

I submit that the Woodend Localised Planning Statement, released on 15 December 2017:

- Totally disregards the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme Amendment C098: Woodend Town Structure Plan (referred to as the C98), gazetted by the Minister in June 2017, which had been developed following an independent study and extensive community consultation, with approval and adoption by a planning authority panel
- Has undertaken no community consultation or independent study since C98
- Disregards all the recommendations of the independent study, the protections built into the C98, and the recommendations of the Protection Advisory Committee
- Makes unacceptable changes to the town boundary with no further discussion consultation or study required
- Is inconsistent with the 12 recommendations of the Protection Advisory Committee accepted by the Minister; with the protections within Amendment C98 to maintain the character of the rural town of Woodend and
- Is inconsistent with the expectations of the Woodend community as clearly revealed in previous consultation.

I further submit that the Localised Planning Statement should be scrapped and a proper Statement of Planning Policy should be written which respects and builds on:

- Amendment C98
- The 12 recommendations of the Protection Advisory Committee and
- The outcomes envisaged by Statement of Planning Policy No. 8.

All new legislation and policy should respect the existing Woodend settlement's boundary as a "protected settlement boundary" to ensure the protection of surrounding natural areas, water catchment and farmland and the heritage townscape and approaches.

[REDACTED]

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