



Hume City Council

Survey conducted by Hume BUG, responses have been shared with Bicycle Network.

Aitken Ward

Candidate – Aitken Ward, Paul Campbell

1. Do you own or ride a bike?

Yes several; Masi 3VC road bike, Free Agent Speedway and GT Power Series Pro BMX (both race spec)

2. If yes, when you go out on your bike, where is your favourite place to ride?

Mostly recreational riding for me these past few years, bike trails, along the creeks and just general commuting over short (5-10km) distances

3. There has lately been a significant increase in cycling. Do you see this as an opportunity to encourage a shift to bikes as a form of transport, or should it be only a form of exercise?

Bikes are definitely a relevant form of transport

4. If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Hume City?

I'd like to see a greater effort made to promote cycling and encourage better driver etiquette towards cyclists as it's mostly the attitude of drivers in the Northern suburbs (combined with the annoying winds) that dampened my enthusiasm to ride more. Extending tracks to connect Craigieburn to Donnybrook would open up a lot more opportunity to cycle between towns in Hume as would incorporating more bike lanes into the much needed road upgrades forecast for Hume. Unfortunately I think the general attitude within the council as an organisation is that cycling is nothing more than a recreational activity and not a lot of weight is put on it being an alternative form of transport. At a recreational level I'd also be supportive of additional pump tracks being rolled out across the municipality as there seems to be a growing demand for BMX riders to have somewhere to ride.



Candidate – Aitken Ward, Taqdir Singh Deol

1. Do you own or ride a bike?

Yes I own a bike and I have three kids who love to ride bikes.

2. If yes, when you go out on your bike, where is your favourite place to ride?

I normally ride along Malcolm Creek are. Normally I like to ride in the morning.

3. There has lately been a significant increase in cycling. Do you see this as an opportunity to encourage a shift to bikes as a form of transport, or should it be only a form of exercise?

I am always a supporter of using bikes as a form of transport if you are working in the close proximity of your work.

4. If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Hume City?

If got elected I will advocate for more secure parking for the bikes around Hume business and shopping precincts and will advocate educational programmes for adults and kids re: safe riding. Please do not hesitate to contact me anytime if you have any further questions regarding this topic.



Candidate – Aitken Ward, Imad Hanna Hirmiz

1. Do you own or ride a bike?

I used to own a bike . Unfortunately I haven't ridden a bike for quite a while, but honestly I have been considering having one

If yes, when you go out on your bike, where is your favourite place to ride?

When I was riding my bike I used to ride along Hothlyn Road.

2. How often do you ride it and what sort of riding do you do?

Not often to be honest due to family and work commitment.

3. If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Hume City?

Lucky us that we live in this part of the town, Craigieburn and Roxburgh park which is considered an open area with lots of parks and wide footpaths. I encourage bike riding as a physical exercise and if shower facility at work is available, I would definitely encourage riding to work. I would support having more shared or dedicated bike routes across our city.



Candidate – Aitken Ward, Drew Jessop

1. Do you own or ride a bike?

Absolutely, a 'Specialized' hybrid

If yes, when you go out on your bike, where is your favourite place to ride? How often do you ride it and what sort of riding do you do?

As I am personally classified as 'at risk', I am not riding currently due to the Pandemic. This greatly benefits my dog, as this is a lower risk form of exercise at the moment, but will get back on my bike when safe to do so! My riding up to this point (for over 25 years) has been chiefly around Aitken Creek / Malcolm Creek pathways in Craigieburn, and down the Galada Tambore pathway towards Thomastown, and also the Broadmeadows Valley Park trail through to Broadmeadows.

There has lately been a significant increase in cycling. Do you see this as an opportunity to encourage a shift to bikes as a form of transport, or should it be only a form of exercise?

In the outer suburbs here, I have noticed a huge increase in recreational cycling, due to the impact of COVID, especially by family groups and children, which is a silver lining to this cloud. As much as I would think this may see a sustained increase in cycling, I am not sure this will be translated to transport, once the 5km limit is eased (as work for many is a long way distant) - but time will tell!

