

## Submission on the Proposed Local Planning Statement for Riddells Creek

- The Local Planning Statement (LPS) Ignores the Government's Promised Protection and the Macedon Ranges Protection Advisory Committee's Recommendations
- The new legislation requires a Statement of Planning Policy to be prepared. What is proposed is a Localised Planning Statement. This is NOT a Statement of Planning Policy
- A Statement of Planning Policy is supposed to (a) contain statements of policy, (b) set clear, high level (State) policy about land-use and development, priorities for decision-making and protection of values in Macedon Ranges, and (c) drive other policy, the planning scheme, strategies, programs and works. The LPS proposed is a weak Municipal Strategic Statement-style collection of vague "encourage" and "manage" Objectives and Strategies
- The legislation says a Statement of Planning Policy has to have a Framework Plan 'for decision-making in relation to the future use and development of land'. The Localised Planning Statement's 'Framework Plan' consists of a map of the Shire showing just towns, 6 landscape features, rural living zoned land and some parks and reserves. This is insufficient information for the basis for land use and development decisions.
- A Statement of Planning Policy is supposed to say if it's binding on responsible public entities. Statement of Planning Policy No. 8 does, and the Macedon Ranges Protection Advisory Committee's recommended Localised Planning Statement does - but not this Localised Planning Statement. If it doesn't say binding, everything in it is just a 'recommendation'.
- The Macedon Ranges Protection Advisory Committee wanted and included "implementation" actions. The LPS deletes these, has none, and provides a "vision" instead.
- Macedon Ranges Protection Advisory Committee's preferred LPS said "Landscape, biodiversity, cultural heritage and township protection must be a cornerstone of policy protection for Macedon Ranges. The conservation of the Shire's landscapes is of critical importance" The LPS deletes this intention, instead focussing on growth, infrastructure, tourism events/development, economics and industrial/commercial land supply. They are all important matters but ones that can and should be addressed in a planning scheme, not a Statement of Planning Policy. And it all falls short of making protection natural and cultural values, and townships, a "cornerstone" of policy.
- The proposed additional zoning of 120ha south of the Riddells Creek railway line, when added to the 130 ha rezoned recommended by the C100 Panel, provides a total of 250ha for future residential development south of the railway (and excludes consideration of all other developable land within the existing township boundaries). Recommended planning policy (endorsed by C100 Panel report) seeks a "rolling 15 year supply of land" The 250ha reserve is double the estimate of land required to accommodate (at even the highest rate of growth estimate for 2036 (a 20 year forward) projected population. There are serious gaps in research and forward estimates that need to be resolved and that should be addressed in policy

This Localised Planning Statement is:

not what the legislation says it should be,

not what the Macedon Ranges Protection Advisory Committee recommended,

not based on Statement of Planning Policy No. 8,  
not the protection promised, and  
not acceptable”

## Make a Submission

Submissions can be made by all Victorians, as well as local Macedon Ranges Shire residents. The closing date for submissions is **Monday 19 February, 2018**. Your only options are to fill in the dinky online Survey or lodge a written submission on the <https://engage.vic.gov.au/macedon-ranges-localised-planning-statement> website.

Avoid the simplistic, restricted online survey. What a dreadful thing. Doesn't ask what you think of the settlement boundaries proposed around the towns just whether it's important having them, and you are only allowed to identify one 'dot' on the map as the thing most important to you. Bin it.

To lodge a written submission go to <https://engage.vic.gov.au/macedon-ranges-localised-planning-statement> and scroll down, through the online Survey, and near the bottom of the page you will find the heading "Upload a Submission", where you can attach a file and submit it.

You can use information on this page for your submission, or [MRRA's Assessment](#) but the bottom line of mean that they

## Pass This Message On: *Share, Share*

Fire up!

Here's the link to this page. <http://www.mrra.asn.au/archive1/arc1-snts/andrews-govt/2017-macedon-ranges-protection-bulletin.html> Please pass it on to groups you may be a member of, environment and heritage groups external to Macedon Ranges, friends, contacts and family. Ask them to please make short submissions too.

Talk or send a copy of your submission to local Macedon MP Mary-Anne Thomas ([Mary-Anne.Thomas@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:Mary-Anne.Thomas@parliament.vic.gov.au)), Minister for Planning Richard Wynne ([richard.wynne@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:richard.wynne@parliament.vic.gov.au)) and the Macedon Ranges Mayor ([janderson@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:janderson@mrsc.vic.gov.au)).

Write to local and Melbourne papers.

Hit social media and keep moving it on.

████████████████████

██

████████████████████████████