ability to walk for long periods of time. My main transportation is walking or using local public transportation.

I first heard about the demolition through friends and then attended a community meeting that I heard through word of mouth. I wasn't familiar with navigating the internet and how to access up-to-date information about the redevelopment.

People from Housing came to my house once but I wasn't home, there's been no attempts to come again. I don't want to sign anything yet because I need to have trust that Housing Victoria will guarantee me a home that fits my needs first. I can't imagine living elsewhere but Richmond, my entire life has been built here.

It has caused immense stress to my health because I'm scared about the future and where I will end up and if I will be separated from my friends and community. I worry if I speak up that Housing Victoria will retaliate and cause difficulties in my life, however, I'm still willing to work with them to negotiate a new property to move into but a Vietnamese interpreter must be present to assist with the language barrier.

I don't want to burden my child with the stress and anguish triggered by this redevelopment and risk losing my independence and everything I have built here for the last 45 years.

I don't want to live in community housing because I won't be able to afford the increased rent, I no longer work and am on the pension.

I'm aware that the government doesn't want to continue funding public housing hence why they want to demolish it and change to community housing.

Public housing is important, it is affordable for the community. I don't want the flats to be demolished, only to be fixed and upgraded.