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Hume City?

I have been a councillor here for over 20 years, and we have overseen the wonderful pathway expansion from what was an isolated Craigieburn and Roxburgh Park, to residents now being able to interconnect within and between suburbs. I will continue this expansion in both established and newer areas for as long as I am on council. The next major link will be the north-south connection via Aitken Boulevard to connect Mickleham / Donnybrook Road estates, which I am pushing to occur within the next two years.

Thank you, Drew



Candidate – Aitken Ward, Carly Moore

1. Do you own or ride a bike?

Yes.

If yes, when you go out on your bike, where is your favourite place to ride? How often do you ride it and what sort of riding do you do?

This year has been a year like no other and I've found that I've had time for things that I normally wouldn't have time for - like riding my bike. My family and I live near Malcolm Creek and I like to take the kids there because it's close to home, there aren't many roads to cross and it's beautiful there.

There has lately been a significant increase in cycling. Do you see this as an opportunity to encourage a shift to bikes as a form of transport, or should it be only a form of exercise?

For many people bikes are used as a form of transport and I certainly support this. For many people, myself included, this is not practical. I normally have children in the car, I'm normally rushing around and I'm often carting around too many items to carry on my bike.

It's really about choice and lifestyle, but people need to be able to make that choice.

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Hume City?

The subject matter experts are those people who walk and ride regularly. I'll continue to work with all members of the community, listen to what they are saying and advocate for what matters to them.



Candidate – Aitken Ward, Abdul Osman

Hume BUG received the following response:

Good Day!

I ride a bike for exercise with my kids around Roxburgh park SC field and on Aitken Blvd. I support a healthy life for Hume resident therefore I will support any plan for better walk and bike path

I want our children to go to school on a bike ride and their parent to be ok with that I want city employee to ride their bike to the train station knowing there is enough bike park available



Candidate – Aitken Ward, Ravi Ragupathy

Hume BUG received the following response:

Thank you for your e mail. Much appreciated and respected. I support your survey and I will sign it.

In the meantime, I can meet you personally with 1.5 m social distancing with mask, I will meet you.

I suggest you something for mutual interest and benefits.



Candidate – Aitken Ward, Roshan Silva

Do you own &/or ride a bike? YES

If yes, when you go out on your bike, where is your favourite place to ride?

ROXBURGH PARK - SOUTHERN CROSS DR PATULOS DONALD CAMERON DR CIRCLE

How often do you ride it and what sort of riding do you do? ONCE A WEEK

There has lately been a significant increase in cycling. Do you see this as an opportunity to encourage a shift to bikes as a form of transport, or should it be only a form of exercise?
CERTAINLY

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Hume City?

ITS IN MY MANIFESTO SO SPORTS IS MY MAIN CONCERN



Jacksons Creek Ward

Candidate – Jacksons Creek Ward, Jarrod Bell

1. Do you own or ride a bike?

If yes, when you go out on your bike, where is your favourite place to ride? How often do you ride it and what sort of riding do you do?

As a scout leader with 1st Sunbury Scouts, my Scouts and I all enjoy taking part in Bike Hikes, these can be day trips or often multi day hikes. Our trips take us all over Sunbury, Melbourne and Country Vic. Rail trails seem to be particularly popular at the moment, we've been to the Bellerine, Warburton and even along the Goulburn River. Since the Pandemic I have also been using my bike more locally, something I wish to continue to do even after lockdown.

2. There has lately been a significant increase in cycling. Do you see this as an opportunity to encourage a shift to bikes as a form of transport, or should it be only a form of exercise?

Cycling is an important part of both physical recreation and our transport system. I am encouraged by the increase in people taking up cycling as a mode of transport when it works for them.

