Submission Cover Sheet

Sub no:

67

West Gate Tunnel Project IAC

Request to be heard?: No

Full Name: Nora van Waarden

Organisation:

Address:

Affected property:

Attachment: engage.vic.gov.au

Comments:

1. Cycling Issuel would first like to commend the Project for incorporating the needs of cyclists. There is however a major gap that requires attention – the cycling route from Williamstown (Douglas Parade and Hyde Street). This route is used by many cyclists commuting to the city, others cycling to Williamstown and Altona's popular coastal cycling route, and those cycling between Williamstown, Yarraville and Footscray. Most cyclists use the road which, particularly in the section between Scienceworks and Francis Street, is currently not a safe shared roadway. I note that the Project will add additional on and off ramps from Hyde Street to the Westgate Freeway. This is of concern as there will be increased traffic, especially trucks coming from the industrial area west of the Maribyrnong, on this section of road (I understand that this is the purpose of the new on and off ramps, so trucks avoid going through Yarraville (Francis Street). •The project should therefore incorporate a separated safe cycling path for all cyclists heading to and from Williamstown (and Spotswood) along this route. (While the punt is a great option for getting to the bayside suburbs (Port Melbourne - St Kilda) it is not an option for city cycling commuters as there is no safe cycling route along Lorimer Street, Fishermans Bend).2. Additional comments I am pleased to see the current cycling path along Footscray Road to the City will remain for cyclists to use, as I don't think all cyclists are keen to use the elevated velodrome. I don't know whether the project has considered what happens if there is a cycling accident on the velodrome or someone has a puncture – how do you get off, or will you need to walk 2.5 km amongst speeding cyclists? I haven't studied the EES in detail, but hope the many roadways and intersections that are being build, run smoothly as the connection between the Westgate Freeway and Bolte Bridge continues to cause problems.

