

Public Transport – meeting our public transport challenges

Q1 Council Community Buses: with the number of Aging and Disabled residents within the City of Monash Council should upgrade and extend its fleet of buses.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

5) Strongly agree. State Government and local councils should heavily invest in a complete overhaul of public transport. Each street in Melbourne should have easy walk access to a bus service that connects to a train station or major hub. Frequency and routes should be such that all residents are truly encouraged to use public transport, not only the disabled and the elderly.

Q2 Commercial buses: Council should work with commercial bus-lines

1 to provide community bus-routes catering directly to the needs of less mobile residents, and to ensure that these and other special needs buses are fully timetabled.

2.to extend bus timetables so that they connect with train timetables, especially mornings and evenings.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

5) Strongly agree. I would promote the introduction of local shuttle buses during peak hour that connect residential streets to the closest train stations. Lots of buses doing short, frequent circular trips back and forth to the stations or to other bus stops in order to improve the metro area covered by PT. We should ensure that each resident has the choice of boarding a bus within a short stroll from their door step.

Q3 Rowville Rail Link – Council should work actively with other councils to lobby for a full-scale rail link between Huntingdale Railway Station and Ferntree Gully Station

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

I agree in principle with any measure taken to extend, improve and upgrade any form of public transport. In addition, I will push for another reform of the fares and ticketing system: when in 2005 zone 2 and 3 were merged, in my view they should have merged zone 1 and 2, and change zone 3 into zone 2. With the rate development and urban sprawl tha we are experiencing, it makes sense to change the way we subdivide metropolitan areas from non metro areas. Now, for example, Oakleigh and Huntingdale stations are Zone 1, however the majority of buses that can be boarded at these stations will only accept a zone 2 ticket. This is irrational and irritating, It certainly does not encourage people to use PT.

Q4 Advocacy Role – as a councillor I will work to ensure that the Council runs a regular community forum on public transport needs, and I will lobby for better public transport across the City of Monash on behalf of the residents.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

I Strongly agree in consultation with the community.

Open Space – defending the remaining green spaces for community use.

Q1 Council should require developers in the area to provide “green space” for community use beyond the minimum 5% currently required.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

Strongly agree. The preservation of green space should be a matter for State Government and not left to Local Councils alone. Often local councils do not have enough legislative power to override decisions that have been handed down by the VCAT.

Q2 Council should extend its current initiatives to help preserve sporting facilities by the provision of water tanks and drought resistant grasses.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

4 – Agree, however during the hot months there should be restrictions on grounds usage. To compensate for this, more indoor sport centres should be built, and more that use synthetic grass or alternative soils.

Health – defending the City of Monash against the chronic health issues facing communities in Victoria, such as obesity, diabetes and depression.

Q1 Community Health – Council should play a more active advocacy role in pressuring government to provide a range of health support services.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

4 – Agree. However Federal and state govt should play a leading role for this issue and local councils should support whatever health service initiative is programmed in our city.

Q2 Research into Community Health – Council should collect data to measure the extent of the health problem within the Monash community.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

3 – Partially agree, because there are already a number of agencies, hospitals and universities that are working towards this aim. However if approached, Council should support and participate by whatever means in any research about health issues.

Q3 Council should negotiate with government to establish a centralised medical services facility, similar to Clayton’s, in Glen Waverley.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

3 – Partially agree. The Clayton facility is being de-centralised; what we need is good quality medical services throughout the community, whether they’re centralised or not is irrelevant.

Planning Issues – defending residential amenity against government planners and tribunals.

Q1 The City of Monash should follow other municipalities by shaping its planning around a Liveability Policy with clear objectives and measurable targets

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree _____ Strongly Agree

5) Strongly agree. If this policy is not already in place it should be developed without delay.

Q2 Council should always challenge major developments considered inappropriate by residents, even if it may mean being overridden by VCAT or other government bodies.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree _____ Strongly Agree

1. Planning policy should be such that there is no grey area about its interpretation. I'm the first citizen to oppose inappropriate development, however 'inappropriate development' has different meaning for different people. If council has a strong, detailed and comprehensive planning policy, it's easier to identify the inappropriate developments quickly and effectively. The council would then have strong supporting evidence to win any case.

Q3 All large-scale developments should undergo a full and publicly available Environmental Impact Study before they can be submitted to Council for approval

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree _____ Strongly Agree

4 – I agree in principle, however who should be appointed to conduct these studies? They're often expensive and time consuming; if left up to the developers, the results could be biased. Rather, I would promote large scale surveys in the community, through public libraries, schools, the internet websites etc, so as to involve the community in the decision making process. It should be almost like referendum.

Q4 Council should more actively oppose the government's proposed Residential Zoning Scheme, which threatens to take away residents' right to object to developments.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree _____ Strongly Agree

2 – I have studied the RZS to some depth and in my view, it does not appear to take away residents' right to object. Instead, it encourages local councils to develop strong, detailed and comprehensive planning policies, that incorporate some of the guidelines proposed by the government, so that council policies become unbeatable in front of any court.

