

From: contact@engage.vic.gov.au
To: [amendments](#)
Subject: Making a submission Form Submission
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Making a submission Form Submission

There has been a submission of the form Making a submission through your Engage Victoria website.

Name

[REDACTED]

Postcode

3073

Email

[REDACTED]

Write your submission

I write to express my dismay at the current proposal for the Preston Market Precinct. The market is an integral part of our community and this proposal fundamentally alters and removes its unique character and purpose. As the third generation of my family to use Preston Market it is important to me to ensure it remains an asset for our future generations to enjoy.

Keeping access to affordable fresh produce is important to Darebin, but it is not only this role that the market plays. It also provides a welcoming outdoor space to gather informally and without having to pay. It has ample seating for people regardless of whether patrons buy anything unlike cafes and restaurants. Unlike a shopping centre, patrons are able to escape harsh fluorescent lighting and a space designed to push people to spend money. The market is a place to run into neighbours and sit down to chat. To take our time being in

shared public space. To give face-to-face opportunities to talk to and learn from the people growing, making and selling our basic foods.

The Preston Market encourages us to buy local and reduce food miles. It offers a practical alternative from the dual monopoly of grocery store chains in Australia that stock big brands and exclude smaller local companies from selling to customers. Its easy access to local restaurants and cafes encourage shoppers to make an outing a time to eat local, too.

To shrink the footprint of the market while simultaneously adding huge towers of housing and increasing site density will create something entirely different from the useful hub we have now. It will make access harder and runs the risk of becoming too difficult for many community members to use. There are many shopping malls and centres with the same shops, brands and products available no matter the community they are in. We do not want this homogenisation at Preston Market. We want a safe, accessible site that offers open space for the community to meet and engage with each other. We do not want to be in the shadows of enormous towers while shopping for fresh fruit and vegetables, nor do we want a site swamped by the surrounding housing to the extent that the market is not a feature of central Preston.

Please prioritise the needs of our community by ensuring the site has adequate public housing and a suitable level of affordable housing. Please ensure the sustainability priorities of locals are integrated into the site. Please prioritise a plan that means our beloved existing market tenants will still be able to run their businesses at the new site.

We want a Preston Market that reduces food insecurity in our community and maintains space that encourages positive community engagement. We are relying on you to ensure this is the outcome for our community.

With thanks,



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

Yes

I agree to the Collection Notice

Yes

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