
Request to be heard?: no

Full Name: Fiona Matthews

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1: EES_Submission_S

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: The EES has failed to address the question of how the removal of parkland on the Koonung Creek wetland area between Bulleen and Doncaster Roads in North Balwyn will impact the community, both physically and psychologically. This unique area is a community asset and has been referred to as the jewel in the crown of the Boroondara area. It is comprised of a stunning bushy park, a serene billabong, grassed playing fields, off road bike tracks, green grassed parkland, walking paths and is a haven for birds. The Healthy Parks, Healthy People Report (2015, p.45) stated 'green space benefits individuals across every stage of their lifespan, enhancing their physical, mental, social and spiritual health and wellbeing. The Koonung Creek wetland is an urban oasis, utilised by a diverse group of people for uplifting recreational experiences. Groups and organisations such as: • family picnic groups • biking groups, commuters, school children • elderly walking groups • -dog walking organisations • joggers and sporting groups • walkers and walking groups • local schools, for sporting events and nature walks • teenagers on the rough biking trail. The degradation of this beautiful environment will impact the health and wellbeing of many people. The community will lose: • green grassy spaces, parks, gardens • running areas for young children • aesthetically pleasing surroundings • the billabong which is a tranquil water feature • annihilation of bird habitat • negative impacts on biodiversity Most tragically, this beautiful environment will not be here for our children. The 20-lane freeway will: • increase air pollution which will add to greenhouse gases • increase noise levels • increase urban heating • is visually ugly • will increase traffic congestion with cars/trucks existing and getting onto the freeway • more traffic on local roads It is paramount that the Government considers the mental health and wellbeing of the community. A 20 lane freeway is not a healthy option for our present or future wellbeing.

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