

Toorak Village Residents Action Group Inc

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Toorak Vic 3142

28 September 2007

Mr Richard Willis
Secretary
Legislation & Select Committees
Department of the Legislative Council
Parliament House
East Melbourne Vic 3002

By Fax to: 03 9651 6799 2 pages

Dear Members,

As is obvious from our name, our focus is the suburb of Toorak postcode 3142. Under Melbourne 2030 we were designated incorrectly as a major activity centre, notwithstanding that Stonnington Council, our association and others strongly objected to the above designation in favour of a more appropriate neighbourhood activity centre designation.

The above designation places our suburb under high density development pressure under the flawed Melbourne 2030 policy. Having regard to the reality that there is no land stock left for development in Toorak, we want to ensure that the precious little Public Land in Toorak is protected from being alienated for any kind of development, and can be enjoyed by local residents.

While as stated above our focus is Toorak, we hope that your Committee will consider the big picture, namely all of Victoria, but in particular Melbourne, especially considering the latest reports that in some 20 years time Melbourne will have a population of over 5 million people.

The city of greater Melbourne deserves to be able to breathe, and as such it needs lungs. Public Land should remain public and where it is not an open space it should be turned into open space. This should apply to all Public Land owned by all levels of Government.

We do not want to see a shift of dynamics from open spaces to high density residential. One way to do this is to have an embargo on the alienation of Public Land from being able to be sold to developers to satisfy a flawed Melbourne 2030, and as such also eliminate the temptation by Governments to consider such sales as another area for revenue raising to the detriment of all Victorians.

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Mr Richard Willis,

Toorak Village Residents Action Group Inc.

It is time to have a proper review of the flawed Melbourne 2030, especially in view of the estimated growth of population and the resultant increase in carbon emissions.

Australia is a Country of wide open spaces, Australians love their outdoors. This is why in a crowded City we need our open spaces. Those will not be provided by developers, so the only option is to conserve our Public Land at all levels of Government ownership, and not sell it for development.

We are absolutley certain that if all Victorians were polled, they will overwhelmingly vote for Melbourne to remain the great liveable city it is rather than join the list of so many overcrowded unliveable cities in other parts of the world.

We hope that the result of the deliberations of this Committee will result in Public Land contiuing to be just that, PUBLIC LAND, NOT FOR SALE.

Yours faithfully,



Emil Gilels
President