

STATEMENT - SHANE HRYHOREC (11 September 2025, on Facebook and Instagram)

### Historic Human Rights Ruling Against the City of Yarra

Today, the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) ruled that the City of Yarra had to ensure its e-scooter program upheld human rights. VCAT rejected the Council's claim that it had no duty to protect people with disabilities.

This legal finding is a big win. VCAT will now move on to deciding whether the Council breached those rights, and we hope to receive that final decision in the coming weeks.

This outcome is not just a personal win. It is a critical turning point for access and inclusion. One that will impact not just Richmond, not just Melbourne, or even just Australia, but cities across the world.

This ruling sends a clear message to governments at every level. Footpaths are for people.

They must be kept clear so that people of all abilities can move freely, access their communities, and live independent lives.

The fact that this matter had to be taken to VCAT is deeply disappointing. The leadership of the City of Yarra, especially CEO Sue Wilkinson, repeatedly failed to act. In doing so, she ignored people with disabilities. And that is not acceptable.

At this point, I believe it is time for real accountability. I am calling for the resignation of the CEO of the City of Yarra, Sue Wilkinson. The City of Yarra now needs leadership that takes human rights seriously and is willing to do the work to make the city inclusive.

A huge thank you to my lawyer Andrew Paull from Echo Law for standing by me and fighting for change and equality. His commitment and belief in this cause helped bring about this important result.

Let us hope this marks the beginning of real action to protect and prioritise accessibility for all.

Shane Hryhorec

Disability Advocate