

# Metropolitan Melbourne



"Peter Hodge"

31/01/2009 08:55 PM

To <veac@dse.vic.gov.au>  
cc  
bcc  
Subject Submission

Sub: ① 2 No: 30

Hello,

Here is my submission for the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council investigation of Crown land and public authority land in metropolitan Melbourne.

Regards,



Peter Hodge VEAC Submission.docx

Victorian Environmental Assessment Council  
Level 6, 8 Nicholson St,  
East Melbourne, Victoria 3002.

31/1/09

Re: The Victorian Environmental Assessment Council investigation of Crown land and public authority land in metropolitan Melbourne – Merri & Edgars Creek Parkland.

Dear Sir/Madam,

My submission concerns the Merri and Edgars Creek Parkland, under threat of being sold off for development for more than two years now. The local community continues to fight to preserve one of the largest tracts of passive open space in the northern suburbs. It is my position that the land should be gifted to the Moreland City Council – there are numerous precedents for this.

Briefly, it is vital that all of this parkland is preserved because: of the diversity of flora and fauna that can be found in the parklands; the space is well by thousands of locals and visitors every year; Moreland residents rightfully believe that they have already paid for the land through their rates that have maintained the land for decades; the increase in urban density in the area (Pentridge and Kodak developments) makes it vital; it is consistent with Melbourne 2030 and the Audit Report into the progress of Melbourne 2030.

I refer you to my opinion piece published in The Age, 11 Aug 2008:

<http://www.theage.com.au/opinion/green-or-greed-the-battle-for-our-suburban-parklands-20080810-3szr.html?page=-1>

It is crucial that all of this land be retained – no chipping away at the edges – there is no room for compromise on this issue – the northern suburbs has no more public open space to sacrifice.

I hope that this VEAC investigation will advance the cause of the Merri and Edgars Creek Parkland Group (MECPG) and all other communities struggling to preserve open space for our children.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Hodge

