



# DAVID DAVIS MP

MEMBER FOR SOUTHERN METROPOLITAN REGION

Leader of the Liberal Party in the Legislative Council  
Shadow Minister for Energy and Resources  
Shadow Minister for Financial Integrity and Budget Repair

June 2025

Dear Resident,

## Labor’s undemocratic, forced high-rise, high-density dystopia in Boroondara and Monash

I write to you about the Allan Labor government’s plan to **force** high-rise densification zones ('Activity Centres') in our suburbs including **your** local community and neighbourhood streets.

Labor’s policy has been made without consultation. Concerningly its local focus is on dense high-rise development within 800 metres of **Gardiner, Glen Iris, Darling, East Malvern, and Holmesglen railway stations**, with further dense high-rise development within 400 metres of **Ashburton railway station**. These are among **50 high-density zones** planned metro wide. These zones could be **up to 20 storeys**.

Homeowners in Boroondara and Monash have purchased homes to build a life for their families. They do not deserve to be punished for their hard work and aspiration. These changes are being foisted undemocratically on communities and will reduce the liveability and amenity for everyone locally.

These towers will greatly impact the environmentally sensitive corridor comprising Gardiners Creek and the adjoining bush and parkland.

Also under threat is the area’s precious and stunning heritage as forced high-rises will wreak havoc on precincts. The Heritage Council of Victoria, a state government body, has serious concerns about the impact on heritage.

### Once this heritage is lost it is lost forever.

Labor’s MP for Ashwood, Mr Fregon, has given unequivocal support for the Labor Government’s high-rise zones, telling Parliament, “we have got plans” and “not everyone wants a home amongst the gum trees”.

I do not support these high-density zones and Labor’s recently announced extreme dwelling targets which aim to almost double the number of dwellings in the Cities of Boroondara and Monash.

Council	2023 Dwellings	Labor Dwelling Target	Labor’s Increase
City of Boroondara	74,600	140,100	65,500
City of Monash	78,300	147,800	69,500

The Allan Labor Government has used extraordinary powers to override local councils introducing planning amendments: VC257, VC267 and GC252 which together have the effect of driving high-rise high-density development, the **loss of heritage** and the **removal of massive tracts of tree canopy**. Local communities and councils have lost appeal rights against these development proposals.

**VC257** drives the high-density high-rise development in the nominated zones (see the purple and yellow on the map).

**VC267** allows 'cookie cutter' style development where the design is **unscrutinised** and allows coverage of almost the whole block with consequent loss of tree canopy and neighbourhood amenity, driving a significant heat island effect. This amendment applies to all the remaining areas of the Cities of Boroondara and Monash (see the blue zone) – 3 to 6 storey developments will steadily replace existing homes with **no council or community say**. Everyone will be affected, those in a zone, neighbouring property being developed and by the impact on local services and infrastructure.

It is extraordinary Labor has announced **no plan for additional services to support** their proposed local population increase such as health, schools or open space.

A major Parliamentary inquiry into the densification proposals has raised deep concerns about changes to tree canopy requirements which will lead to **significant vegetation loss** and **disturbing environmental consequences**. That can be found here, <https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/vppams>.

State Labor have been in power for almost 11 years and in that time, housing has become unaffordable and unavailable for many. They have not investigated the many alternatives available. The City of Boroondara has proposed a significant number of new dwellings that could be managed within additional services and would not destroy the liveability of our suburbs. The recent inquiry Minority Report (pg378, pg10 of the Minority Report) put forward some substantial alternatives to provide more housing.

**I invite you to attend a public meeting on this important issue to be held at Samarinda Community Centre, 296 High Street, Ashburton, on Sunday June 29 at 12.30pm.**

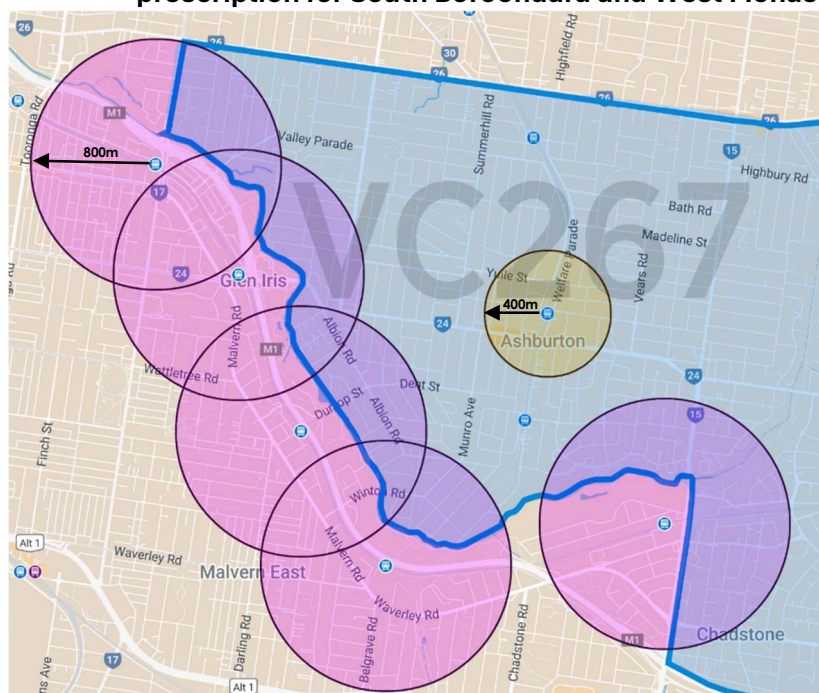
**I would also encourage you to access the QR code below to have your say on the issue or send me an email to [david.davis@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:david.davis@parliament.vic.gov.au).**

Yours sincerely,

**The Hon. David Davis, MP**  
**Member for Southern Metropolitan Region**



**The Allan Labor government's forced high-rise, high-density prescription for South Boroondara and West Monash**



	20 Storey High-Density Zones
	Ashburton High-Density Zone
	VC 267 'Cookie Cutter' Zone