

23 April 2012

Dear Madam/Sir

ABBOTSFORD STREET TREE PLANTING

The City of Melbourne is responding to our changing environment by undertaking a range of projects which will help safeguard and improve the liveability of our city into the future, including projects to increase tree planting in streets to provide environmental and community health benefits such as shading, cooling, stormwater capture and carbon sequestration.

In 2007 a median was constructed in Abbotsford Street between Queensberry and Miller Streets. During excavation works original cable car tracks were found below the road surface. Heritage Victoria included the site in the Victorian Heritage Register (No H0988). This prevented the planting of trees in the median.

The City of Melbourne has developed an alternative landscape design (enclosed) to increase the number of trees in the above section of Abbotsford Street and improve cycling safety. Information about the suggested tree species is available on the City of Melbourne's website.

Features of the draft plan include:

- removal of the existing median and reinstatement of roadway
- tree reserves on both sides of Abbotsford Street
- new separated bicycle paths along Abbotsford Street
- new stormwater capture features

The proposal will result in a small reduction in parking spaces in the street, however surveys show that there is currently a surplus of available parking so this change will not impact detrimentally on residents or businesses. Existing disabled parking will not be affected.

The plan is at an initial stage and your feedback will help guide the final concept plan. Please send your comments by Friday 18 May 2012 via the enclosed reply paid form or email urbanlandscapes@melbourne.vic.gov.au.

For more information, please call the Urban Landscapes Branch on 03 9658 9658 or visit the City of Melbourne website www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/contactus

Yours sincerely

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