



Save Our Parkland – Edgars Ck

The Victorian government wants to sell the 10 ha of parkland in North Coburg (immediately north of the Coburg outdoor pool) for development. The land is currently owned by VicRoads but has been maintained as parkland by the Council for 30 years.

It is the largest piece of passive public open space in Moreland. Thousands of new residents are expected to come into the immediate area as a result of the Pentridge, Kodak and central Coburg developments putting even more strain on the area.

What you can do to help save the parkland

You can make a submission (inc. writing a letter)

The Victorian Environmental Assessment Council is to carry out an investigation of Crown land and public authority land in metropolitan Melbourne.

The purposes of the investigation are to:

- (a) systematically identify and assess the uses, resources, condition, values and management of Crown land, and public authority land in metropolitan Melbourne;
- (b) assess values of Crown land, and public authority land for areas not committed to a specific use, and report on appropriate future uses relevant to Melbourne's liveability and natural values; and
- (c) report on the contribution of Crown land, and public authority land to Melbourne's liveability and opportunities for enhancement of this contribution.

The submission period closes on **16 February 2009**.

Victorian Environmental Assessment Council
Level 6, 8 Nicholson St,
East Melbourne, Victoria 3002.
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These are some of the points you can make in your submission:

- Reducing public open space is in contravention of the objectives of the government's Melbourne 2030 objectives.
- Moreland has a deficit of public open space. Over 145 ha has already been lost due to closure of public schools in the 1990s.
- The Moreland City Council (ie ratepayers) have been asked to pay \$9.5m for the land to avoid it being sold off to developers. Why should the residents of Moreland pay again when land is already publicly owned?
- Moreland residents pay \$3m a year in Parkland Fees to Melbourne Water (ie the state government) but almost none of that money has ever come back to Moreland.
- A green buffer between residential areas and the Newlands Core Industrial Precinct is needed to protect residential amenity.
- There are two exclusion zones already in place to protect people from lead and concrete hazards coming from factories in the industrial precinct - development inside these zones would be highly inappropriate.
- Much of the land is designated as land subject to inundation in the planning scheme and the area is intended to take overland storm water flows. This should prohibit the development of the land.
- Any development faces road network constraints. Additional traffic on the Newlands Road and its bridge intersection with Murray Road will result in unacceptable levels of traffic congestion.
- The area is of ecological significance. The Department of Sustainability and Environment (2006) Atlas of Victorian Wildlife records 48 fauna species within 1.5km of the Kodak Bridge over Edgars Creek. Approx 280 trees already exist on the site. Included in the parkland are areas of remnant vegetation.

More information on these points is available from our website www.mecpg.com