



# MELBOURNE SOUTH YARRA RESIDENTS GROUP INC.

*Established by the residents of South Yarra in 1969*

24 July 2015

Dear Member

## **Number 8 tram to go?**

One of the significant benefits of living in South Yarra is access to the number 8 tram to take us to and from the city and universities along Toorak Road, Park Street, Domain Road and St Kilda Road. That public service was provided initially by cable cars up to 1926 and by trams following electrification of the system in 1926. The convenience, simplicity and historical importance of that journey is significant and must be preserved.

The state government propose to terminate the number 8 tram and replace it with a number 55 tram that will not travel down St Kilda Road but instead cross St Kilda Road at the Domain Interchange and continue down Park Street, Kings Way and William Street. If this change occurs the position will be as follows.

1. When travelling into the city we must get off the tram at the busy Domain Interchange in St Kilda Road and catch another tram into the city.
2. When coming out of the city along St Kilda Road we get off at the busy Domain Interchange and catch a number 55 tram coming down Domain Road.
3. The government says that there will be frequent trams travelling down St Kilda Road so that when going into the city they say there should be no great delay. Will this be so?
4. However, when coming out of the city and returning home, particularly in off peak periods (e.g. after the theatre) no such assurance has been given about the frequency of the number 55 tram approaching from Park Street.

If this proposed change occurs the disadvantages to South Yarra residents will be at least as follows.

- (a) The long established asset and advantage of living in South Yarra and being able to catch one tram in and out of the city will be lost.
- (b) Whether coming or going we would have to change trams at the Domain Interchange and wait for another tram.
- (c) Changing trams at the Domain intersection will put us into an increasingly busy restricted area where large numbers of people will be rushing around changing trams

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and that presents difficulties and risks, particularly for older residents, that do not exist at present.

- (d) Getting on and off a tram one more time at the Domain Interchange doubles the risk that exists at present.
- (e) The delay, uncertainty and risk when waiting for the next tram at the Domain Interchange will be a great concern particularly to older residents and particularly when travelling off peak or at night.
- (f) The difficulty in timing your arrival at the city destination because of the need to time two trams.

If you wish to join us in expressing our strong objection to this proposed change we suggest and encourage you to take the following steps.

- Write to the Minister for Public Transport at the following address.

The Hon. Jacinta Allan MP  
Minister for Public Transport  
Level 20  
1 Spring Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000

Email: [jacinta.allan@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:jacinta.allan@parliament.vic.gov.au)

- Go to our website ([www.msyrg.com.au](http://www.msyrg.com.au)) at the report posted on 13 July 2015 and respond to the PTV website survey referred to.
- Inform your friends and neighbours what is going on, give them a copy of this letter and encourage them also to express their strong objection.

We are continuing to gather support from other resident and trader groups affected by this proposal.

If you have any queries or would like any additional information please contact me on 0411 722 635.

Yours sincerely



Michael Butcher  
President