



The Carlton Residents Association Inc.

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7 November 2005

Hon. Peter Batchelor MP

Minister for Transport

PO Box 2797Y

Melbourne 3001

Dear Minister

Northern Central City Corridor Study (NCCCS)

We are dismayed that the Bracks Government has effectively buried the NCCCS Report and continues to ignore its many innovative recommendations regarding traffic and travel demand management within our city. May I remind you that residents associations from Carlton, Parkville and Fitzroy initiated discussions which led to the establishment of NCCCS in 2000.

With a projected Eastern Freeway traffic growth of 30,000 vehicles per day from East-Link (2008), already intolerable traffic levels will be significantly exacerbated. NCCCS showed that 55% of freeway traffic travels south through Carlton and Fitzroy, most of it to the CBD (90% driver only). The recent "Sustainable Cities" Report highlighted yet again the favourable tax treatment of private motoring against that available for public transport. Tax incentives encourage and support the present high levels of commuter motoring to the CBD and inner suburbs.

From recent media reports we understand your government has now indefinitely deferred the long sought rail line to Doncaster and other important rail initiatives. Your enthusiastic support for costly and unsustainable roads projects, with more in the pipeline, continues the discredited transport policies of the Kennett era. Given your pre-election promises and Melbourne 2030 policy statements, current Government dismissal of public transport priorities is a betrayal of the electorate.

Transport, traffic and associated matters are primary topics within the State seats for Melbourne (MLA and MLC). Your controversial decision to again favour roads over public transport will be a major issue in the forthcoming State election.

Yours sincerely

Ian Bird

Transport Spokesperson Carlton Residents Association

Member NCCCS Community Reference Group

cc. Hon. Bronwyn Pike MLA Melbourne

Hon. Glenyys Romanes MLC Melbourne

