

MEDIA RELEASE

THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2019



www.alexfraser.com.au

KINGSTON CITY COUNCIL DECISION UNDERMINES VICTORIA'S CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Kingston City Council has denied a second application by Alex Fraser Group to extend the life of its recycling operations at Clarinda, despite the clear implications on resource recovery in Victoria.

The Clarinda Recycling Facility has the capacity to recycle up to one million tonnes every year, turning recyclables into sustainable construction materials. In 2020, it will increase its recycling by 200 million bottles per year, including glass from Kingston kerbside collections.

“Kingston City Council’s decision is at odds with Victoria’s Recycling Industry Strategic Plan, which aims to stabilise the recycling industry and provide access to markets,” Alex Fraser Managing Director, Peter Murphy, said.

“It also goes against everything the State Government is doing to secure reliable supply of construction material for the ‘Big Build’.”

Mr Murphy said the issue clearly impacted multiple state policies, calling for a coordinated response from the Andrews Government.

“If Clarinda Recycling Facility is shut down, it will have consequences on Victoria’s recycling, and the supply of material to the state’s infrastructure projects, increasing costs to taxpayers.”

To give the local community certainty about the fixed term of its application for an extension, Alex Fraser put forward a Community Benefits Package – giving the Kingston community ownership of its 22 hectares of prime land, along with \$7.5 million to put towards sports and recreation facilities – which Kingston City Council refused to consider.

“In addition to the obvious statewide implications of this decision, Kingston City Council has denied its local residents a significant expansion to the ‘Chain of Parks’,” Mr Murphy said.

“At a time where there’s so much talk about the recycling crisis, it’s important to remember that Victoria has long led the way in using recycled materials to build its infrastructure.”

“This site is an outstanding example of the circular economy in action, and the Victorian State Government must intervene to retain this recycling capacity,” Mr Murphy said.

- ENDS -

**For media queries, please call Evelyn Ek on 0412 887 853 or
Cara Spencer on 0417 030 232**