



# Planning Panels Victoria

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

1 Spring Street  
Melbourne Victoria 3000  
GPO Box 2392  
Melbourne, Victoria 3001  
Telephone (03) 8392 5115

5 May 2020

As addressed

Dear Party

## **Greater Geelong Planning Scheme Amendment C363ggee: Central Road Drysdale rezoning**

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On 1 April 2020, the Panel advised all parties that the Hearing would be adjourned until parties had the opportunity to be heard in person. The Panel's decision was based on comments received and relevant sections of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the PE Act) at that time. The Panel also advised that a second Directions Hearing may be needed to revisit procedural matters.

The Victorian government has since introduced the *COVID-10 Omnibus (Emergency Measures) Act 2020* (the Omnibus Act) on 25 April 2020. The Omnibus Act amended sections of the PE Act to recognise a hearing as being held in public if it is available to be viewed by electronic means, either while the hearing is being held or as soon as reasonably practicable afterwards.

Following the new legislation, the Proponent of the Amendment wrote to the Panel and other parties on 30 April 2020 (Attachment 1), requesting the Panel to progress the matter and to hold a second Directions Hearing to explore further directions.

The Panel considers that recent changes warrant the process for progressing the Hearing to be revisited. A second Directions Hearing will be held by video conference using MS Teams at **10.00am on Friday 29 May 2020**.

You will receive a separate invitation with a link to access the Directions Hearing within the next fortnight. In the meantime, please familiarise yourself with using MS Teams through the guide available at <https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/panels-and-committees/planning-panel-guides>.

If you have any queries about this letter or MS Teams, please contact Planning Panels Victoria at [planning.panels@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:planning.panels@delwp.vic.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

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Panel Chair

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