

**From:** Inquiry into the Public Housing Renewal Program [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 November 2017 5:29 PM  
**To:** phrp  
**Subject:** New Submission to Inquiry into the Public Housing Renewal Program

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into the Public Housing Renewal Program

Ms Lesley Skinner

T: [REDACTED]  
E: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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I am presenting a submission to do with the sale of publicly owned land in North Melbourne to private developers.

The land is on the public housing estate bounded by Abbotsford St, Molesworth and Hains st. I live in Molesworth St across the road from the estate.

**1. PUBLIC TO PRIVATE** Primarily I object to the sale of public housing to private interests. The amount of public housing and especially the land that it occupies is a scarce treasure that should not be threatened. The sale to private developers is so much against Labor Party principles that I cannot believe that the Labor government would do such a thing. I expect them to be against the sale of public land in principle especially since it is being used to accommodate people of limited means. Private developers do not have as a priority providing benefits for the community, and their commitments may conflict with interests of the public housing tenants.

**2. COMMUNAL GREEN SPACE** The latest proposal that has been presented has no communal green space. This is a particularly bad step. Green space that can be shared by all the residents is vital to the estate. It enriches the environment. Plants by the action of photosynthesis take in carbon dioxide and give off oxygen to the atmosphere. It is a rare and valuable asset especially in big cities where there is a very high consumption of energy which contributes to the greenhouse effect. You drive around North Melbourne and can't help but be impressed by citizens sitting out on the green lawns. Their enjoyment is such a happy sight. It is needed on the estate. It exists now, but will be lost if the present proposal goes ahead. Green space enriches physical health. Children play games and the adults exercise. Currently so much time is spent by children indoors at their computers that it is important to provide opportunities for them to get outside to play and mix with other children from the estate. I have observed many times activities across the road on the estate. Children play outdoor games and adult residents come outside and do their exercises like Tai Chi. This makes for a vital happy community.

**3. PARKING** Parking is an important issue. It is essential that it be available and adequate on the estate.

Space will be required for the increased number of residents and for their visiting friends, relatives and tradesmen.

The southern side of Molesworth St will have serious problems because if a school is built where it is proposed there will have to be provisions for dropping off and collecting students.

Street parking is used by present residents in all the surrounding streets. At night and the weekends the streets are heavily used. There is no way that the extra number of residents' visitors will have room in the streets to park cars.

4. SCHOOL<sup>[L]</sup><sub>SEP</sub> We were not told until very late in the process that a school will be built in the area. There has been no opportunity for consultation, and no details of what is planned. I find it reprehensible that a school is to take land away from much needed housing.

5. SHARING OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE<sup>[L]</sup><sub>SEP</sub> We have been told that private and public sharing of spaces will result in a good social outcome. But there has been no indication that there will be potential for sharing and mixing.

6. PUBLIC TRANSPORT<sup>[L]</sup><sub>SEP</sub> The available public transport is very crowded at peak hours and even during the day. The closest tram is the #57 which is very small, old, and neither heated nor cooled nor air conditioned.

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File1:

File2:

File3: