



ASPENDALE GARDENS NEWS

AGRA - ASPENDALE GARDENS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION
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TITLE



Photo Credit: Cameron Howe camhowe.com

MORDIALLOC BYPASS BUDGETED

PROGRESS ON LONG-AWAITED ROAD WELCOMED BY RESIDENTS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

Residents continue to report that the amount of traffic on Wells Rd and Governor Rd is 'beyond a joke'. When Wells Rd turns into a car park at peak hours, it divides Aspendale Gardens.

The Mordialloc Bypass project is moving along, with VicRoads recently attending the Aspendale Gardens Shopping Centre to listen to the community and provide an update on the project.

The road reservation has been in place since 1967, with the current State Government including \$300M in the 2017/2018 budget for the construction of the bypass.

The next step is the Environmental Effects Survey (EES) to investigate the

impact the Bypass could have on man-made wetlands, Braeside Park and surrounding communities. The EES is targeted for completion by mid 2018, with Bypass completion in 2021.

The Bypass will follow the road reservation on the western border of Braeside Park. Braeside Park will remain protected as the beautiful oasis that residents know and love.

AGRA has campaigned for the traffic project for more than 20 years based on community-identified needs. Other community organisations have voiced support for the project, including Frankston Business Network, Seaford Community Committee and the Carrum and Patterson Lakes Forum.

The AGRA team are hoping to see more grade separations rather than traffic lights at intersections, however we don't want to wait even longer for the 'perfect' road.

The majority of community sentiment about the Bypass can be summarised as 'just get it done'.

Not everyone is happy, however. Residents living near the road reserve who believed "the bypass was never actually going to be built" have expressed understandable disappointment. In this edition we look into opposition claims and offer our analysis.

Community
Clean Up Day



FEEL LIKE MAKING ASPENDALE GARDENS BEAUTIFUL?

Join us on **Sunday 4 March at 9am** to help clean up our small piece of Australia. Meet at the reserve on Kerr Crescent next to AGPS and we'll head into the area behind the school to clean up around the sports oval and the reserve.

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MEET AGRA

ASPENDALE GARDENS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

FACEBOOK: WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/AGRA3195

EMAIL: AGRASECRETARY@GMAIL.COM

WEB: WWW.AGRAINC.ORG.AU

AGRA meets every month (except December).

We work out how to make our wonderful suburb even better. It often involves wine.

Join us - residents welcome!

**VENUE: Aspendale Gardens Community Centre
7:30pm, 3rd Tuesday of the month**

President: Andrew Higham
Vice President: Andrew Bearsley
Treasurer: Jacinta Chapman
Secretary: Lucinda Bertram
Committee: Naomi Civins, Sarah Foster, Peter Boardman, Reny Frighetto, Serge Yan, Henry Warren, Brian Stuart
Guest Star: Councillor of the month (usually Cr Tamsin Bearsley)

The committee wishes Brian all the best in his recovery from his recent operation.

President's Report

On behalf of the AGRA committee I hope all residents had a safe and wonderful Christmas and New Years.

Looking back on 2017, the highlight for AGRA was the fifth Aspendale Gardens Community Fun Day in November. It was great to meet a lot of you on the day. As a new resident to Aspendale Gardens (since the previous event) it was fantastic to see just how much this day means to so many of you. I am looking forward to doing it all again in 2019!

I want to thank all the people who contribute to the day and the continued running of the event including the Aspendale Gardens Shopping Centre management and the individual store owners who always get behind the day.

A special thank you to Ritchies IGA for their generosity.

We'd like to thank City of Kingston for their attendance and financial support, including local South Ward Councillors **Tamsin Bearsley, Georgina Oxley, David Eden**, with mayor **Steve Staikos**, and central ward councillor **Geoff Gledhill**.

With a Victorian State Election in 2018, the year is shaping up to be *very* busy. The seat of Mordialloc continues to be strongly contested. We will speak with candidates in the lead up to the election to ensure we understand what their local priorities are.

AGRA is a non-party political association. We will not advocate for any political party, however we will highlight support for local issues in Aspendale Gardens. Regardless the outcome of the state election, we will continue to work with whoever is representing our community at a state level for the next four years.

We are always seeking enthusiastic new members to join the AGRA committee. Join us in working towards the goals that the Aspendale Gardens community have identified.

If you live in Aspendale Gardens and have a community spirit (and some free time? not mandatory) please contact us via our Facebook page or come along to a committee meeting.

Yours Sincerely

Andrew Higham, President, AGRA Inc

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Call today to book your taxation appointment

A man with short, light brown hair, smiling, wearing a dark navy suit, a white shirt, and a yellow and white diagonally striped tie. He is standing outdoors in front of a coastal scene with trees, a pier, and the ocean under a blue sky with light clouds. A yellow rectangular box is in the top right corner.

