My name is John Stavrinidis and I am a resident of Waterways and a member of RAMF.

I thank you for allowing me the opportunity to present my case.

Before I start, I would like to advise you that I understand the complexity of your job. I also understand how difficult and challenging it would be to find an easy solution when, we also have a need for more Roads, Highways and public transport to support our ever growing metropolis.

Today I am here to represent the 70% of the local home owners of our Waterways community that are opposed to the Mordialloc freeway Extension and 100% of the existing business owners that are located on Springvale Road between Governor Road to Cheltenham Road in Braeside that also oppose the Mordialloc freeway extension.

Reason for objecting the Mordialloc Freeway Extension.
Between 1955 and 1970 it was proposed by the then Victorian Government that a number of freeways would be planned to assist in the urban growth from the north of Ringwood to the south east of the state.

The proposal was to allocate government land for a future highway that would connect the Mornington peninsular through Frankston to Aspendale/ Keysborough, Dingley gardens to Box hill, continuing to the proposed Ringwood Ring Road.

It is now obvious that many Councils opposed the building of this Freeway and have since sold the land that was allocated to the proposed freeway to developers.

The City of Kingston Council is the only supporting council that had not lobbied the Government to sell the designated freeway land and today are in support of the proposed Mordialloc freeway extension but with the absence of the other connecting sections of the freeway will effect its viability.

As I have stated I am not a cost or traffic analyst, so I will leave it to the expert’s.
Reasons for our rejection by the residents and local businesses.

We are all in fear because if the Proposed Mordialloc Freeway Extension is approved by the Victorian Government, the Government we have all intrusted with our lives, takes NO notice of the effect to the health of the many elderly and young families who reside within a km of the proposed freeway. There is no possible argument to the tranquil living environment of Waterways and Aspendale Gardens today. and almost all home owners purchased their homes in these locations to get away from the hustle and bustle of the over populated suburbs and cities they have lived in.

All the families that reside in this area did not buy their homes to be bombarded by noise pollution and to be subjected to traffic emission gases and Air contaminants. As we are all a diverse nationality community living the dream in a harmonious environment with clean Air and no pollution. (see a small cross section of signatory of objectors that are opposed to the freeway.) I now ask you this question, is the proposed freeway worth the the social instability after your bus tour of Waterways, Aspendale Gardens and Braeside park.

Everyone understands the detrimental effect of the migration of the many birds that fly into Braeside Park and Waterways and all the other wet lands in this area. The developers and the City of Kingston Council have given the migrating birds the areas to fly into and live in harmony with in our Green wedge parks and wet lands and our communities.

The birds use the wetlands to nest every year and have made the Waterway and Braeside Park wetlands their home.

Please take notice that if the proposed freeway goes ahead it will definately affect the bird life as is evident on the two lakes under the inbound side of the West Gate bridge. See Photo; (Note; That the lake water is contaminated and no bird life.) I believe that it could also happen on our Wetlands.

Its easy for the Victorian Government, the Road Contractors and Builders of the Freeway to say that they will take special care of the environment and wet lands and that care will also be taken not to disturb the residents, flora, fauna and the birdlife.

In reality we are looking at a minimum of 2-plus – years of construction before this project is completed. Nature has taken thousands of years to filter the water that is directed naturally into our wet lands and under the ground to the Mordialloc creek and Port Philip Bay.

The contractors will be using mechanical pile drivers to drive hundreds of one Meter diameter concrete pylon’s to a minimum depth of 10 to 15 meters into the muddy, sludge of the designated waterway wetlands areas, which will destroy all of Natures Work, And I fear it will not recover.

Please take a close serious look at the Westgate Bridge, it looks like a Car and truck factory conveyor belt delivering thousands of trucks, cars and busses to the both other side of the City.

Yes, Our elected Governments call it progress. Is that what we want to happen to Braeside park and Waterways and protected Victorians wet lands?

As a committee of intelligent beings if your recommendation is to allow thousands of Cars and Trucks through our thriving diverse communities, such as Aspendale Gardens and Waterways Braeside Parks lands then you have no conscience.

If you believe that driving hundreds of pylons into wetlands will not create unsurmountable damage to the underground environment filtering system and water table, releasing hazardous toxic gasses and toxic sulphate acids to the surface, killing everything along the way. What I would say to you is that you are not taking the environment seriously.
Some years ago, the state of Victoria was known as the Garden state and had the reputation of the most liveable city in the world, and we were the envy of the world. I often ask the question why is our Victorian Government continuing to build huge freeways and bridges over green wedge areas and existing flourishing ecosystems, question has our Government gone Mad?

I now move to.

**Local business opposed to the Mordialloc freeway extension.**

Although I am not an expert or have a university degree to support my objection to the proposed freeway, I will offer you my view as a successful business owner and director as to why we believe this freeway should not go ahead.

I represent the concerned 12 small business owners on Springvale Road Braeside who employ approx. 250 people collectively, all of which are gravely concerned about the effects and their businesses futures.

Coles express. (Service station.corner of Springvale Road and Governor Road Braeside 3195.)
JV Marine World Pty Ltd (878 Springvale Road Braeside 3195)
Dive and Dive (878 A Springvale road Braeside 3195)
Stratton Finance (878 B Springvale road Braeside 3195)
Garden World (810 Springvale Road Road Braeside 3195)
Pots Galore (770 Spring vale Road Braeside 3195)
Freccia Azzurra Club (Springvale road Braeside 3195)
Garden world Cafe (810 Springvale Road Braeside 3195)
Dejavu Ski plus boards (878 C Springvale Road Braeside 3195)
Fine affair Caffe (Springvale Road Braeside 3195)

The above business owners believe that if the Freeway was approved it will effect their passing traffic by up to 900 cars per week. The reduction of passing traffic will have a detrimental effect to their turnover and it would result in employee dismissals and business shutdowns.

Attracting shoppers to their stores from passing traffic is a sales opportunity that will be taken away by the redirection of the freeway. As business owners we have all invested in prime real estate along Springvale Rd., because of it’s high vehicle traffic count and visibility. By reducing the number of passing cars on Springvale Rd and redirecting them onto the new freeway, our businesses will suffer and have a devastating affect on our profit and turnover.

Please also note that the Mordialloc Freeway Extension diversion from Springvale road, will have a negative effect to the existing and established Springvale shopping centre.

Thank you for the opportunity.

John Stavrinidis