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## SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



Williamstown could have tragic fire without firefighting boat  
& MFB isn't even referring to the 250m OIL TANKERS!

**Tuesday, 3 April 2012**

Hobsons Bay Leader

3 APR 12 @ 05:00AM BY FIONA O'DOHERTY

“THE firefighters union secretary has warned of the potential for a “catastrophic” fire and loss of life if a boat fire could not be contained at Williamstown.

United Firefighters secretary Peter Marshall has called on the MFB board to be sacked if it does not buy a firefighting boat.

“At the moment they don't have any capacity other than two tinnies,” he said.

The call came after a 28m luxury cruiser was on fire for hours at Docklands last month.

Mr Marshall said it was lucky the Docklands fire did not spread to other boats and cause multiple explosions.

“The same scenario and the potential for it to be catastrophic in the sense of not just losing craft but the loss of life could be applied down at

Williamstown,” he said.

“You are talking about millions and millions of dollars of water craft down there and what you are seeing is the agency responsible for protecting them in the event of fire has not got the equipment to do so.”

Williamstown Sailing Club commodore Ian McGrath said club boats moored off The Strand would burn to the waterline if they caught fire but this would be less likely if a firefighting boat was available.

“At Gem Pier there are a lot more boats and a lot closer together so if one boat caught alight, there would be the risk of it catching multiple other boats,” he said.

MFB chief fire officer Shane Wright said the MFB planned to buy a large firefighting boat and would train up to 100 firefighters in shipboard firefighting.

An interim vessel had yet to be found, despite a search.

“There has been extensive consultation with the United Firefighters Union at its request,” he said.....”

HAVE YOUR SAY!.....

<http://hobsons-bay-leader.whereilive.com.au/news/story/williamstown-could-have-tragic-fire-without-firefighting-boat/>

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# SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



Still no release date for vital Ports report

Thursday, 19 April 2012

Woollen Mill: Towers won't sink this Titanic, declares owner

BY GOYA DMYTRYSHCHAK

18 Apr, 2012 12:00 AM

PLANNING Minister Matthew Guy needs more time to say why he will not release the Ports and Environs report more than a year after receiving it. The report contains recommendations for shaping development around Melbourne's ports, including high-density residential development near major hazard facilities at Williamstown.

On February 29, opposition planning spokesman Brian Tee moved a parliamentary motion that Mr Guy release the report or state his reasons for withholding it.

Mr Guy had two weeks to respond.

In a letter dated March 23, Mr Guy states: "As the response to the report is yet to go through the cabinet process and it is appropriate that both the report and response are released simultaneously, the government is not

able to respond to the [Legislative] Council's resolution within the time period requested. The government will respond as soon as possible." When asked for an update by the Weekly, ministerial spokesman Nicholas McGowan confirmed the report would be publicly released, but did not say when.

"Labor's had more positions on this report than a football team," he said. "When they were in government they had the opportunity to release the report and failed."

The report was given to former Labor planning minister Justin Madden on October 29, 2010, just before the state election.

Williamstown MP Wade Noonan said withholding the report just fuelled speculation that the government was worried about the recommendations it contained.

Last December, Mr Guy refused to answer "hypothetical" questions when the Weekly asked how he would deal with recommendations in the Ports report if they conflicted with his approval of uncapped high-rise residential development on the former Port Phillip Woollen Mill site.....

**The National Ports Strategy also states that new residential development should not encroach on the nations ports ....”**

<http://www.hobsonsbayweekly.com.au/news/local/news/general/still-no-release-date-for-vital-ports-report/2526344.aspx>

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