



Port Phillip City Council

Canal Ward

Candidate, Canal Ward – Steven Armstrong

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

I would continue the current bike and walk strategy on the proviso that we don't lose car parking. For instance the plan for Tennyson street could enforce blocked streets and less parking. The area is already congested. These measures force women to park far from their homes at night. An issue that has been raised with me.

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

I don't ride a bicycle. My partner rides from Elwood to Prahran every work day. I ride motorcycles.

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

Yes, although Fitzroy Street is still a debacle.

Lastly, what initiatives have you seen locally or abroad that if introduced would provide a more sustainable and liveable community?

The main issue is garbage disposal. We need green waste and composable bins. Continued work towards a Carbon Neutral City in 27/28.

The Covid Crisis has shown how high density living is unsafe and urban consolidation must be stopped. In addition the Urban Heat Island effect will be much worse with 50% more population.

All the best,
Steven



Candidate, Canal Ward – Cr Tim Baxter

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

I will support the goals of Port Phillip's "Move Connect Live" integrated transport strategy, with the goal of reducing car use by large amounts over the next decade. However, I think we will need to adjust the plan as it places a lot of emphasis on public transport, which due to the virus is now expected to have a big drop in usership. As a result, we should increase the targets for walk and bike infrastructure to compensate.

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

The section of the Bay Trail that runs between St Kilda and Port Melbourne. Beautiful views, an easy ride, what's more to love?

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

No. That's why I supported a motion recently to amend the budget to increase funding for bike projects by \$600,000, in order to capture the uptick in bike usage and cement it for the long term. There is more to do, and I hope to do it on the next term of Council if re-elected.



Candidate, Canal Ward – Louise Crawford

Response received to an email sent by a Bicycle Network member:

Hi Shane

Hope you are well.

Regarding cycling - we committed more money in this budget to increase bike paths and safety. The big project that we have been working with the state govt on (but it is very slow to deliver) is a central bike lane on St Kilda road to the city.

We need people to walk and ride more to help with congestion but also better health outcomes. We are constantly looking to where we can improve paths and streetscapes to encourage this.

I love walking and not so much biking but we need to do more. The challenge is retrofitting bike paths in a highly built up area. People do not like giving up any car parking so it is a difficult process.

There is much more to do with the bike strategy but as I said when many people don't have off street parking and parking is always difficult to find, it is a slower process of behaviour change. We need to slowly help people adapt and over time, I think people will not be so attached to owning cars esp with improvements in ride sharing etc.

Well the big reform re sustainability is around waste - we are working with the state govt to reform that - that's a big game changer. People planting on verges and just more greening of the neighbourhood is a big win-win.

If you have any ideas, please let me know. Always interested to learning more and thinking outside the box.

Louise



Candidate, Canal Ward – Dick Gross

I am a lifelong cycling advocate who has supported BNV for decades. I have been a Ride to Work Ambassador. I have promoted active transport with more vigour than most. I am the only daily rider councillor or candidate running in Canal Ward.

I have supported numerous strategic transport strategies and on going changes to cycling in Port Phillip. And I am brave in my defence of cycling, as I am the councillor who rode straight into the heart of darkness and took on the opponents of the Inkerman Street Bike Lane. I was so persuasive that I neutralised that issue for Council.

I fought and won the extension of the Bay Trail into the new St Kilda Marina Lease as part of opening up the site to the public, and I will be the councillor fighting for Victoria's first lifting bike bridge over the Marina entrance.

My favourite bike path is the very dangerous but very picturesque St Kilda Rd bike path, and as a Labor councillor I have been actively lobbying my state colleagues to bring forward the completion of the new St Kilda Road Bike Lane project.

You know I live cycling: in so many of my photo opportunities as Mayor I was wearing my bike gear, as that's how I got there. You can't advocate without embracing active transport.

Dick Gross
Labor Candidate for Canal Ward
City of Port Phillip



Candidate, Canal Ward – Leslie Pianella

Do you own a bike and if you do, where is your favourite place to ride?

Yes, along the Bay Trail!

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Port Phillip Council?

I'm committed to advocating for the implementation of safe, protected and compliant bicycle infrastructure on Inkerman Street, Carlisle Street, Balaclava to Elwood via Dickens Street, St Kilda to Elwood Beach via Mitford Street and Broadway and St Kilda Botanical Gardens to Elsterwick Park via Tennyson Street.

I'm also committed to upgrading footpaths, walkways and paths where required.

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

No.

Will you support progressive initiatives such as outdoor dining, slower speeds, pop-up bike lanes, parklets etc. as a way to help businesses recover from COVID-19?

Yes!



Gateway Ward

Candidate, Gateway Ward – Heather Cunsolo

Thank you for reaching out. I am a keen cyclist.

Do you own a bike and if you do, where is your favourite place to ride?

I have two bikes. Although my road bike has been used far less since having children, I still get out every other weekend for a long ride with my friend. My other bike is a commuter with a baby seat affixed for the past 8 years. We get out on many family rides. It is easy for us to travel on bike paths and footpaths given the kids are under 12 years old but I do worry about the riding conditions once they get older.

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Port Phillip Council?

There are numerous locations where the bike path or lane end suddenly. It makes riding dangerous and confusing where to go at times. We need to look at the small fixes for consistency and quality of the existing network, while planning for larger projects partnered with State funding.

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

One of the last Council meetings delivered a big win for bike riders but more consistently needs to be done. This can't be only paid for by ratepayers. I am keen to keep working with all levels of government to keep bicycle riding a priority.

