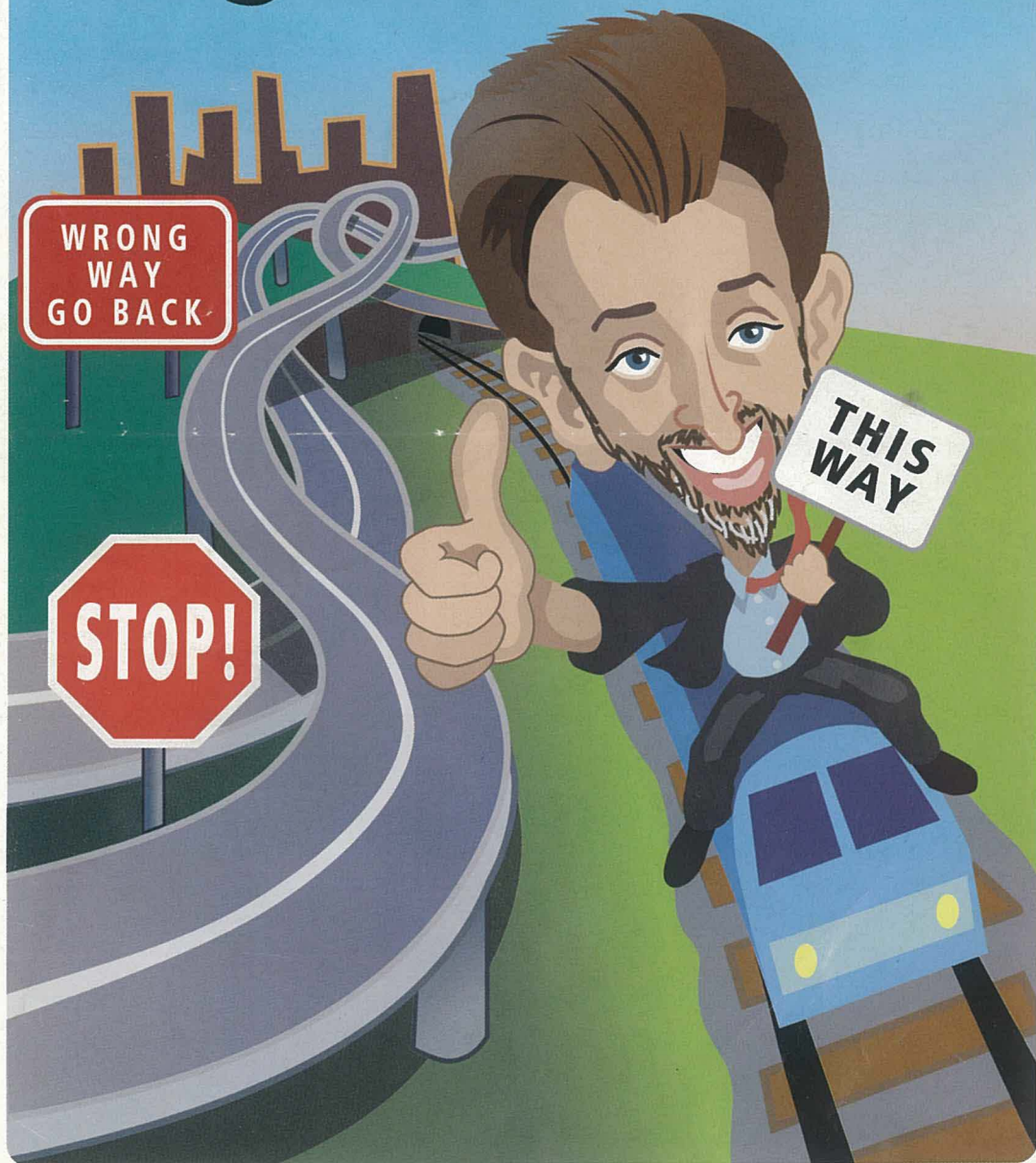


Tell Batchelor to get on track!



Melbourne's transport system is in crisis.

Growing traffic levels are putting our quality of life at risk from increasing congestion, pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

Rising petrol prices are hurting our hip pockets, while people without cars are cut off from jobs and social events.

Even Premier Steve Bracks has admitted public transport has "gone backwards", despite a huge increase in subsidies since privatisation.

We deserve better. It's time for Transport Minister Peter Batchelor and the Government to get on track!

More roads aren't the answer

Melbourne has the highest amount of road length per person of any Australian city. Research shows that building more roads only increases congestion problems, by encouraging more people to drive. Melbourne recently lost its title as the world's most liveable city to Vancouver, a city which stopped building freeways 40 years ago.

Preparing for a low energy future

A recent Griffith University study *Oil Vulnerability in the Australian City* found that a higher proportion of Melbourne households were vulnerable to rising petrol prices than in Sydney or Brisbane because of our city's poor public transport options. Melbournians urgently need alternatives to the car or our city will grind to a halt.

The government needs to backtrack

In 2005 the Bracks Government said there would be no new extensions to Melbourne's rail network for another 15 years. This is a mistake. A strong train system is essential to offer Melbournians a fast efficient alternative to driving. Roads have been prioritised over public transport for too long.

What needs to happen?

To put Melbourne's transport system back on track the Victorian Government must:

- Bring public transport back under public control. A lean, accountable public agency should manage our public transport and make all strategic, policy and timetable decisions. Private operators should merely deliver the service.
- Redesign Melbourne's public transport system into a functioning integrated network, offering regular services across the entire metropolitan area.
- Establish a single budget for all transport modes – including roads and public transport - with funds to be invested as needed for the greatest social, economic and environmental benefits. This means diverting funding away from new freeways and road capacity expansions and into public transport.
- Provide a 10 minute minimum service frequency on all tram and train lines.
- Provide frequent bus services until midnight, seven days a week.
- Make major investments in public transport infrastructure including rail extensions to Rowville, Doncaster and South Morang and new public transport interchanges in growth suburbs and at major activity centres.

A rail extension to Rowville would

- replace at least 2400 cars on Rowville roads every hour, the equivalent of 1 freeway lane of traffic.
- get you from Rowville to the city within 30 minutes, as opposed to 50 minutes by car or 55 by 'smart' bus.
- Serve 100,000 people in Melbourne's east.

Tell the Government you're not happy with its performance on transport

- Email Peter Batchelor via www.melbourneontrack.org.au or write to him at PO Box 219, Thomastown 3074.
- Write to your local MP – let them know that you feel strongly about the need for improved public transport services.
- Tell your friends, write letters to the newspapers – make some noise!

The Coalition for People's Transport is an alliance of community, social justice, environment, local government, disability and transport user groups.

It is committed to sustainable and equitable transport across Melbourne. Its members include:

- Environment Victoria
- Victorian Council of Social Service
- Public Transport Users Association.
- Friends of the Earth

Yes! I want to get more involved

- Sign me up for monthly email news updates.
- I want to volunteer on the campaign – please send me further information.
- Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____

We depend on your generous donations to fund our campaign. Please make cheques payable to Friends of the Earth (ABN 68 918 945 471). Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____

Email: _____

Please send to: The Coalition for People's Transport, c/o Environment Victoria, PO Box 12575, A'Beckett Street, MELBOURNE 8006



Leaflet authorised by Louise Sales, Environment Victoria, Level 2, 60 Leicester Street, Carlton, VIC 3053.