

Kenneth Fraser

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
Inquiry into Protections within the Victorian Planning Framework

The Victorian planning framework is a wreck.

Parliament is to be reminded that it is elected by the people, to represent the people.

Not to take office and decide “We know better than the people, so we will impose our ideology and views on them, with no say or feedback.”

There are objection methods, but all too often tokenism and after much effort by residents, they are ultimately dismissed.

That is not the democracy generations have fought for.

For many years, Planning has been anti-residents, with large numbers of objectors being overridden by processes and organisations like VCAT.

Regularly Councils are obliged to approve **appalling developments**, because they know if they reject an application, VCAT will approve it - and most likely also deny any restrictions by the Council.

Developer requests are regularly being given priority over those of residents.

Government-imposed zoning changes

Not needed, not asked for by council, only enjoyed by the “sardine” mob, who think Melbourne must have high density and high-rise. That ideology is nonsensical, anti-residents and causes a need for bankrupting the state with tunnels and mega-freeways.

The Planning Minister has ever-increasing dictatorial powers.

Residents plus **Councils** are appalled to have planning decisions taken from them. When 8,000 people objected to development on Kingswood Golf Course Park, Dingley Village and Council rejected the application, but Minister Wynne took the decision-making from Kingston Council and appointed a committee to make a recommendation after which he alone will decide.

Environmental sustainability and vegetation protection

How good it would be if the Government, instead of being positive in talking about the following, it would not do the opposite when developer money was forthcoming

- Global warming,
- Climate change,
- Trees cooling effect in urban forests,
- Trees filtering of toxins and
- Trees providing oxygen.

At the same time Government is trying to establish new trees, there is not enough protection for existing trees.

AustralianSuper (through their subsidiary ASRP1) have applied to remove approximately 100 trees over a number of years. Not satisfied with the Council's

The fete of native animals

Apart from their proposal which will have a devastating effect on the environment animals need to survive, AustralianSuper have used glyphosate-based herbicide ("industrial" Roundup) which has acute toxicity and Carcinogenicity, therefore banned in many countries.

So of course they almost certainly killed many ...

- Echidnas,
- skinks,
- Lizards,
- snakes and
- would affect the health of foraging birds.

Council should have the last say

There needs to be laws against developers purchasing Golf Courses, Parks and more, that are not zoned residential and then expect to obtain rezoning.

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