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## Submission to Council

Council Meeting No. 09, Tuesday 31 August 2021

Melbourne Town Hall

6.2 Proposed discontinuance and sale of part of Riverside Quay Melbourne, and sale of part of Riverside Quay Reserve

The Southbank Residents' Association, in principle, supports item 6.2. However, the whole process has not been ideal.

In the original application for the development of the Esso site, this parcel of land was referred to as a 'land exchange', but there was no mention in the application that it was subject to the approval of the land exchange. Instead, it assumed the land exchange was a fait accompli.

There has been substantial community interest in the development of the Esso site, with numerous submissions to council Future Melbourne Committee when this item was being considered. So, it is somewhat surprising that during the notice period the City of Melbourne did not reach out to those who previously made submissions on this development and engage with them to explain the rationale, especially the context of the agenda item, minor though it is.

Instead, relying on old-fashioned public notices in newspapers and a notice on the door of a vacant building during lock-down is not effective communication.

Southbank Residents Association is an active contributor to this Council, and it is well-known we are an active and engaged community group. We are bamboozled that at minimum Council never considered to at least inform us. But sadly, judging by past actions, we should not have considered it surprising.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Penna  
President  
Southbank Residents Association