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ASPENDALE GARDENS COMMUNITY SURVEY 2018

Our AGRA team want to understand your views to make sure we're focusing on local community issues that matter most to you. Please complete the following survey - one per person only. Return it to the AGRA mailbox in the Aspendale Gardens Shopping Centre.

Even easier... complete the survey online at
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AGRA2018>

Please cut along the dotted line

1. Please provide your details in case we need to contact you.

Name:

Address:

Email:

Phone Number:

2. Are you a resident, property owner or business owner in Aspendale Gardens?

3. What do you love about life in Aspendale Gardens?

4. If there was one thing you could change about Aspendale Gardens, what would it be?

5. How could the space above the Aspendale Gardens shopping centre be best used?

6. What do you believe should be our roads, traffic and public transport priorities?



ASPENDALE GARDENS COMMUNITY SURVEY 2018 (CONTINUED)

7. How safe do you feel in Aspendale Gardens?

Very Safe

Mostly Safe

Moderately Safe

Moderately Unsafe

Very Unsafe

☐☐☐☐☐

8. Have you ever altered your plans due to traffic conditions in Aspendale Gardens?

Regularly

Often

Sometimes

Rarely

Never

☐☐☐☐☐

9. Do you support the building of the Mordialloc Bypass?

Yes

No

Don't Care

Not Sure

☐☐☐☐

10. Do you think the Mordialloc Bypass should be built to freeway standards?

Yes

No

Don't Care

Not Sure

☐☐☐☐

11. Do you think Mordialloc Bypass should have an overpass at Governor's road?

Yes

No

Don't Care

Not Sure

☐☐☐☐

12. Any comments about the Mordialloc Bypass?

13. What issues do you wish addressed with our sportsgrounds, parks and reserves?

14. What issues do you wish to addressed with our community services or facilities?

15. What other issues would you like bring to AGRA's attention?

Please cut along the dotted line



SCHOOL BUS ROUTE TROUBLE AHEAD

Aspendale Gardens students travelling to Parkdale Secondary College will face a more difficult journey to school if Transport Victoria have their way. It's looking like splitsville for school bus route 708.

Transport Victoria, a State Government body, have released plans to split the existing bus route 708 into two separate parts, terminating at Mordialloc Station. Students will be forced to change at Mordialloc for a second bus if they wish to continue onto Parkdale Secondary College.

Transport Victoria provided a website for public feedback during consultation. Residents reported that the website was "broken" and even on the final day of consultation was not receiving feedback.



No direct bus for you! Route 708 Split Proposal by Transport Victoria

Residents attended the public session and put their feedback up on Facebook.

"They laughed at me when I suggested we need a more direct bus route... they have no idea of our area" **Christine Kay**

"Our kids line up and have to push their way onto buses to get home each night" **Louise Eacott**

"No sitting, squashed like sardines! That's only if the bus stops" **Michaelene WJ**

"We definitely need another bus for the Parkdale Secondary kids to Chelsea Heights! Currently they have one designated school bus that is dangerously overcrowded.

My daughter has been jammed in the doorway, stood on, had her arm cut by being squashed up against the door, uniforms are being ripped because of overcrowding, that's if they're lucky to even get on it. If they miss that bus they walk a few blocks and wait for the public bus which on occasion has driven past students and left them to wait for another bus as they are full" **Kym Allsep**

AGRA reached out to Labor MP Tim Richardson and Liberal candidate Geoff Gledhill for comment.

Geoff Gledhill: "PTV have an obligation to provide students with the most direct and safest journey to school. I can't see any justification for PTV placing timetabling above student wellbeing and safety. Furthermore it has been clear for some time that extra direct services Parkdale SEC are required given the current level of overcrowding, again, a safety issue for students!"

Tim Richardson MP reported on Facebook about PTV's feedback website failing, saying "I have personally noted your feedback and shared this with the Minister's office". He also reported to AGRA that he has asked the Transport Minister not to split the bus route until Mentone.



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— Sausage Rolls

— Quiches
— Pies

Charle's Bake House
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Shop 6, Narelle Drive,
Aspendale Gardens Shopping Centre

NBN - COMING SOON...



Aspendale Gardens addresses are likely to see the local NBN roll-out commence in June 2018.

Following the changes to the NBN rollout in November 2014, Aspendale Gardens was to be connected using two different technologies; those who currently have access to the Optus cable network (HFC) were to be connected using this network and those who didn't were to be connected using fibre to the node (FTTN) instead.

In September 2016 it was decided that the Optus HFC network was not fit for purpose and instead these areas would be connected using fibre to the distribution point (FTTC) instead.

