

Amazingly, the Highett Grassy Woodland has survived in Melbourne despite 150 years of grazing, tree felling, and building in the surrounding area.

It is in a site in Highett owned by CSIRO on behalf of the Federal Government, mainly between Graham Road and Middleton Street and to the south of Clonmult Avenue.

The Highett Grassy Woodland has majestic, healthy trees, with the last six mature Yellow Box remaining in the Gippsland Plain west of Sale, and River Red Gums that may be more than 200 years old.

Beneath them are smaller trees, native grasses, and rare plants.

Bayside Council's draft Open Space Strategy shows a huge need for public open space in Highett as the 'Activity Centres' at Highett and Southland expand.

The ONLY opportunity is the CSIRO site. TELL THE COUNCIL to fight for informal recreation and conservation of the wonders of the Highett Grassy Woodland as a jewel in the crown of Melbourne's environment.

Planning Minister Matthew Guy said that "high-density [housing] projects should focus on ... surplus suburban land such as ... a CSIRO facility in Highett..." (The Herald Sun, 15.2.2011)

For over 10 years CSIRO has planned to move out and sell the site.

In 2004 residents throughout Victoria said NO to losing the heritage trees and vegetation and YES to restoring the CSIRO site's past beauty with conservation, and public access, enjoyment, and informal recreation.

TAKE ACTION NOW before the site is covered with housing!

Help us to maintain public support to avoid building on the southern part of this land. It must be saved for future generations.

Raise your voice. Comment on facebook, contact your Federal and State MPs and your Councillors. LET THEM KNOW what you think.

Find us on facebook/HighettGrassyWoodland Write an email to highettgrassywoodland@gmail.com or give us a call: 0409 010 074