3. If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Hume City?

For me it's about options, not all cyclists want to or can use roads to get around, the increase in shared user paths around our city is important and I would like to see that investment in shared user infrastructure continue, to build missing links and to give people more options to get from a to b.



Candidate – Jacksons Creek Ward, Andrew Gould

Thanks for getting in touch.

Questions from Bicycle Network (I'd been meaning to send my answers through to them for weeks and have finally just sent their 3 answers back):

1. If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Hume?

If elected I would absolutely support increasing access for the residents of Hume, especially in the Jacksons Creek Ward, to walk or ride. This increase of access will come through my planned construction of footpaths, being built where they randomly stop, and upgrading footpaths along corridors that feed into Sunbury and Tullamarine through wider, safer co-shared bicycle pedestrian lanes, if not at a bare minimum, pedestrian footpaths.

2. When you go out on your bike, where is your favourite place to ride?

My favourite place to go for a ride is the Moonee Ponds Creek trail. I'm a big fan of it, but why should cyclists have to drive in excess of half an hour to go to a cycling trail when Council could construct more accessible trails?

3. Are you satisfied with the progress being made with your council's bike strategy?

Looking at the services provided, you wouldn't say Council has a bike strategy. We have bike lanes that randomly appear and disappear, and some bike lanes that are gravel at best. The off-road shared pathways have next to no signage available, and many road to off-road connections are hostile to cyclists. Clearly these paths are an afterthought to Council. We deserve better, we need results, not a document that sits on Council's website as a token.

In terms of your questions:

Do you own &/or ride a bike?

I own a hybrid bike. Under lockdown I've focused more on running than riding my bike.

If yes, when you go out on your bike, where is your favourite place to ride? How often do you ride it and what sort of riding do you do?

My favourite place is the 45km stretch from Strathmore to Williamstown via the Moonee Ponds Creek & Docklands. My second favourite is a tie between the Moonee Ponds Creek from Westmeadows, and starting in Avondale Heights around the Steele Creek path to then head along the Maribyrnong River. I did the 50km Around the Bay ride in 2017 and was intending on doing the 100km ride this year. I think we know how that went. As an avid runner I tend to reserve these paths more for cycling and try to get to those paths at least a few times per year to mix it all up.



There has lately been a significant increase in cycling. Do you see this as an opportunity to encourage a shift to bikes as a form of transport, or should it be only a form of exercise?

It's a fantastic opportunity to take cars off the road, and we really need to find good ways to do this. Some ideal paths near me are just paddocks which should have shared footpaths, others have service lanes that just stop prematurely (next to main roads with no bike lanes). This needs to be addressed for more people to get on their bikes. Destinations like shopping districts have very few opportunities to securely leave bikes, which has discouraged me at times.

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Hume City?

We need to make sure we have good quality paths available that can be used to get to and from common destinations. Where space is available we should have bike lanes continue rather than forcing cyclists onto dangerous twin lane 60kph stretches of road. There are too many cases where poor decisions like this have been made, discouraging people from riding. As it's important to me, this will be a big priority to me if elected.



Candidate – Jacksons Creek Ward, John Karagiannidis

I own and ride a bike

Favourite riding locations are nature paths in municipality

Biking should be encouraged as an alternative mode of transport.

If elected I will advocate for more bike tracks in Hume



Meadow Valley Ward

Candidate – Meadow Valley Ward, Joe Aguilus

Do you own &/or ride a bike?

I ride an indoor bike as part of my aerobics session as I need to keep myself fit and healthy. However, I must admit that I gained some weight during this lockdown as it prevented me from going for a swim, no aerobics session, no gym session and I can't wait to go back to it again safely soon.

If yes, when you go out on your bike, where is your favourite place to ride? How often do you ride it and what sort of riding do you do?

During this pandemic, I only walk around the block for about an hour and use my bike indoor.

There has lately been a significant increase in cycling. Do you see this as an opportunity to encourage a shift to bikes as a form of transport, or should it be only a form of exercise?

