

## Your Say Yarra: Managing Yarra's Urban Forest

I'm afraid this is another of these superficial surveys, but it's probably worth doing. There'll be more later when they actually have a strategy! I think YCAN needs to discuss the importance of trees in fighting climate change. I've done some draft notes, based on Bruce's knowledge (he's done a much longer response) on the major questions if you'd like to comment before it goes in on Monday.

### **What we value about trees** – in addition to their basic suggestions

- reduce carbon emissions by 12-15% per annum
- carbon storage
- reduce need for air conditioning
- drop temperatures by up to 8deg
- improve health of residents
- reduce community health expenses, particularly for low income residents

### Issues with street trees

- poor planting practice hinders water Sensitive Urban Design; ie insufficient soil around trees to capture run-off
- tree species not always appropriate

### How can we increase tree canopy in Yarra with limited space

- remove excessive bitumen on road space and replace with planting and soil
- use trees instead of stone and asphalt in traffic calming measures

### Ideas about how council can work with community on increasing trees

- presenting actual strategies and plans for comment rather than vague, unfocused surveys would help