



MELBOURNE SOUTH YARRA RESIDENTS GROUP INC.

Established by the residents of South Yarra in 1969

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URGENT

Hon Richard Wynne
Minister for Planning
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METRO RAIL DISASTER MAJOR TRAFFIC JAM - TOORAK RD WEST

Melbourne Metro Rail Authority/Yarra Trams are about to commence construction of a "superstop" as part of the new tramline in Toorak Road West between Park Street and St Kilda Road, South Yarra.

That superstop is so wide that it will reduce the traffic lanes in both directions to one lane.

In response to our numerous requests to the MMRA that the tram stop be reduced in size so as to allow two lanes in each direction we are told it cannot be done **because that is the "Policy"**.

The effect of that one tram stop in the last 500 metres or so of the eight kilometers the Toorak Road tram has travelled to that point will be to create a massive traffic jam for vehicles travelling to St Kilda Road and out of St Kilda Road in an easterly direction.

The chaos caused by this traffic jam will impact a large part of Melbourne, will continue for the estimated five years of the Metro construction and perhaps forever because of what is now plainly the PTV (misconceived) intention that the current Park St/Domain Road tram will never be returned.

It is extraordinary that one tram stop should be permitted to cause such harm to Melbourne and that it cannot be changed because of the "policy".

It is even more extraordinary when for the previous eight kilometers or more of the Toorak Road tram there are two traffic lanes during peak hours plus a tram line on which cars can travel and not one single disabled tram stop.

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It is idiotic in the extreme that this one tram stop should be permitted to cause such harm and for so little purpose. It must be changed. The “policy” must leave some discretion and if not it should be changed, but whatever needs to be done must be done and done immediately.

At least during the construction period use a standard stop, do what has been done in Bridge Road, Richmond but do something.

As construction is about to start will you **please give this your urgent attention** and do whatever is necessary to change the present plan.

Yours sincerely

Michael Butcher
President
Melbourne South Yarra Residents Group Inc

cc. Hon Daniel Andrews, Premier of Victoria
Hon Luke Donnellan, Minister for Roads and Safety
Hon Tim Pallas, Treasurer
Hon Martin Foley, Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing
Hon James Merlino, Minister for Emergency Services
Hon Jacinta Allan, Minister for Public Transport
Mr Haig Poulson, Senior Traffic Engineer, City of Melbourne
Mr John Merritt, CEO Vicroads
Mr J Weimar, CEO Public Transport Victoria
Mr Ted Phillips, Yarra Trams.