I am a strong advocate of health and fitness and hence, I would like to see people physically active by cycling, walking, swimming, and play other forms of sports to keep physically active, and it would be great if more people can also cycle as part their transport requirements as it is also good for the environment.

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Hume City?

By improving road safety for all users i.e. adding more signage and allocating more cycling paths. Promoting the use of safety equipment while on the road for cyclist and working collaboratively with other agencies to create awareness about road safety for all.

Are you satisfied with the progress being made with your council's bike strategy?

In my view, we need a better strategy to encourage more people to use bikes outdoor safely.



Candidate – Meadow Valley Ward, Chris Hollow

Do you own &/or ride a bike? Yes (both road and mountain bike)

If yes, when you go out on your bike, where is your favourite place to ride? How often do you ride it and what sort of riding do you do?

Mountain bike: ride through the streets of Westmeadows utilising the bike tracks.

Road bike - along Mickleham road up through Craigieburn.

There has lately been a significant increase in cycling. Do you see this as an opportunity to encourage a shift to bikes as a form of transport, or should it be only a form of exercise?

If possible and where practical. I feel trying to utilise the bike tracks as much as possible is where the people of Hume need to advantage of. I am not sure how many people know about our tracks.

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Hume City?

Encourage, promote, and show people how advantages it is to get out and get active, irrespective if your on a bike or on your feet.



Candidate – Meadow Valley Ward, Naim Kurt

1. Do you own or ride a bike?

Yes a Scott Mountain bike and a Cannondale road bike.

If yes, when you go out on your bike, where is your favourite place to ride? How often do you ride it and what sort of riding do you do?

I ride quite often. Have done the Around the Bay ride, Ride for a Cure for Diabetes in the Barossa Valley in South Australia. Regularly mountain bike ride at different courses in Lilydale and Youyangs which was the most recent ride. Love to ride to the city along the Moonee ponds creek trail and through the inner suburbs and Brighton.

There has lately been a significant increase in cycling. Do you see this as an opportunity to encourage a shift to bikes as a form of transport, or should it be only a form of exercise?

I am happy to encourage everyone to ride, and support anyone who wishes to make Hume City a more bike friendly city.

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Hume City?

Continue supporting and pushing for measures for lane separation for bicycles, extension of bicycle tracks particularly the Merri creek trail. Have advocated for a push pump park and want to see more bmx tracks and potentially an indoor skate park for bmx use constructed in Hume. I will also support education programs and training classes for people wanting to get involved in cycling on how to keep safe and maintain a bicycle.

Any other issues or suggestions please don't hesitate to make contact.

Hope this helps, thanks.



Candidate – Meadow Valley Ward, Sam Misho

Do you own &/or ride a bike? YES

If yes, when you go out on your bike, where is your favorite place to ride? How often do you ride it and what sort of riding do you do?

Personally, I like to ride my bike, along Aitken Blvd and along the lake in Craigieburn. There has lately been a significant increase in cycling.

Do you see this as an opportunity to encourage a shift to bikes as a form of transport, or should it be only a form of exercise?

This could be difficult, due to the significant increase in motor vehicle use, unless there is a designated and safe bike tracks, ensuring safety of the riders.

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Hume City?

I believe there must an allowance for both and transfer the freedom of choice to the resident. All roads must be wide enough to accommodate for bike riders and walkers, with lights and CCTV Cameras.



Candidate – Meadow Valley Ward, Vikein Mouradian

(The following information was received over several items of communications with Hume BUG, over a period of time.)

“Glad you asked. In fact one of my policies for Gladstone park is to extend the bicycle tracks around Gladstone park and paint them green. I have written this on my candidate statement. “

I don't have a bike. But if you read my candidate statement which is on the Victorian Electoral Commission website you will see that I have specifically advocated for an extension of bicycle tracks in Gladstone park which I am going to paint GREEN. This is a specific promise on bicycles that I have made because I want to make bikes or bike use not just for exercise only but as a way of life. It's part of my plan to make the council greener a green municipality. That doesn't mean that I support the greens but I want to reduce the carbon footprint in Hume. There are many places in Hume that could be used for bike tracks but Gladstone park is a good place to start because it is an enclosed community. It is compact. And more bike use in Gladstone park would also increase social connectedness between residents.