This new technology brings fibre closer to the house than FTTN but still relies on the final connection to the home being made using copper.

Finally in April 2017 the scale of the FTTC rollout was expanded following the high number of complaints relating to the FTTN rollout and now all premises in Aspendale Gardens are due to have this technology type made available.

We will run a community information night so that anyone who is unsure of what they have to do and when they have to do it can come along and ask questions. Check our Facebook page for updates.



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Gardens
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AT YOUR SERVICE



Last issue we shared the story about 15 year old Olivia Patten of Aspendale Gardens who required a service dog to help her gain some independence. We are happy to report that Olivia has been accessing the community with the assistance of a trained dog Taz and therapist Shiri for several months.

Olivia's family still require \$10,000 to access the full program, and are grateful for community assistance so far.

Donations can be made directly into the Bendigo Bank Aspendale Gardens account; name - Service Dog, account number - 152830014.

LOOKING INTO MORDIALLOC BYPASS OPPONENT CLAIMS



Every major infrastructure project has supporters and opponents.

AGRA have looked into claims opposing the project and we offer our analysis here.

Claim: The Mordialloc Bypass was never actually going to be built.

Conclusion: False.

Analysis: The road reservation has existed since 1967. Both Liberal and Labor state governments have recognised need for the project. It was never a case of "if", but "when".

Claim: Mordialloc Bypass will go through the middle of Braeside Park.

Conclusion: False.

Analysis: The planned bypass travels along the western border of Braeside Park.

Claim: The road ultimately leads to nowhere.

Conclusion: False.

Analysis: The road clearly joins Dingley Bypass to the Mordialloc Peninsula Freeway on all plans.

Claim: wetlands are home to the Australasian Bittern, and endangered species.

Conclusion: Plausible, but limited.

Analysis: The human-made Waterways wetlands are not the only possible home for the bittern, and not all of the Waterways wetlands will be changed nor removed by construction of the bypass.

Mention is made of the Australasian Bittern in a case study about Waterways winning an award for the restoration project.

Sightings of the Bittern are recorded in nearby areas including: Braeside Park, Woodlands Industrial Estate, Edithvale Wetlands. No sightings listed for Mordialloc Wetland or Waterways.

The impact on the Bitterns' available habitat is likely to be limited. Regardless, it is fair that the Environmental Effects Survey (EES) takes this into account.

Claim: The planned road goes through an old asbestos tip.

Conclusion: Plausible, but without evidence.

Analysis: The claim is preying on fear by imagining danger and catastrophe. Many rubbish dump sites exist in the City of Kingston. If the claim is true, then VicRoads requires a plan for managing it. We don't accept the assumption that there is no way to manage safety.

Claim: The road just shifts traffic problems. Suburbs will be divided and disrupted.

Conclusion: False.

Analysis: While there will be temporary disruption during construction, Aspendale Gardens, long divided by Wells Rd, will become a more socially cohesive suburb once traffic is diverted away up the bypass. A look at the map clearly shows that the Waterways housing estate is not divided into two.

What the protest literature ignores is that the traffic from the Frankston Freeway already goes along Wells Rd, Governor Rd, Boundary Rd, White St and Springvale Rd, much of it already ending up at Warrigal Rd and South Rd.

The existing traffic causes unnecessary congestion and noise in residential White St which is already over capacity. It creates danger for drivers and pedestrians on residential Wells Rd and White St. Both are roads that children cross on their way to school. The Mordialloc bypass will reduce traffic, reduce noise and improve safety in these residential areas.

We agree that a proper freeway with flyovers is the way to get maximum benefit. This is a good argument to build the bypass to freeway standard from the beginning.

FAMILY FUN DAY A HUGE SUCCESS

In November 2017, community groups and residents enjoyed the Family Fun Day at Aspendale Gardens Shopping Centre.

Thanks to AGRA, City of Kingston, and most of all Ritchies IGA and the Aspendale Gardens Shopping Centre for their generous support of the event.



RITCHIES

Where the Community Benefits

Ritchies have donated 48 million dollars back into the Community and over the last 15 years many local clubs, schools and charities have benefited in the Aspendale Gardens and surrounding areas.

Aspendale Gardens Primary- \$256,619.52

Edithvale Primary- \$56,200.46

Chelsea Heights Primary - \$27,222.50

Chelsea SES- \$46,991.99

Aspendale Gardens Kinder/Community Centre- \$57,306.76

Edithvale Fire Brigade- \$98,590.42

Salvation Army- Chelsea- \$37,274.20

Patterson River Secondary College- \$22,141.82



Contact Penny, Community Benefit Coordinator at Ritchies on 97842082 to find out how your club, school or charity can benefit!



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