



Cyhtle Heal

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To "veac@dse.vic.gov.au" <veac@dse.vic.gov.au>

cc

bcc

Subject Edgars Creek Parkland

Sub: 1

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No: 38

04.02.09

To whom it may concern,

I am writing with regard to the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council's investigation into the use of Crown land, specifically the Edgar's Creek Parkland.

I urge the Victorian government to hand over this priceless piece of parkland to the Moreland City Council, free of charge, so that the Council may manage it as valuable public open space.

My family and I use the parkland daily, it is a treasured part of our lives, and we are none too aware of how lucky we are to live near this beautiful open space, blessed with Edgars Creek running through it, and further down, Merri Creek. We walk our dog daily at the park, it incorporates a wonderful off-lead area where you will always find other friendly dog lovers enjoying the tranquility of the creek and surrounding bushland.

The northern suburbs needs this space. Housing developments are springing up all around us (within Pentridge, the Kodak factory land, O'Hea St developments, just to name a few); those residents are going to require public open space too, a clean and natural environment in which they can grow, teach and enjoy their lives and families.

I know the Edgars Creek Parkland Group and the Merri Creek Management Committee have done some wonderful work in the area and the community have planted native plants near what the locals call "the waterfall" (depending on the time of year, of course!), to protect the ground and the waterways. We care about this land and want it retained for public use.

My young son has his "own" tree in the Edgars Creek Parkland, a low lying, gnarly tree which he climbs every time we walk alongside the golf park. I know several other children who regularly use this area with their families who have also laid claim to a tree of their own – one they have planted on a community planting day, or just one they particularly enjoy in the space. We also know people who travel from other areas to enjoy the golf course, creek, native flora and fauna, off-lead dog walking area, huge open grassy space for kite-flying and other outdoor activities.

Please do not pass this important space into the hands of developers. It is vital to the wellbeing of our communities, families and environment. Again, I urge the Victorian government to hand over the Edgars Creek Parkland to the Moreland City Council, free of charge, so it may continue to be used as valuable public open space by the people of northern Melbourne.

Regards,

Cyhtle Heal