

28 February, 2018

Attention: Fiona DePreu

Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning

planning.implementation@delwp.vic.gov.au

Level 9, 8 Nicholson St, East Melbourne, 3002

Cc: Daniel Andrews, Premier daniel.andrews@parliament.vic.gov.au

Minister for Planning richard.wynne@parliament.vic.gov.au

MLA for Macedon, mary-anne.thomas@parliament.vic.gov.au

Leader of the Victorian Greens samantha.ratnam@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Fiona,

Submission – Macedon Ranges Local Planning Statement

I do not accept that the Localised Planning Statement is protecting Macedon Ranges because it:

- **Benefits no-one** other than the short-term interests of large-scale property developers;
- Promotes many of the things Macedon Ranges needs to be protected from;
- Is not doing what the legislation being introduced to protect Macedon Ranges says it should do;
- Is not doing what the Macedon Ranges Protection Advisory Committee said it should do;
- It deletes **Statement of Planning Policy No. 8** when it's supposed to be based on that policy!;
- It provides **less protection**, not more, for our towns' character, landscapes, heritage, rural land, water resources and environment than we have now; For example, unlike suburban Melbourne, our region is not connected to a major wastewater facility, therefore increased wastewater from the residential development (enabled through connection to Greenvale) that the LPS allows for will put pressure on existing wastewater facilities, and in turn, pressure on Jacksons Creek and other tributaries of the Maribyrnong; or north - increased pollutant loads in the Campaspe system drinking water source;
- Is an urban growth plan of epic (and **irreversible**) proportions pushing Sunbury-scale urban development into Macedon Ranges on an unprecedented scale;
- Is not the protection the State government promised for Macedon Ranges.

The LPS also:

- Does not focus on 'significance' other than State and National with respect to heritage, biodiversity and landscapes; in other words, it ignores the **regionally significant** aspects – which it purports to safeguard;
- Provides no protection for our towns;
- Isn't policy, or integrated policy, and isn't a Statement of Planning Policy;
- Doesn't include implementation, doesn't say it is "binding" on public entities;
- Doesn't identify threats, incompletely identifies attributes;
- Its Framework Plan is meaningless, and cannot assist with decision-making;
- Does not provide any means to reflect the communities' priorities;
- Does not **respect the wishes of our community**. We have worked really hard, and continue to do so, to protect the qualities of the region and it is unfortunate that developers wish to capitalise on this.

I trust that you will heed this, and other submissions from the Macedon Ranges community, highlighting how the **Local Planning Statement endangers the Macedon Ranges**.

Yours sincerely,

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