



# Planning Panels Victoria

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

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27 March 2020

As addressed

Dear Party

**Fishermans Bend Standing Advisory Committee: Amendment C172port - 118 Bertie Street, Port Melbourne – Reconvening the Hearing to hear final submissions on affordable housing – on the papers**

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On 19 March 2020 you were contacted by the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) advising that the resumed hearing scheduled for Wednesday 25 March 2020 would not proceed as a face to face hearing.

Instead, given the concerns about Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and its potential impacts on conducting public hearings, the SAC intends to conduct this resumed hearing process 'on the papers' via correspondence only, to enable the SAC to conclude its deliberations.

Section 165 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* provides that a "panel may from time to time adjourn a hearing to any times and places and for any purposes it thinks necessary and on any terms as to costs or otherwise which it thinks just in the circumstances".

The Panel considers there is sufficient reason to progress this draft Amendment 'on the papers' for the following reasons:

- face-to-face contact should be minimised due to COVID-19
- a substantive hearing with evidence has already been held and the Proponent has subsequently requested a further opportunity to be heard on confined issues
- all submitters to the proceedings will be given the opportunity to finalise any written submission in writing
- no party has objected to a resumed hearing 'on the papers'
- the process will enable the SAC to provide its report to the Minister for Planning in a timely way.

The directions outlining the next steps of the process are attached below.

If you have any queries, please contact Amy Selvaraj, Senior Project Officer at Planning Panels Victoria on (03) 8392 5120 or [planning.panels@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:planning.panels@delwp.vic.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,

**Dalia Cook**

Chair, Fishermans Bend Standing Committee

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## Directions for resumed hearing

Fishermans Bend Standing Advisory Committee: Amendment C172port - 118 Bertie Street, Port Melbourne

### Approach

1. The resumed hearing will proceed by written submissions. Any submissions will be taken as read and witnesses are not required to appear.

### Material to be circulated

2. The Panel directs circulation of written material as follows:

	Date	Description	Party
4.00pm	Friday 3 April 2020	Supplementary submissions arising from documents circulated after the close of the original Hearing on affordable housing  <i>The SAC notes DELWP has circulated its final submission in reply on the issue of affordable housing on 20 March 2020 (there is no need to resubmit this again to the SAC)</i>	All parties
4.00pm	Thursday 9 April 2020	Optional closing submission in respect of supplementary submissions filed with the SAC	Proponent
<b>Hearing closed by SAC</b>			