

NO SKYRAILS LOWER OUR TRACKS INCORPORATED

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER - ISSUE NO.5 (APRIL 8TH 2016)

Legal Counsel Engaged

Lower Our Tracks Inc (LOTI) has engaged Hunt and Hunt Lawyers to investigate the elevated rail proposal and all possible avenues available to us in our fight against the Government's Skyrail proposal.

At this stage we cannot give details on findings however we are buoyed by the fact that Hunt and Hunt Lawyers have put together an experienced and senior team coordinated by Anton Dunhill (Partner) to act on our behalf.

We are doing everything we can to bring about a better solution for our community, the one the community expected and prefers – rail under road.

Please join us and take out membership of LOTI to ensure your voice is heard during the No Skyrails Campaign. Membership forms can be found at www.noskyrails.com

Next Event - No Skyrails Club Event

We will be holding our second No Skyrails Club Event on Friday April 15th. It is a family friendly evening where the community can come together, hear the latest campaign updates, have your questions answered and enjoy live music from 'Bakehouse Tuesday'. There will also be a new kids room with kid friendly games and activities.



bakehouse tuesday

Date: 7pm Friday 15th April 2016
Location: Murrumbeena Bowls Club
10 Blackwood St, CARNEGIE
Cover Charge: \$5 for members
Non members please come along and find out more about LOTI— Only \$10 to join LOTI on top of the cover charge and you will be joining the fight against the Skyrail
RSVP: loti.events@gmail.com



A Letter From The Team

The above image takes us back to where it all began - our first public gathering on Feb 7th. We've come a long way together and even since the last newsletter we've achieved a great deal:

Invitation to Premier: On March 30 LOTI formally invited Premier Andrews to meet with residents and stakeholders who have expressed concerns about the elevated rail solution known as Skyrail. We will keep you informed of any reply to our invitation.

Lawyers Engaged: We are delighted to announce the engagement of Hunt and Hunt Lawyers and welcome their experienced guidance and support.

Pop Up Sessions: Keep an eye out for our always energetic team of volunteers who are spreading the message and collecting signatures at various shopping centres and public places. If you would like to assist please contact us by emailing lowerourtracks@gmail.com



NOSKYRAILS.COM 

New Posters Now Available: The new look poster is here (see above). A2 posters now available to display in prominent position. **HELP NEEDED:** If you can help us distribute the posters or you would like one for your home or business please email us at lowerourtracks@gmail.com. You can also download the artwork for the posters as a .pdf from www.noskyrails.com



www.noskyrails.com

Email: lowerourtracks@gmail.com



GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES “VOLUNTARY” ACQUISITION FOR SOME PROPERTIES

Please don't act in haste - arm yourself with information and stay with us in this fight!

As indicated on page 1 of this newsletter, LOTI has engaged Hunt and Hunt Lawyers to investigate the elevated rail proposal and possible avenues available to the Association. As an association, LOTI represents the interest of the community and their concerns about the project as a whole and the implications if the proposal were to become a reality. LOTI cannot represent individual member's specific needs in relation to each property, however we have sought information of a general nature from Hunt and Hunt Lawyers which we hope will be of assistance to you. This is available on our website in the FAQ section.

What each person chooses to do is a matter for them individually or in consultation with their family. Many have chosen to send a message to the Government that their silence cannot and will not be bought by the offer of voluntary acquisition.

Please be aware that

- You have at least until June 2017 to make a decision – please do not act hastily, please consider why the Government has put this proposal out to selected members of the community—from all accounts not every house in every street abutting the rail corridor received the letter regarding voluntary acquisition—mostly those in the neighbourhood village precincts (ie development zones) appear to have received offers
- You should not make any decisions without thoroughly checking your options from independent sources ie. please don't rely solely on information from the Level Crossing Removal Authority or your neighbours and friends.
- LOTI does not suggest that Hunt and Hunt Lawyers are the only suitable representatives, there are other firms, however, we do recommend that you seek advice through firms with expertise and experience in Property Acquisition as a specialist area in their legal practice
- It is imperative that each landowner acts in their own best interests and having regard to their personal circumstances, irrespective of their views about the project as a whole or the manner in which it has been proposed.
- Please ask yourself why this offer now when previously it was stated there would be no acquisitions nor compensation?

Target 10,000 (Parliamentary Petitions)

You may have already signed the Parliamentary Petition which has been presented to the Legislative Council (Victorian Upper House) by David Davis who is one of our elected representatives for this region in the upper house. The petition is an official way to show the community's disapproval of the Skyrail proposal. We already have 5,300 signatures tabled with 600 or more on the way.

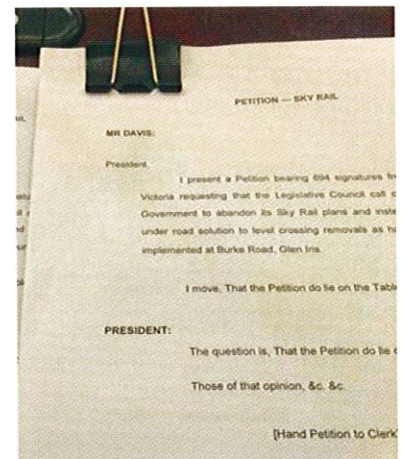
It is time to step up this petition and make our voices heard loud and clear! You don't need to live near the railway line to be concerned about this proposal and the way it has been imposed on the communities from Caulfield to Dandenong. Those signing do need to be 18 or over and reside in Victoria.

Being distributed with this newsletter is a copy of the petition so we ask you to please speak with your friends, family and people at work. Explain to them how this was sprung on the community, the concerns we have not only about the massive size of the structure but the long term problems associated with this sort of structure in terms of associated anti-social and criminal activity and most importantly explain how this has been imposed on thousands of people without any public consultation on extended elevated railway.

Petitions can be returned to: Red Poppy Bakery in Hughesdale, Murrumbeena Newsagent in Murrumbeena & Platform 3 Cafe Carnegie

Please remember that this is an official petition and it is manually checked against the electoral role – please ask those signing to print their name and address to save the poor officers having to try and decipher what is written. No one has to put a phone or email contact but it assists the officers if there is any confusion with details.

The East-West Link protestors collected 9,516 signatories to their petition in 16 months. We are almost at 6,000 in just over two months. 10,000 signatures will tell the State government that we are serious and we are many – **TARGET 10,000!**



One of the many sets of our petitions already tabled in the Victorian Parliament

YES to Level Crossing Removal - YES to Rail Under Road - NO to Skyrail

WE HAD NO SAY - WE HAD NO CHOICE - BUT WE NOW HAVE A VOICE - LOTI

Find out how you can become a LOTI member and join the fight at www.noskyrails.com



www.noskyrails.com

lowerourtracks@gmail.com