Submission Cover Sheet

West Gate Tunnel Project IAC

Sub no: **250**

Request to be heard?: No

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Organisation: No

Address:

Affected property:

Attachment: engage.vic.gov.au

Comments: Why is it the Victorian govt just keeps building bigger roads instead of making public

transport and cycling more functional? There are many things that government could do to improve infrastructure and utilisation of renewables to address global warming and improve the environment, people's heath and their wellbeing. Train lines should be duplicated to enable express services between Pakenham and Caulfield, and on the other longer routes as well to provide faster access to the city for the last ten or fifteen stations for commuters in outlying suburbs on all lines.

More car parking and far more secure video monitored bike cage storage should be available at all stations. Faster commutes and better options and services for patrons parking and cycling to stations would encourage more people out of their cars. It seems the only money being spent on public transport these days is to remove level crossings to make things better for car drivers. This infrastructure project is an example of how government talks about environmental sustainability and does the opposite. Why aren't there proper bike paths near all the train lines to encourage people to improve their health and wellbeing to encourage people to ride as has happened throughout Europe. Why are there not proper arterial bike paths throughout the suburban area leading onto such paths? Why is there not some facilities for people to shower, store their bikes and lockers for clothes around the city for cyclists? The building of bike paths on major arterial freeways where there is concentrated vehicle fumes is illogical. This pollution tunnel you are building for bike riders is just the wrong way to go as well. Why not build decent infrastructure for cyclists where pollution is properly considered? Encouraging people to ride would save money in our health system and increased wellbeing means less mental health issues and less suicide. All public transport should be powered by renewable energy as an extra incentive for people to get out of their cars and utilise public transport. The French government has announced it will ban the production and sale of new petrol and diesel vehicles in that country in coming years to combat global warming. The CSIRO's discovery that hydrogen can be suspended and stored in an ammonia solution is a huge game changer to enable a transition to hydrogen fueled vehicles. Flow batteries could make electric vehicles more functional as well. Why isn't the government putting money into R&D and providing tax incentives for these projects and putting a stop to improving road infrastructure till we have the best possible public transport and cycling infrastructure and a transition to carbon neutral trucks and cars. If government were really serious about the environment and people's wellbeing then it would adopt these approaches.

