

Inquiry into the protections within the Victorian Planning Framework

Mrs Nina Earl

Organisation Name:
Your position or role:

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

Dear Parliamentarians

As a citizen and conservation volunteer for the natural and built environment, I value the livability of places for nature and people and advocate for them when I can.

Thus, I respectfully request the following considerations for this enquiry:

- 1) Priority given to considering the environmental impacts of all types of development in all decision-making by all levels of government and agencies.
- 2) Protect native flora and fauna habitats and ensure connectivity between habitats and through urban landscapes.
- 3) Strengthen native vegetation clearing rules, with less reliance on native vegetation offsets, which is unreliable compensation for removing native vegetation because offsets are often remote from the removal site and conditions can be difficult to replicate.
- 4) Mandate 70% local native vegetation in all landscaping, and no introduced invasive plants.
- 5) All developments setback from coastlines and waterways, at least 20m or more depending upon landscape, to ensure space for nature and green recreation for people.
- 6) Strengthen protection of natural and built heritage to retain habitats, livability and character of places in Metropolitan Melbourne and Victoria as a whole.
- 7) Protect Green Wedges and the Urban Growth Boundary.
- 8) Mandate a percentage of green landscape per lot with space for canopy trees, including landscaped setbacks for block buildings.
- 9) Mandate new dwellings/buildings to be climate-friendly with optimal orientation, roof eaves, verandahs, light colours, insulation, window covers, natural ventilation rather than air-conditioning, solar panels, green landscaping with canopy trees.
- 10) Get tough on illegal demolitions and removal of trees or native vegetation.
- 11) Mandatory not discretionary height limits with upper setbacks if necessary, so that no property, public or green space is unfairly overshadowed.
- 12) Mandatory affordable housing in all new developments.
- 13) All new dwellings to have separate not shared access, covered from the elements as needed, to reduce spread of pandemics/infections.
- 14) Local government to retain input with Ministerial call-ins.
- 15) Reduce the unfair cost of VCAT appeals for the public.
- 16) Promote housing as a place to live, rather than investment that drives up prices.
- 17) Encourage manufacturing to drive the economy rather than over-reliance on property development.
- 18) Promote public transport to reduce reliance on private vehicles and ever more roads, which pollute the air, scar the landscape, and is a poor use of land. The Mordialloc Freeway and the Suburban Rail Loop stabling yards are particularly damaging to the Kingston Green Wedge and local environments, the stabling yards ought to be relocated out of the green wedge.
- 19) Existing wide roads could have light rail.
- 20) Review population growth, limits to growth of a place are needed, people will go elsewhere, consider the carrying capacity of this land that has never been assessed.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute.

Yours faithfully, Nina Earl

Recipient of Victorian Environmental Friends Network 2021 Best Friend Award for landcare in Victoria.

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:

Signature:

Nina Earl