

Save Our Station SOS Ballarat Inc.

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Another full house for Save Our Station Public Meeting

The Save Our Station SOS Ballarat public meeting held last Saturday at the Provincial Hotel again saw a full house in full voice against the proposal by the State Government.

Local politicians Jaala Pulford, Sharon Knight and Labor candidate Juliana were invited twice but failed to respond or apologise.

Liberal candidates Amy Johnson and Andrew Kilmartin along with regular attendee Cr Jim Rinaldi were present and invited to speak. They were supportive of the campaign.

Convenor of the meeting Ron Egeberg thanked the supporters, particularly those who delivered the 'No Station Sell-out' DL Flyer letterbox drop and those who have donated to the fighting fund. Secretary John Barnes took those present through an update of our campaign.

The group was unanimous in its want to take up the good fight to the state election on 24 November.

The meeting reaffirmed its support for the Rail Precinct contract with the development being renegotiated, not ripped up. The goals of renegotiation:

- the sale of land and the historic Goods Shed should not proceed;
- the proposed apartments should be built on another site entirely;
- the developer needs to complete the already started multi-level car park and to create another 500+ car park spaces;
- the developer is the only one in a position to speedily do the urgent works to make the Goods Shed structurally sound, environmentally safe and water-tight;
- the Precinct must fulfil its primary purpose of being a 21st Century transport hub (albeit, in a unique heritage setting);
- the design and delivery of local and regional bus interchanges within the site, making all new and existing facilities accessible to people of all abilities; and
- a traffic management plan and works that minimise risks and limits impacts on nearby residents are essential.

The meeting also noted that the \$557 million being spent on the Melbourne – Ballarat Line does not include the Ballarat station, and that our station will not be 'Disability Discrimination Act' (DDA) compliant. And that Public Transport Victoria (PTV) has no plans or budget to fully restore our historic station.

Further information is on our website: saveourstationballarat.com

Gerald Jenzen
President
Save our Station SOS Ballarat Inc.

Mr Jenzen is available for further comment on 0402 385 431.

Photos taken at the meeting are provided as separate attachments to the covering email for this Media Release.