



Yarra Climate Action Now  
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### **Route 96 Nicholson St tram stop upgrades – Stops 16 - 22**

Yarra Climate Action Now is a community group representing over 1000 City of Yarra residents, which has campaigned on the issue of climate emergency for more than 10 years. Our key priority is to reduce greenhouse emissions, including those caused by fossil-fuelled motor vehicles, and to encourage greater and safer provision of active transport.

YCAN has thus supported the proposals for accessible tram stops in Nicholson St, but we have concerns around the current proposal. These include:

1. Loss of mature trees and a lack of integrated landscaping/greening.  
Our members have expressed grave concerns about the removal of the 15 mature trees and the accompanying lack of shade. With rapidly increasing temperatures large trees and green surfaces are essential for their cooling effect. This proposal needs a complete and integrated landscape master plan.
2. Cycling accessibility and safety.  
Nicholson St is identified on Travel Smart Map – Yarra, as a north-south bicycle route. No proper bike lanes are shown in the proposal, and east-west cycling crossings at Nicholson St are also hazardous.
3. Too many cars.  
Reducing cars should be a priority to allow safer pedestrian and bike activity. Having one lane each way, and reducing car parking would enable wider footpaths and separated bike lanes, encouraging greater and safer use of trams, bikes and walking. Wider footpaths would also facilitate tree planting and water Sensitive Urban design Residents, commuters and local businesses would all benefit.

In conclusion, YCAN would like to see a proposal that integrates not just accessible stops, but greening and safer movement for all. And, of course, greatly reduced carbon emissions.

Kerry Echberg  
Convenor