Q5 Council should be a strong advocate for the community when dealing with government over how the city is to be developed.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree _____ Strongly Agree

5 – I strongly agree, again, a sound a strong planning policy is the best tool to influence State Government decisions.

Bike and Walking Paths – supporting residents' health and helping save the environment.

Q1 Council should establish a key department to address the issues of transport, bike and walking facilities, and the necessary links between them.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5

Strongly Disagree

Strongly Agree

5 – I strongly agree, however we should remember that public transport and road infrastructure are not solely within the jurisdiction of our council. It's a critical issue that affects the whole of Melbourne and Victoria. Local council should support any initiative and project aimed at improving all of the above.

Q2 Council should undertake a needs survey in this area.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5

Strongly Disagree

Strongly Agree

3 – Whether the survey is done or not, the services should be provided based on the number and the age of our population. We should assume that every one needs to be mobile, and not only by car.

Q3 Council should take on a stronger advocacy role with VicRoads and VicRail in order to meet community needs.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5

Strongly Disagree

Strongly Agree

5 – Strongly agree, definitely with Vic Rail (Connex) so that for example, car parks at stations are managed by local council officers, and with VicRoads in order to improve traffic flow in certain areas, changing red lights timing, right hand turns etc.

Q4 Council should require all major developments to provide secure bicycle parking areas, especially those at transport hubs.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5

Strongly Disagree

Strongly Agree

5 – Strongly agree, most commercial buildings in the CBD now offer secure bike racks under cover and this is certainly one of the conditions that must be included in the planning policy.

Traffic Management – regulating traffic on Monash's roads

Q1 Council should press for better planning by VicRoads to alleviate the 'grid lock' on the major roads in Monash.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5

Strongly Disagree

Strongly Agree

5 – Strongly agree. If public transport was fully functional, as I outlined above, then there should be less congestion on the roads

Q2 Council should invite the Bus Association and VicRoads to cooperate in addressing the traffic grid lock problems.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5

Strongly Disagree

Strongly Agree

5 – Strongly agree. Definitely, the Bus association is a key stakeholder in any decision about traffic management.

Q3 Council should ask VicRoads should be more pro-active in forcing cars and trucks to use the East Link freeway as a means of reducing traffic volumes on Springvale and Blackburn Roads.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree _____ Strongly Agree

4- Agree, especially heavy vehicle traffic should be diverted to the freeway, however local residents should be able to choose whether to be stuck in traffic in whichever route they want, or use alternative means of transportation.

Q4 Council should be pro-active in reducing 'rat runs' in local streets wherever residents ask them to do so.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree _____ Strongly Agree

5 – Strongly agree

Access for Disabled – addressing the needs of residents with disabilities.

Q1 Council should insist that a clear line of sight be maintained along the property line on footpaths for those residents with sight disabilities and wheel chair requirements.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree _____ Strongly Agree

5 – Strongly agree. Especially along footpaths in all shopping precincts, priority should be given to wheelchair and pram access rather than al fresco dining tables.

Q2 Council should negotiate with transport providers to ensure that all bus stops provide access for wheelchairs.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree _____ Strongly Agree

4 – I agree. I would recommend a study to identify the transport needs and locations of wheelchair bound people and ensure that all bus stops used by them are accessible by wheelchair. Ideally all bus stops should be accessible.

Q3 Council should join other shire and city councils in signing up to support the Victorian Universal Housing Alliance's platform for universally accessible and liveable housing in Victoria.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree _____ Strongly Agree

4 – I agree in principle.

Support for Neighbourhood Houses and Community Associations

Q1 Monash City Council should follow the lead of other Victorian shire and metropolitan councils in providing recurrent operational funding for Neighbourhood Houses and Community Learning Centres within its boundaries.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree _____ Strongly Agree

5 – I strongly agree. Our Council should be the leader in best practice and in the provision of services to the community. If other councils in Victoria are doing it then Monash should not lag behind.

Q2 Council should follow the lead of other Victorian shire and metropolitan councils in allowing the operations of Community Associations and other non-profit volunteer associations to be covered by council insurance.

0 _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
Strongly Disagree _____ Strongly Agree

5 – Strongly agree, for the same reason given above.

Other issues: I will act to introduce mandatory waste recycling for all businesses and entities operating in our city.

To maintain cleanliness in our city I will introduce special dog excrements containers around the city where people walk their dogs. Strict rules about dog hygiene in our street will be enforced.

I will also act to impose smoking restrictions within 7 metres of any doorway and under cover. This will apply especially to al fresco dining, where tables are leaning against the windows and smokers literally blow their smoke inside the venues. Heavy on-the-spot fines will be imposed on all cigarette butt litterers.

Responsibilities of Councillors – matters that all prospective councillors should consider

Q1 Are you willing to attend all meetings called by Council, except when prevented from doing so by personal or family emergency?

NO YES

Q2 Are you prepared to work together with other councillors to achieve community goals, if necessary across coalitions within Council?

NO YES

Q3 Are you willing to debate all issues of concern to residents in open Council?

NO YES

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