



# Greenfleet

7<sup>th</sup> November 2003

Sustainable Cities Inquiry  
House of Representatives  
Committee on Environment & Heritage

## **Submission by Greenfleet Australia**

Greenfleet is a not-for-profit organisation that provides environmental services to the motoring public. For a fee it undertakes to plant locally indigenous mixed plantings of trees and shrubs to sequester the carbon dioxide emitted by vehicles. Alongside this it promotes the development and use of high efficiency vehicles and new transport technology.

In both of these endeavours Greenfleet is seeking to maintain the motorised mobility of the community while reducing the nett contribution of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere. In this it shares one of the underlying objectives of the Parliamentary Inquiry.

Pursuing its mission Greenfleet is well aware that reducing the dependence upon motorised transport is also an essential element of the sustainability of cities. It recognises that its own efforts are an element of a larger longer-term objective of creating a carbon-neutral and sustainable transport system for the future. Greenfleet's immediate purpose is to reduce current net carbon emissions and in doing so reduce the rate at which natural capital is being depleted and the life supporting systems of the biosphere are being degraded. As such the actions being taken by Greenfleet and its participants may extend the time over which the more far-reaching changes can be achieved.

Greenfleet therefore submits that the Parliamentary Inquiry should bring forward recommendations that:

1. Lead to the structuring and restructuring of cities and their operations so as to reduce dependence on carbon based motorised transport.

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Greenfleet Australia, C/- Post Office, KOONWARRA, VIC 3954

Phone/Fax: (03) 5664 0172 Email: [info@greenfleet.com.au](mailto:info@greenfleet.com.au)

For details & online subscriptions, visit our Website: [www.greenfleet.com.au](http://www.greenfleet.com.au)

Greenfleet Australia (ABN 22 095 044 465) is a not for profit environmental organization that specialises in transport matters

2. Support the development and accelerated adoption of transport technologies that are efficient in their use of carbon based fuels and the release of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere or use carbon free fuels, and,
3. Promote carbon sequestration through the restoration of natural habitats.

In doing this, the Parliamentary Inquiry should set itself the further objective of achieving a carbon neutral transport system within a time frame that is consistent with the sustainability of the systems of the biosphere. Though it may be impossible to define a specific time for such an objective it is clear that the transformations in the built environment and in transport technology that will be required to meet the objective are huge and will inevitably take time. Time is therefore of the essence. Action on all fronts is urgent.

Over recent years *Greenfleet* has developed some experience with carbon sequestration and carbon efficiency in transport. In continuing to pursue its objectives *Greenfleet* would be happy to work with, and, where appropriate assist, the Parliamentary Inquiry.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Robinson', written over a light-colored rectangular background.

Dr Brian Robinson AM  
Chairman, *Greenfleet Australia*