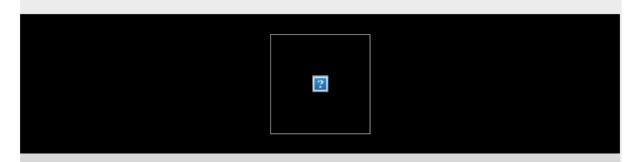
From: contact@engage.vic.gov.au

To: <u>amendments</u>

Subject: Making a submission Form Submission **Date:** Saturday, 10 July 2021 1:48:17 PM



Making a submission Form Submission

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Write your submission

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Preston Market Structure Plan - draft Amendment C182dare

I wish to object to the above-mentioned plan, in it's entirety, as I feel strongly that it will adversely affect the Preston community and will irrevocably change the nature of community life, liveability, and the Preston Market for it's people and the people of Darebin more broadly.

Currently, I reside less than 500 metres from the market, and if the market site is redeveloped using the current plan I will be moving out of the Darebin Council area. This is how strongly I feel about plans to so drastically change the fabric of the heart of Preston.

Over the last 15 years I have lived in Preston for a total of 5 years, and the market in it's current form is one of the many things I love about the area. There is plenty of parking, which I feel is crucial for such a thriving place, and the proposed plan is so light on detail about where the parking will be if the site is redeveloped, I can only assume there will be drastically less parking or that it will be underground and will be a mutli-storey below-ground-level car park (which would probably require a fee to be paid to use it). In my unqualified opinion, it will be another 20-40 years before the majority of shoppers using the Preston Market (in it's current format) will be travelling to it using public transport or by foot. Car parking at the precinct is crucial, both in the instance that the market remains as it is or if the redevelopment goes ahead as per the current draft plan, and the proposed plan for the site in terms of car parking is naive in it's assumption that reducing the number of carparks is going to be manageable. The surrounding streets will become burdened with cars trying to park to access High Street, and residents like me will be contesting with visitors to park at our own properties, as some surrounding streets in Preston do not have car parking facilities on residential properties so street parking is sometimes the only option for residents.

The draft plan currently proposes that the size of the market will be reduced. This is not in keeping with what I, nor (from what I hear) other residents, want. Speaking on my own behalf, I do not believe the current draft plan allows for enough open space - both open to the air and indoor open space, whereas the market in it's current format enables hundreds of people hourly to walk through the market and shop there. The draft plan appears to enclose the market to the point where I feel it will become akin to a small shopping centre, and the atmosphere and current market-feel of the precinct will be lost. I cannot fathom how shoppers will continue to be able to access the current range and amount of traders that are currently available under the proposed redevelopment; it appears there will be less traders as there will be less space, and it appears that meat and deli section will be reduced, moved, or re-built entirely. Whilst I appreciate that many of the internal buildings of the market are old and in need of repair, I feel the repairs - and even possible refurbishment - can be done without such drastic changes to the shape, size, and feel of the market.

The current draft plan allows for "...up to 10%..." of housing to be for very low, low, and moderate income housing. This is absurd. There is not even a guarantee in the current plan that enough of those people less well-off than others will have access to affordable housing. The "...up to 10%..." could be, in reality, 5-6% which is a tokenistic gesture at best. 5-6% is tokenistic and "...up to 10%..." is inadequate and inappropriate. It would be much better to find another solution locally for affordable housing. The draft plan would swamp the site with apartments, and leave it with a cold, depersonalised, crowded environment much like the central area of Box Hill and the outskirts of central Footscray which have become an

eyesore of apartments buildings and inadequate open-air ground space. As a current resident of Preston in it's existing format, an over-developed residential space is not the kind of area I want to live in.

I hope that the VPA and the Victorian State Government will listen to the people of Darebin Council area generally, and Preston specifically, and stop it's plan to redevelop the Preston Market site and stop trying to bully the local people into living with something that isn't wanted - ideas and plans which were proposed and objected to 8 years ago. And here we are again.

With regards

I confirm that I have read and agree to the above conditions for making a submission.

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I agree to the Collection Notice

Yes

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