

Like

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fitzroy residents' association

Established in 1969 to promote, protect and enhance residential amenity

Don't forget our meeting on Monday, 13 November at 6.30 pm.

We've got matters to share and discuss. Join us at our usual venue, the Union Club Hotel, 164 Gore Street (cnr Webb Street).

Opportunity to learn more about VCAT

Want to learn more about appearing before VCAT? Some residents have had a VCAT experience in relation to planning matters, and it can be daunting. There's an opportunity to attend a Moot Court on 22 November at 5.30 pm. The 'mock hearing' will be conducted before sitting members of the Tribunal so it could be a useful learning experience from watching the advocates and expert witnesses present their case. Organised through the [Victorian Planning & Environmental Law Association](#). Fees apply.

St Vincent's Healthcare Limited denies us our heritage and streetscapes



The FRA is assisting objectors to the proposed over-development of the St Vincent's Hospital site on the corner Victoria Parade and Brunswick Street. The [City Council's conditions](#) on the proposed development were a practical and reasonable response. However the Healthcare Company has taken the matter to VCAT and are seeking to overturn the City Council's decision.

The FRA concurs with local residents that the Company should adhere to the conditions the City Council has provided for the development to proceed. Surely if the Hospital is to retain local trust and support it should be fair, reasonable and responsive to the concerns of the Council and the community. Is this too much to ask a major hospital in our midst on behalf of our residents? Surely the wider

Melbourne community wishes to have its medical services and research undertaken in a facility that is responsive to our heritage and streetscapes. We are not interfering in its role but just wishing to have it reflect our past and future.

Wait, there's more ...

We've highlighted concerns about the proposed St Vincent's Private Hospital. On Facebook we reported on resident objectors at VCAT recently regarding a development in the World Heritage Environs Area at 34-36 Nicholson Street, opposite the Royal Exhibition Building. [The National Trust outlined its concerns in its Statement of Grounds.](#)

Now, there is a new [Heritage Victoria permit application](#) being advertised for an 8-storey tower behind 11 Brunswick Street (Alcaston Gallery building), another of Fitzroy's wonderful terraces (in the vicinity of St Vincent's).

Submissions due 15 November 2017.



Salisbury Place proposed development



11 Brunswick Street



Yarra graffiti workshops

On 18 November at the Fitzroy Town Hall FRA will be participating in a Yarra Council graffiti workshop from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm. This is an opportunity for residents to engage with a graffiti removal expert to get advice on all types of graffiti removal. Free graffiti removal kits and wipes will be available. A crime prevention representative will

also be in attendance.

For most of us, graffiti is vandalism. Significant sums of money are spent to remove it – by Council, residents and businesses.

FRA is advocating:

- less graffiti and more commissioned street art
 - simpler ways of reporting graffiti to Council and the Police, and improved responsiveness
 - local laws enforced so that graffiti is cleaned up on vacant commercial premises
- Another workshop conducted by Yarra will be held on 2 December at Bunnings, Victoria Parade, Collingwood. FRA will be there too!



Trolleys and bikes....convenience or concern!

It's a question of good sense and compliance if oBikes and shopping trolleys can be a solution and not a problem. At present they litter our streets, footpaths and laneways in increasing numbers and are a blight and hazard across our neighbourhoods and activity centres. Both oBikes and trolleys do provide a service for locals and visitors alike but abused they become a problem that needs to be addressed through education and compliance.

The time for self-regulation is past with respect to shopping trolleys; how often do residents use the websites or apps of major retailers to inform of dumped trolleys with no response. The 24 hour response time by the shopping trolley owners is rarely met.

The City Council should act on Local Law 15.3 "The owner of a shopping trolley must, within 24 hours of being notified by an authorised officer of the location of a shopping trolley, collect the shopping trolley".

oBikes seem to fall outside any Local Law though given they are available for 'purchase' could come under Local Law 27 and the 'Sale of Goods'. If this is so, their placement could be regulated and reduce interference to pedestrians and ensuring that they are placed for future use in an appropriate manner. Hopefully the teething period will end and we will achieve an increase in safe cycling for all.



Support the campaign: makerentingfair.org

Improved rights for tenants

FRA supported this campaign to improve tenants' rights. There have been some positive indications including proposed measures that will improve security of tenure and encourage longer leases, give tenants more rights to make modifications and keep pets, and ease some financial difficulties associated with bond returns and frequent rent increases. See rentfair.vic.gov.au for further details.

FRA end-of-year event: 12 December

Save the date, and join us at the Aegean, 19 Brunswick Street, at 6:00 pm. Yarra Mayor will join us.
We thank the Aegean for allowing us to use this very pleasant venue.
Bookings will open soon.



Follow us on Facebook! There have been updates on neighbouring suburbs' recent developments: [Protect Fitzroy North](#) now has its VCAT interim decision re 26-56 Queens Parade and [Your Collingwood](#) is campaigning against another significant Gurner development.

Martin Brennan, Chair
Margaret Portelli, Secretary
November 2017



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