PRESTON CORPS
THE SALVATION ARMY AUSTRALIA

12 July 2021

[redacted]
Victorian Planning Authority
Level 25, 35 Collins Street
Melbourne Vic 3000

Dear [redacted]

RE: PRESTON MARKET PRECINCT STRUCTURE PLAN / DRAFT AMENDMENT C182DARE

The Salvation Army has noted the extensive transformation of the Preston Market precinct proposed in the Preston Market Precinct Structure Plan. The Salvation Army believes that the plan carries outstanding prospects for the Preston community – socially, economically and environmentally. We particularly note the following aspects of the plan:

- The construction of up to 2,200 dwellings in high-density accommodation (4.3.1; 6.2.1 L4)
- The population increase of up to 6,000 people domiciled in these dwellings (1.1)
- The inclusion of affordable housing at a rate of 10% of the dwellings (4.3.2)

The Salvation Army has extensive public welfare and community outreach operating out of its facilities at 263 Gower Street Preston, only 200 metres from the Preston Market precinct. These services include the provision of emergency relief and financial counselling (Monday to Friday, 9am to 4pm); spiritual and emotional support; a drop-in centre and community lunch program; street outreach to people experiencing homelessness or who are at-risk of homelessness and/or struggling with addiction; programs for families, people of different abilities, and seniors; and life groups, a men's mental health program, conversation groups for women, children's programs, and music groups.

Other Salvation Army services not far from the Preston Market Precinct include The Salvation Army Employment Plus and a Salvos Store, both within walking distance, and a residential service and program for women and children experiencing domestic violence. We are also considering the possibility of a day addiction recovery program operating out of our Gower Street complex.

PROPOSAL

We have just added a Community Outreach Worker to our Preston team whose primary responsibility is to provide support to people who are doing it tough in the community, not from our Gower Street complex necessarily but actually out with Preston community. This worker provides a link from the community locale to all our Preston and Melbourne-wide services. Our long-term plan is to add a second outreach worker for the wider City of Darebin area.

The Salvation Army would like to explore with the Victorian Planning Authority the possibility that office space be included in the Preston Market Precinct Structure Plan where our community

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Working for justice
salvationarmy.org.au

William Booth *Founder* **Robert Donaldson** *National Commander*
Brian Peddle *General*

outreach workers can meet with residents who need a listening ear and/or access to our extensive humanitarian services in Preston and wider Melbourne. We envisage regular times when our workers can be present in the office to meet with residents. For example, this could be three times a week between 9.30am and 12.30pm.

At other times, other organisations could use the space (e.g. the Islamic Society of Victoria, youth-specific organisations, etc.). Ideally, this space would be located within the central residential part of the precinct or in the 'community facilities' outlined on page 24 of the plan (6.2.1 L9). Again, ideally, there could be two or more rooms, one for confidential conversations, another like a lounge or waiting area with tea- and coffee-making facilities, and, if a larger space was possible, perhaps a games room as well.

This proposal is really about helping to create a genuine environment of community support within this extensive new village-like development. It would give both on-the-spot availability of a listening ear and personal/family support for residents, and on-site linkage to a wide range of welfare services beyond the precinct. We believe the proposal aligns with the future vision for the precinct as 'a thriving place with a fresh food market at its core, complemented by housing, office and retails jobs, **community services**, and vibrant and accessible public spaces' (5).

For initial conversations about the above proposal, please contact [redacted] using the following contact details:

[redacted]

Thank you for the opportunity of submitting this letter. We look forward to discussing the proposal further.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Date: Submission by Letter - Preston Market Precinct Structure Plan / Draft Amendment C182dare
Tuesday, 13 July 2021 5:03:29 PM
Attachments: image001.png
Preston Market Precinct Structure Plan - Submission by Letter - The Salvation Army.pdf

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TO: The Victorian Planning Authority

Please find attached our submission for the Public Consultation (due 13 July 2021) on the Draft Preston Market Precinct Structure Plan and Draft Amendment C182dare to the Darebin Planning Scheme. The submission is self-explanatory.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute.

With my best regards …

[redacted]
The Salvation Army Preston
Victoria Division
Australia Territory

[redacted]

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