

6th March, 2018

To Whom It May Concern – Department of Environment, Macedon Ranges Shire Strategic Planners and others

This submission is being made by [REDACTED] for and on behalf of [REDACTED] and numerous others.

At the eleventh hour I reach to put pen to paper – urged by the many people who lack the confidence to speak for themselves in an environment of negative pressure within the Woodend community.

All who appreciate how special our environment is, who want this retained but also who understand that it is communities that provide balanced respect for environments and also communities that provide the manpower to look after the special and not-so-special components of our environments.

Well aware that respect for what really matters in communities can only be sustained where population growth is encouraged and growth respected.

I represent also the myriad of people who do not like plans for Woodend that appear to be for “locking down” Woodend. Locking down - effectively where “no growth” is fostered.

Our population has sustained memories of the early 1990’s recession – the recession we “had to have” - and businesses know that population is the best guard against manmade recessions or manmade economic “corrections”.

Whilst all grateful for the jubilant growth in their biggest single asset most own – their home in Woodend, most prefer to see sustainable growth of all the facilities we are privileged to presently have had provided to us. All understand that this means encouraging ongoing population - to uphold what we have. (Jubilant growth as a result of downward pressure on land supply).

All 100% mindful that such facilities will change as the current population ages, unless there is provision for new comers to Woodend, in all age groups.

In summary I acknowledge that Woodend’s noted investigation areas provide adequate short/mid term potential for balanced growth.

However it is time for the nominated areas to the North West, to the North East, and the South East to **now** be investigated.

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Just what is best for Woodend will evolve once all the areas are assessed against each area's "natural constraints" and desirable yields.

Having been a [REDACTED] in Woodend for [REDACTED] years, I can say that I know the "lay of the land" of Woodend and surrounding districts better than I do the floorplan of my own home!

I can absolutely say that we are privileged to have a town with natural borders for growth that do also provide logic for growth – ie: existing freeway, railway line and forest land.

Please be fair to the Woodend of today and to the Woodend of tomorrow!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

