

To whomever it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of CCOF (Climate Change our Future), a Southeast Melbourne Climate Action Group. We are aware that a Senate Inquiry into the investment of Commonwealth and State funds in public passenger transport infrastructure and services is currently being held and has invited submissions.

We believe the issue of climate change, is of serious concern for the future of all Victorians. We strongly believe investment into our public transport system is critical in helping to reduce carbon emissions. By limiting car usage, there is reduced impact on the environment. We believe a high quality and reliable public transport system should be available to all Melburnians. This public transport system should also be integrated with bicycle and pedestrian initiatives. We would be grateful if you could consider the following points;

1. Dramatic investment into the current public transport system is urgently needed, as it is clearly struggling to cope with large increases in passenger numbers.
2. More cycle paths should be available, especially in the outer suburbs, such as the Monash City Council. This would both encourage greater bike usage amongst the population, and provide a safer environment for cyclists.
3. Improving the safety of current bike paths (Rathdowne Street a great example of how this can be done) and closing gaps in the cycle path net work to improve the safety and ease of cycling as an option.
4. Facilitating the easy use of multiple modes of transport for a single trip e.g. bike and train, by having adequate and secure bike storage facilities at all train stations, not just a select few.
5. Having accessibility to adequate bike parking at all major community services e.g. local shops, playgroups, schools, libraries, to reduce the need for short trips by car.

Thank you kindly for considering our concerns and suggestions. We look forward to hearing a positive outcome from this inquiry.

Regards

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Climate Change Our Future

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