



Objection 146

Marcus

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Dear AEC

I would like to share my experience of living in Brunswick, East Melbourne and Fitzroy North.

When I was in Brunswick, I would go to parks in Coburg, I would eat on Sydney Road, I would ride my bike on the upfield path. I would spend time at the Brunswick baths. My local friends would do the same. We would complain about the traffic on Sydney road! When I have lived in Fitzroy North, and now in East Melbourne, I eat in Fitzroy, I don't dare ride my bike, I go to Fitzroy pools. I drink on Smith Street. I complain about the traffic on Nicholson St.

When these local communities are planned at a Council level, the style, height and culture of commercial and residential buildings follow the form around it. Currently, Merri-Bek is the only Council in Wills, but moving Fitzroy North, Carlton North, Princes Hill and Brunswick East adds two more Councils to Wills. As we move into a period of higher density living and changing ratios between renters and owners, we need to ensure the is cohesiveness and clarity around the sort of physical and human communities we are building.

I think Fitzroy North has so much more in common with East Melbourne than it does with Pascoe Vale. I think most residents would agree – and it is best to keep like and like together so people can decide the lifestyles they want when they move to an area! As someone who has lived in Wills and Melbourne divisions, I can say they are both great, but distinct and unique in their own ways.

As a resident of Melbourne, I think the proposed changes do not serve our community's interests.

Kind regards

Marcus