



PO Box 1195 South Melbourne VIC 3205

Phone: 03 9028 2774

ABN 58 986 783 321 Cert. of Inc. A0036364B

info@southbankresidents.com.au

www.southbankresidents.com.au

Future Melbourne Committee Meeting No. 71, 18 February 2020
Council Meeting Room, Level 2, Town Hall Administration Building
Agenda Item 6.1 Planning Permit Application TP-2019-703, Southbank Promenade, 2 Southgate Ave,
Southbank

Submission to Future Melbourne Committee

Southbank Residents' Association (SRA) are pleased to support the proposed upgrade of Southbank Promenade with a few concerns which might need some further consideration.

We are delighted the plan addresses the problems with the cyclists on the promenade. While we are aware and alternative bike route is in the process of being established along Southbank Boulevard and Kavanagh Street, we are skeptical whether the proposed changes will have a remarkable impact. We are trusting the experience of the officers that the proposal will be effective and that they are not just being hopeful.

A significant concern to the residents of Southbank, and also our committee, is the removal of the trees. While we acknowledge the health of a number of the trees is unfortunate and will need their removal, and that all trees will be replaced, we are concerned that it will take quite some time for the replacement trees to mature to be able to provide the same canopy cover. Shade is critical for this space to be truly enjoyed and appreciated. We would like to request that the tree removal happens gradually over many years so that our promenade is not left barren while waiting for the new trees to mature. We also question the wisdom of planting palm trees and their benefit to the heat footprint. Is it necessary to plant palm tree?

In fact, the SRA committee would like to request a more detailed explanation from the City arborist or project team regarding the tree replacement logic and timeline so we have a better understanding of the desired outcome.

This will be a great project to the benefit of residents through the enhancement and increase in public open space. Council is acutely aware of the shortage of open space in Southbank as we are well short of the City's own target.

Tony Penna
President
Southbank Residents Association