To submit an objection complete this form and lodge it with the Responsible Authority – forward to: **enquiries@bayside.vic.gov.au** or at the address above.

# Details – (please use BLOCK letters) *Please refer to privacy statement below*

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| I/We:  |
| Address: Postcode:  |
| Email:  |
| Telephone:  |  |

# Details of Application:

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| Application Reference Number: 5/2020/114/1 Permit application No:  |
| Address of Land: 88 Reserve Road BEAUMARIS 3193 |

# Reasons for Objection:

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| I object to the planning application to remove tea tree identified as Tree 46 at the Beaumaris Community Centre associated with the development of a new sports pavilion at 88 Reserve Road, Beaumaris because:The removal of Tree 46 does not comply with the objectives of Clause 42.02 (Vegetation Protection Overlay, Schedule 3) as:1. The proposal fails to adequately prevent a loss of vegetation incurred by the development.
2. The proposal fails to retain the amenity, aesthetic character and habitat value of the Australian native and indigenous vegetation within the Beaumaris area due to the removal of a rare long lived and iconic stand of remnant vegetation.

Vegetation Protection Overly (VPO3) Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected states the following:*The Vegetation Character Assessment (March 2000) report identifies significant vegetation characteristics that form a major element of a* ***distinctive urban character in the municipality, particularly in Beaumaris*** *and Black Rock. Remnant indigenous vegetation, complemented by plantings of Australian native species,* ***contribute to the visual amenity and interest of the area****, particularly where this vegetation is contiguous between private lands and adjoining public lands.*Indigenous species such as **Leptospermum laevigatum (Coast Tea-tree) represent remnants of vegetation communities that were once widespread and are now largely lost. These species form a valuable link to and reminder of the historic vegetation of the area.** The Australian native, and particularly indigenous, vegetation provides fauna habitat and corridors, especially for native bird life. **The continued viability of the significant vegetation character and its habitat value is under threat from clearance associated with urban development and from loss of aging vegetation.**The reference document to VPO3, the Vegetation Character Assessment, John Patrick Pty Ltd, March 2000, makes the following observations about Beaumaris vegetation character:*The overall effect is informal plant layouts and some species having sprawling branching forms* ***(the Leptospermum in particular).****A significant number of front gardens contain remnant indigenous vegetation. A number of properties* ***exhibit considerable effort and ingenuity to retain it****, such as building fences around specimens or with ‘cut outs’ to accommodate existing branches.* The reason why Tree 46 is so important to residents is clearly articulated in the statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected in VPO3 and the John Patrick Vegetation Character Assessment.The statement of nature and significance and reference document clearly describe the importance of protecting remnant indigenous vegetation in Beaumaris and Black Rock. Beaumaris and Black Rock residents along with Bayside Council regard native vegetation as so important that a **law** in the form of the VPO3 was implemented to protect it. Tree 46 is of the highest standard of tree in Beaumaris protected by this law. Both ecologically and arboculturally Tree 46 is significant. An examination of aerial images from 1945 show a likelihood that the area occupied by Tree 46 was covered by canopy vegetation. On this basis tree 46 is ecologically significant as remnant native vegetation. Ecologically tree 46 is important as song bird and possum habitat.Aboricuturally a tree likely to be over 70 years is significant because it cannot be readily replaced with new vegetation. Residents rely on Bayside Council to enforce the VPO3 to protect the few remaining and valued stands of remnant indigenous vegetation in Beaumaris. Tree 46, located next to the Cenotaph, the sports pavilion and Beaumaris Reserve oval is one of the most highly recognised and revered stands of Beaumaris tea tree character. The tree canopy is in excellent health and the spread and sprawl of the trunk and branches are an exemplar of Beaumaris tea tree character much loved by new and older residents alike.It is wholly inconsistent for Bayside Council to expect residents to respect and retain native vegetation protected by law on their own property and not impose the same degree of respect and protection of native vegetation on public land. Bayside Council must abide by the VPO3 objectives and treat Tree 46 as a constraint on the pavilion design and not a hindrance to be removed by a planning permit. At a minimum Bayside Council must seek appropriate design changes to the sports pavilion to retain Tree 46. As identfified in the John Patrick Vegetation Character Assessment, Bayside Council should apply the same ingenuity and respect Beaumaris residents have applied to protect native vegetation by requiring a sports pavilion design that retains Tree 46. A respectful pavilion design would respond to the importance of Tree 46 and make a it a feature of the southern boundary of the building. In addition Bayside Council must ensure the strictest of protection conditions are imposed to ensure the canopy and roots of Tree 46 are not damaged during and after construction. An approval to remove Tree 46 will represent an unforgivable betrayal of native vegetation protection that Beaumaris and Black Rock residents fought so long to achieve and enforce by implementing the VPO3. |
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| (Please attach additional pages to this form) |

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