

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Merrimu PSP \(DTP\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Submission regarding Merrimu PSP
Date: Wednesday, 8 April 2026 1:39:22 PM

Victorian Planning Authority

To Whom It May Concern

RE:

Merrimu Precinct Structure Plan

Including – Moorabool Planning Scheme (C109moor) & Developments Contributions Plan (DCP)

ADDRESS OF AFFECTED PROPERTY:

Hopetoun Cemetery - 731-735 Bacchus Marsh Road, Merrimu, 3340

We are descendants of Bacchus Marsh Pioneers buried in the Hopetoun Cemetery (VHR-H2059) and whom live less than 500m from the cemetery.

We object to the Merrimu Precinct Structure Plan, PSP, (in conjunction with the planned Bacchus Marsh Eastern Link Road (BMELR) Option B) where Flanagans Drive meets the Bacchus Marsh Road due to its proximity to our heritage listed cemetery.

The cemetery, combined with the nearby Former Leahy Residence (VHR – H0907) and the ruins of the Symington Brewery (VHR-H7722-0024), are of great historical importance and significance to the founding of Bacchus Marsh and must remain undisturbed and preserved for all of time. The cemetery, being of particular importance for -

- the earliest known Catholic Cemetery in rural Victoria
- the oldest surviving churchyard cemetery in rural Victoria
 - home to a rare Mexican Blue Cypress (*Cupressus lusitanica Glauca pendula*) one of only three known in Victoria

The proposed roadworks at the intersection of Flanagans Drive & Bacchus Marsh Road completely close off any safe access and parking to the cemetery that are required for maintenance vehicles, working bees and historical tours. As yet, we have no information regarding site drainage and how this will affect the cemetery.

We implore you to move the roadworks planned for Flanagans Drive away from Hopetoun Cemetery so it be preserved in its current state, for our descendants and for all time.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Merrimu, 3340

[REDACTED] Bacchus Marsh, 3340

[REDACTED]