

**Submission
No 162**

INQUIRY INTO REVIEW OF THE HERITAGE ACT 1977

Name: Mr Tim Phillip

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Would greater community engagement deliver a more robust State Heritage Register?

YES - absolutely. Greater community involvement would provide the necessary balance when considering a proposed development that includes any possible heritage item.

Residents of a community are always the silent majority. To this day their voices are muffled by powerful developers who, with plentiful resources and years of experience, lobby their 'demands' and aspirations at every level of government, helping to ensure their projects get the 'green light'. This includes fighting cases in the Land and Environment Court, which being very expensive, is very difficult for a community to fund and fight their case.

Development can be good for a community, but such a decision can be properly considered only when all stakeholders, including an independent community spokesperson, are at the table.

It's been said that our past is our future. It's the community who can ensure that our past heritage and its importance to the community is a key consideration of any future proposed development.