

About Us   Save Williamstown Inc   PPWM Site   Status of Plans  
Objecting to Plans   2012 Planning Scheme Amendment   2010 SW Presentation  
2014 NUGGET Heritage   2014 Oriental Heritage   ISSUES   Events   Downloads  
**NEWS**   Contact Us

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## SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



### 'Burial' for democracy in Williamstown

Thursday, 13 May 2010

The Advertiser  
by Goya Bennett

"A PUBLIC "funeral for democracy" has demonstrated an uprising of community spirit.

Last Saturday's protest in Williamstown followed Planning Minister Justin Madden's decision to override Hobsons Bay Council by rezoning the former Port Phillip Woollen Mill site, paving the way for a 16-storey development.

Williamstown resident Tomek Koman, of the Theatre Research Institute, said his band chose Chopin's Funeral March. "It's very appropriate. We are burying a child today. If I have to bury local democracy because someone has no respect for the will of the

people, that pisses me off and I am reacting to that."

Save Williamstown spokesman Godfrey Moase said the body of democracy was being circled by the vultures of greed. "They want to rip the heart out of our community, tear it up into pieces and sell it off, taking the village out of Williamstown and leaving us empty.

"The developers, they want us to feel like this Nelson Place Village development is inevitable.

"They want us to feel that there is nothing we can do about it.

"Well, let me tell you, we are not going to give up on our jobs that easily and we are not going to give up on our heritage that easily.

"What we've got today is a second coffin. An empty one for when we bury the developer's proposal and we can have a celebration that we won.

"We can prevail and we will prevail and we will breathe new life into local democracy."

Civil celebrant Susan Morrow said judging by the crowd dressed in its funereal finest, democracy was kicking the bucket in style.

"Oscar Wilde once said, 'One can survive anything nowadays - except death.' Well, we're not taking death lying down."....."

<http://www.themail.com.au/news/local/news/general/burial-for-democracy-in-williamstown/1827912.aspx>

< previous

next >

