

To: tim.pallas@parliament.vic.gov.au  
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 4:06 PM  
Subject: E-Gate, Eco-City Melbourne or Boutique Stadium

The Hon Tim Pallas  
Minister for Major Projects  
Level 16, 121 Exhibition St  
Melbourne 3000

26 May 2009

Re Eco- City Melbourne or Boutique Stadium?

Dear Minister,

We emphatically endorse sportswriter Caroline Wilson's rejection (Sports Age 1/5/09) of the short-sighted proposal to build a "boutique football stadium" on the West Melbourne E-Gate precinct. Such an infrastructure project will do little to solve the problems of AFL clubs and the financial woes of the Roos and the Western Bulldogs. Local residents are horrified at the prospect of increased traffic and parking congestion, reducing their amenity. With global warming and climate change indisputable, the proposal for an Eco-suburb, two kilometres from the CBD, seems a far more feasible, sustainable and environmentally-friendly usage for this 20 hectare site.

North and West Melbourne residents were privileged recently to hear Professor Chris Ryan, Director of the Victorian Eco-Innovation Lab, a government-funded think tank, speak passionately about the exciting, green and sustainable ideas put forward by 200 university students for a proposed eco-suburb to be developed on this site.

This development would incorporate the best of architectural and ecological practice and provide a model city of the future which would establish Victoria's reputation as a leader in this field, nationally and internationally.

Moreover, it will provide much-needed 'state of the art' residential and business opportunities, thus mitigating unsustainable urban sprawl. The substance and vision of this concept of an Eco-City far outweighs the short-sighted, ad hoc need for another football ground.

We strongly encourage the Victorian Government to adopt the proposal that provides the more innovative, vibrant, economically-viable solution, embracing future technologies in the development of the E-gate precinct in West Melbourne.

cc Hon Bronwyn Pike, MLA for Melbourne