

# Fair-go for Footscray Rail Residents

**Bulletin : 25 July 2010**

- ▶ Our issue raised at parliament question-time, Tuesday 27th
- ▶ Residents meeting Wednesday 28th 7:00pm
- ▶ Invitation to Minister to meet with us as a group
- ▶ New email group list – join now!
- ▶ Albert & Short Street residents meeting and update

## ▶ **Parliament question-time**

Please join our delegation to attend parliament question-time, on Tuesday 27th July, where Colleen Hartland will ask questions of Martin Pakula (Transport Minister) on our behalf.

A bunch of us will meet at Middle Footscray station at 12:15pm, to travel as a group on the 12:29 train to Parliament station. We will stand on the steps of Parliament for 30 minutes, under a big 'Fair-go for Footscray Rail Residents' banner, before heading into the public gallery for question-time, 2:00-3:00pm. It would be great to have a large number at Middle Footscray for the unfurling of the banner and a group photo. For people working in town, please join us on the steps of parliament.

## ▶ **Residents Meeting**

Come along to the next residents' meeting on Wednesday 28th July at 7:00pm, at the Footscray Senior Citizens Centre, 130 Buckley Street. If you have suggestions for agenda items for this meeting, please pass them along to Noriko Tabei at 122 Buckley (ph: 9024 3313) or Rhiannon Modica at 150 Buckley, or you can send email to: [contact@ffir.footscray.org](mailto:contact@ffir.footscray.org)

## ▶ **Invitation to the Minister**

Our invitation went off on the 23rd July (email and hand-delivered) to Pakula, Minister for Public Transport, to attend a group meeting of affected residents. We received a reply from his chief of staff to acknowledge receipt and to say they would get back to us early next week. A group meeting is a good way of getting some answers at the same time, in the same place - instead of being 'drip-fed' information separately as is happening now.

## ▶ **New Group E-mail List**

If you have access to the Internet, please join our new group email list by visiting: <http://groups.google.com/group/fair-go-for-footscray-rail-residents> to request an invitation. Also keep an eye out for our new web site – coming soon!

## ▶ **Albert & Short Streets Update**

From: Kim Hutchinson  
Date: Sat, 24 Jul 2010 22:42

Hi Everyone

Just a quick catch up. Residents in Albert & Short Streets met today. We were worried that the RRL team was forgetting about this section of the impacted area. We met as a resident group first and then members from the RRL team: Ilsa Colson, Kimberley Dripps and Evan Tattersall and Marsha Thomson MP, Member for Footscray came to the meeting.

We know that each property has individual concerns; short term and longer term, and we spent some time discussing these. As a group we decided it was important to show that we were concerned at the lack of, and kind of, information that we had received to date and wanting to have a better understanding of the impact on this area. And present as a group that we were not wanting our streets/communities to be adversely affected.

The RRL team again discussed the route and the "options" and they went through why the other options of the tunnel or taking land on the nth side of the track was not possible. They said what they are doing at the moment is looking at how much space they will need on the south side of the track. They said that this had not yet been decided and they were currently undertaking work to determine this. This impacted how much land they needed to acquire. We were assured that there were possibilities that the track "may" be configured so it didn't take any houses on Albert/Short street. However this is a "may" and depends on the work they are doing at the moment to see exactly where the track has to go. But they were not able to tell us exactly when they will know this information.

They advised that we should make submissions so they know what our concerns are. We expressed our concern that as we didn't know where the lines were going exactly, and the real implications of this for our individual properties that it was difficult to make a submission to them. The response was that we can make more than 1 submission. So if you want to respond now formally in writing you can, and then if you think of something else you want to add you can make another submission. The current submission period is until the 19th August. We asked for this date to be extended, as we had limited information we wanted some more information before we responded - again we were advised we could make more than 1 submission and that this initial period was for them to gather information on what our concerns were.

We expressed our concerns that we had not been consulted in a considered manner and that various bits of information and been given out at various times to various people. We were told that they had not anticipated the concerns. We gave them a list of our names and contact details and they assured as that they would contact us individually and as a group when they had new information to pass to us. Due to privacy issues they said we need to give them our details, they can't just contact us (?). So if you want to be included on their contact list for this area you need to tell them (email or call).

So - at the moment we are in a holding pattern. From their perspective they have no more information about the line to tell us, and they say when the do they will pass this on. And at the moment what we should do is provide our formal written submissions. However if we have questions we should call the 1800 number to get them answered.

Unfortunately I'm not convinced that we have been given all the information that they have available to them. I think it would be easier for them if we now sat quietly and I think we need to keep persisting to express our concerns that we are not satisfied with the current situation. Hopefully we will get a response from the petition that was sent to Martin Pakula and get an opportunity to have him attend a meeting. However, other than that I am still going to pursue various avenues to ensure that the issue here in Footscray gets as much attention as possible and will continue with attempts to get media/political and local recognition for the issues. I hope you are all ok and that we can keep working towards getting a better outcome for us all.

kind regards  
Kim - 52 Albert Street

**Stay tuned for further bulletins. Support your neighbours and community by sharing any useful information with others via these bulletins and the group email list.**  
**Fair-go for Footscray Rail Residents!**