



BOX HILL BRICKWORKS PARKLAND INC.

No. A0127006V

Gabriel Ng MP
Member for Menzies

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**SUBURBAN RAIL LOOP (SRL-EAST)
FORMER BOX HILL BRICKWORKS SITE**

16 July 2025

Dear Gabriel,

The former Box Hill Brickworks site is our last real chance to secure **significant green open space** in central Box Hill – and right now, that opportunity is at risk.

During our site meeting with you on 3 March 2025 we discussed the site’s potential role in shaping Box Hill’s future as the area grows and changes.

We follow up on that meeting, in the context of precinct planning by the state government’s Suburban Rail Loop Authority (SRLA).

The precinct plan proposes rezoning Box Hill for high-density housing with an **anticipated doubling of the population over the next 15 years. However, there is no plan for a proportionate increase in open space - especially passive green open space.**

The SRLA’s open space report states *“The population in the Box Hill Structure Plan area is forecast to more than double (119 per cent) by 2041. This highlights the need to plan public open space to serve the future population”*.

What is needed is a substantial, accessible, and usable area of green open space to serve the needs of future generations, many who will live in apartments.

Even now, the Box Hill CBD and neighbouring suburbs, such as Mont Albert and Surrey Hills, have some of the lowest per capita open space in Melbourne.

The Brickworks site (formerly a quarry and landfill) is a rare, strategically located parcel of land that could provide crucial amenity and a lasting benefit to the community. Our petition, to retain this site as public open space, has support from over 6,700 individuals, reflecting deep community concern and engagement.

We note the federal government announced funding earlier this year (\$2.2 billion) for utility upgrades and land acquisition associated with the suburban rail loop project, which is touted as the largest housing project in Australia.

We also note the federal government's *National Urban Policy – A vision for the sustainable growth of our cities and suburbs*, which was adopted in November 2024.

This policy calls for collaborative, cross-government urban planning that serves both current and future generations. It emphasises:

- A place-based approach to planning
- Protection and creation of community assets such as green space
- Equitable access to nature
- Promotion of physical and mental wellbeing

The policy also references the *Urban Precincts and Partnerships Program*, further underlining the importance of working collaboratively across all levels of government to achieve meaningful urban renewal and liveability outcomes.

We are seeking federal government leadership to facilitate discussions between federal and state colleagues and Whitehorse City Council, to explore a collaborative approach that can work towards securing the Brickworks site for a community park. This is a significant opportunity for the future of Box Hill and warrants broader consideration.

We also believe the public want to see governments (federal, state and local) working together to achieve visionary outcomes when it comes to precinct planning and urban renewal within our cities.

We have copied this letter to Hon Catherine King MP and Hon Clare O'Neil MP and would welcome your advocacy for such joint government cooperation.

Kind regards,

Vincent Mennilli JP
Elizabeth Meredith
Greg Buchanan

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COPY TO:

Hon Catherine King MP
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Hon Clare O'Neil MP
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