Candidate for Meadow Valley Ward Hume City Council Vikein Mouradian.

PS I am the only candidate that has advocated specifically for an extension of bicycle tracks in Gladstone park. This promise is contained in my candidate's statement which is published on the Victorian Electoral Commission website.

Hullo additional statement.

If elected you asked as to how I would encourage greater bike use in Hume City Council. I propose that all interested bike users be encouraged to register with council as bike owners. All those who register as such will be given a council voucher which entitles them to 10% off ALL council recreational centres such as the Broadmeadows sports centre and the newly opened Craigieburn sports centre.

Candidate for Meadow Valley Ward Hume City Council local elections Vikein Mouradian.

So obviously I had bikes in my mind when I nominated for Hume City Council elections. Best wishes to you.



Candidate – Meadow Valley Ward, Karen Sherry

1. Do you own or ride a bike?

I own a bike but don't ride it.

If yes, when you go out on your bike, where is your favourite place to ride? How often do you ride it and what sort of riding do you do?

NA

There has lately been a significant increase in cycling.

I would need to consult the latest research on what demographic group and in what parts of Melbourne - I suspect uptake is predominant amongst inner Melbourne white collar workers.

Do you see this as an opportunity to encourage a shift to bikes as a form of transport, or should it be only a form of exercise?

Optimum levels of distance from work, occupation and residential location would need to be studied. For example it doesn't work with tradies who need to carry tools etc,

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Hume City?

I supported the Meadowlink shared path and would support a similar pathway in my ward based on solid research.



Candidate – Meadow Valley Ward, Sheriden Tate

Do you own &/or ride a bike?

If yes, when you go out on your bike, where is your favourite place to ride? How often do you ride it and what sort of riding do you do?

There has lately been a significant increase in cycling. Do you see this as an opportunity to encourage a shift to bikes as a form of transport, or should it be only a form of exercise?

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Hume City?

I do own a bike but I don't ride it, my daughter has taken it over.

One of the reasons I don't ride it is I'm not confident about riding on the road so I definitely think there should be more bike paths around Hume and bike paths that interconnect not only in Hume but that link to bike paths in surrounding suburbs and I fully support the Upfield bike path actually coming to Upfield. Bike riding is definitely on the increase even more so now due to COVID. As I said my daughter has been using my bike and she and her boyfriend have regularly been using cycling as their 1 hour exercise regime and now often cycle to go to the shops rather than drive. I think cycling has played an important part in the mental and wellbeing space.

We've seen through COVID how air quality has improved with the reduction of cars and planes and given the number of people that have turned to cycling during this time it does provide a platform to encourage the shift to cycling as a regular form of transport.

We do need more and improved walking and cycling tracks around Hume, alongside more parks and open spaces. COVID has really highlighted how important these facilities are to the community's health and wellbeing and how provision of such can also have a positive environmental effect. If elected I would encourage council to invest in these important infrastructures and I would work with residents to identify where need is and advocate for them.



Candidate – Meadow Valley Ward, Joseph Youhana

Do you own &/or ride a bike?

YES I own, and I ride usually

If yes, when you go out on your bike, where is your favourite place to ride? How often do you ride it and what sort of riding do you do?

I go around the local parks in Roxburgh park, Meadow HTS and Craigieburn. i ride twice a week

There has lately been a significant increase in cycling. Do you see this as an opportunity to encourage a shift to bikes as a form of transport, or should it be only a form of exercise?

Yes I encourage to improve the bike's ride paths as a way to reach to work

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Hume City?

Yes i will advocate