
Request to be heard?: Yes

Full Name: Vivian Simonelli

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1:

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: Dear Sir/Madam On behalf of my family who lives in [REDACTED], Bulleen I would like to formally submit our request that the Yarra River and its adjacent park lands be protected from further urbanisation. The Yarra River has a rich cultural history. The Bolin Bolin Billabong is an important Indigenous site. Over the years, the local landscape has inspired Australian Artists to paint traditional Australian landscapes. These paintings are recognised around the world and have left a cultural history for future generations to enjoy. The Yarra River offers recreational areas for Victorians to enjoy. One of my favourite walks is along Yarra Flats right through to Ivanhoe. The ruins of the Scouts Clubhouse, at the end of the walk, reminds of the past, we remember how people once lived, the contribution they made towards the First and Second World Wars and we appreciate the legacy they have left us, a long wide river with intertwining billabongs that make us feel at ease. The area is peaceful and beautiful, eucalyptus and willow trees hang gracefully over the river edges, bell birds sing their sonar bleeps and we know that we are very fortunate to have this area. Yes, even with the occasional brown and tiger snakes sleepily crossing our paths. We leave them alone and they leave us alone. With the advent of the North-East Link Tunnel, the Yarra River and natural surrounding areas are at risk of being lost especially around the Manningham Road Exchange and with that, our unique Australian persona. The Yarra and its unique natural Australian landscape define us. We remember who we are as Australians. We hope that the Manningham Road Interchange area, which is affected so much by the NE link, be returned to a natural state so that the Yarra River and its parklands continue to thrive. We support the DELWP's vision in creating a network of green spaces to support biodiversity conservation. We support the vision that we continue to protect existing green spaces, including the Yarra River, from further urbanisation. We support the vision of a healthy Yarra ecosystem. It is critical to Australia that our waterways remain clean and healthy and that people, flora and fauna survive into the future. The plight of the Murray Darling River System is not one that we would like to replicate. We have seen the damage that mismanagement of waterways can do, and I think prevention is the best option both environmentally and economically. Thank-you for your consideration. Kind regards, Vivian Simonelli