WHITEHORSE RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.

INQUIRY INTO APARTMENT DESIGN STANDARDS – SUBMISSION

The following points are of prime importance in the design of apartment buildings

1. Apartment buildings should be in keeping with residential surroundings with a cap on the number of storeys and height
2. All apartment blocks should have adequate off street parking (at least one park/apartment) and also a visitor parking area.
3. At the development application stage when plans are available for inspection placement of services such as fire hydrants, gas and water meters, letterboxes etc. should be shown on the plans (currently they are not). The front setback can be filled with monstrous concrete boxes. (See attached photos)
4. Adequate setbacks from the street and between apartment buildings to allow garden space and grass to avoid the ‘concrete jungle’ look and allow planting of native trees/shrubs
5. Grass areas to allow rainwater access to the earth’s crust
6. Better access to apartments and letter boxes - wider doors for wheelchairs and moving furniture in and out
7. Different colours on brickwork
8. Approved building materials must be specified – no flammable cladding!
9. Access to sunlight is important for the apartments and should also be considered for neighbouring properties
10. Solid shared walls between apartments
11. Room sizes are important for uncluttered living
12. Balcony size is important – needs to be large enough to accommodate space for at least 2 chairs, a small table and pot plants.
13. Consideration of safety in case of fire is absolutely essential.
14. Ensure that building contractors and subcontractors are fully qualified.
15. Ongoing supervision at all stages to ensure specified materials are being used and no short cuts allowed to try to save costs.

President Tanya Tescher Mobile 0419 135 619

Secretary Kath Cummings Mobile 0425 716 837

ATTACHMENT TO INQUIRY INTO APARTMENT DESIGN STANDARDS – SUBMISSION

WHITEHORSE RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.

46 Kenmare St, Mont Albert

