



MELBOURNE SOUTH YARRA RESIDENTS GROUP INC.

Established by the residents of South Yarra in 1969

Bulletin

REPORT - NUMBER 8 TRAM & 605 BUS

We met recently with Stuart Johns (Executive Director, Modal Planning) and Naomi Langdon (Director Road Tram and Active Transport Planning) both of the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP).

1. Johns seems to be the right person in charge of the right department to deal with our concerns.
2. The discussion was frank and while we of course got no commitments they understand our concerns and the issues. When things have settled down, the train has been running and the necessary surveys undertaken (in more than 12 months time), they will be making recommendations to the minister about the tram, bus and transport routes including the logistics, cost etc.
3. While they said there will be public consultation, they are also prepared to hear from us in the meantime.
4. We expressed strongly the widely held resident view that the return of the original number 8 tram along Park St, Domain Rd. and along St Kilda Rd was extremely important and why we are angry that we have been consistently told that this route will not be considered as one of the options.
5. We were then told in clear terms that this not correct and that the number 8 tram will be considered as one of the options.
6. While we were told there will be future public consultation about these routes they are happy to hear from us in the meantime if there are matters that should be brought to their attention.

7. We explained that the present rerouting of the 605 bus provides us with few benefits but creates a number of problems with parking, traffic etc. most of which would be resolved by a number 8 tram.

8. We have been most unhappy with the complete lack of consultation with residents about the new bus arrangements.

9. Although not discussed, it is our view that strong advocacy from the Botanic Gardens will play a big part in the number 8 debate, although unfortunately we have been unable to get any response from them to date.
Conclusion.

Some progress has therefore been made – we are speaking to the right people, we have an assurance the number 8 tram will be considered as one of the options, they are aware of the strongly held community view about this and we have established an avenue of communication for the first time.
We will keep you informed.

28 January, 2025

MSYRG Inc