Will you support progressive initiatives such as outdoor dining, slower speeds, pop-up bike lanes, parklets etc. as a way to help businesses recover from COVID-19?

Absolutely. If we focus on the positives of Covid, people shifted their ways to embrace local and many dusted off their bikes. Especially with the good weather coming, being outdoors and trying to be back together will be a great aspect of the recovery.



Candidate, Gateway Ward – Stan Gyles

Received in response to a direct email from Bicycle Network:

I am particularly delighted to respond to your email.

I am a bike rider and regularly cycle from South Melbourne along Beach Road to Mordialloc and return for a well earned coffee.

I have also done the around the bays annual ride and love the challenge of the Dandenongs. Needless to say I enjoyed the Tour de France albeit the 1 hour replay.

I will certainly be supportive of any initiatives to improve or create better cycling, walking environment within Port Phillip.

I am not fully conversant with the current council strategy but will support any issues you may have.

Anything to improve physical activity and recreation which will support the challengers facing local business post COVIT-19 and beyond.



Candidate, Gateway Ward – Earl James

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

I am passionate about cycling and getting more people to have the option to cycle. As the Greens candidate in Gateway Ward I am committed to improving cycling infrastructure. Over many years of teaching I have seen many and few students ride and walk to school. When I taught in The Netherlands, almost all students rode their bikes to school irrespective of the weather. The last school I taught at in Melbourne with some 1600 students, only had a handful ride their bikes to school. This sedentary lifestyle sees our young suffering from health problems such as obesity and diabetes. This must change.

At the other end of the spectrum, my 82-year-old mother-in-law cycles everywhere but she lives in North Holland. She can do so because the infrastructure permits it. Through cycling she can lead an engaged, healthy lifestyle.

The City of Port Phillip is ideal terrain for cycle. It is flat and our climate is relatively mild. I will do all I can to improve cycling options, especially for school aged students.

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

I love the ride along the beach from Port Melbourne to St Kilda and Elwood. In the other direction having the Westgate punt there, once you've gone through the picturesque parkland, is a great way to access the west. It is worth noting that the Greens saved the punt from closure by the Liberal government in 2013.

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

No, I always want to see us do better with cycling infrastructure. I want Port Phillip to emulate the great cycling cities of Amsterdam and Copenhagen. Recently, the Greens on Port Phillip Council secured funding for new cycle infrastructure of \$680,000. This was a great win for us all. If elected I will ensure this funding is used to build good cycling infrastructure and seek to extend it in the future.

This crisis has shown us the importance of cycling and we should not miss the opportunity we have. Once people have tasted the freedom of cycling, they won't look back.



Candidate, Gateway Ward – Peter Martin

Received in response to a direct email from Bicycle Network:

I have been riding a bike around Port Phillip and its predecessor Councils for almost sixty years, although I'm walking more these days, with my GPS averaging 10km a day lately (in my two hours of permitted daily exercise).

In pre-pandemic times, the Brighton to Port Melbourne bike path was a favourite, although a trip along the Main Yarra Trail to Eltham followed by a return by road filled in a Spring Sunday very nicely.

A few years ago, I tried cycling to work along St Kilda Rd for a while but soon decided it was too dangerous.

As I increase my walking, I'm observing a conflict between provision for cyclists and for pedestrians on many of the major trails.

I'm also aware of the conflicting demands of home owners wanting parking spaces in front of their properties and cyclists wanting safe dedicated cycle lanes.

There is a need for a variety of COVID-19 recovery issues to assist local businesses, with outdoor dining and pop-up parklets (with local speed restrictions) and a range of other initiatives all worth of consideration.



Lake Ward

Candidate, Lake Ward – Geoffrey Conaghan

Do you own a bike and if you do, where is your favourite place to ride?

Yes I own a bike and our household is car-free. We have not had a car for years. We are also public transport users and supporters. Our bikes have baskets and panniers and are used mainly for shopping.

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Port Phillip Council?

Firstly, an overarching policy of residents and traders first in all Council decisions. We need clear policy commitments to improved commuter and recreational cycling and walking paths.

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

Not really. We have a number of paths with insufficient separation of pedestrians / bicycles / cars.

Will you support progressive initiatives such as outdoor dining, slower speeds, pop-up bike lanes, parklets etc. as a way to help businesses recover from COVID-19?

Yes, and if successful I'll advocate for retention.



Candidate, Lake Ward – Katherine Copsy

Please see below my candidate statement on bikes in Port Phillip. I'm a candidate seeking re-election in Lake ward. Thanks very much for highlighting the importance of support for cyclists as part of the council elections and standing up for people who ride.

All the best,
Katherine

My bike (in combination with walking and PT) is my main form of transportation. I am very lucky that my commute from my home in Albert Park to St Kilda Town Hall along the Bay Trail is one of my favourite places to ride... though of course that can depend on whether or not I've got a tailwind!

During my first term on Council I have been a staunch advocate for better biking infrastructure, particularly safe separated lanes. I'm proud of the vision for better walking and riding routes that's set out in Council's Move, Connect, Live Integrated Transport Strategy and I want to see this implemented. I'd like to see faster progress on active and sustainable transport in our city - it's one of the most beautiful places to ride in the state and it should be one of the safest and most fun, too. There are too many areas that currently pose a high risk or feel unsafe for people who ride, this needs to be fixed. Where we need State partnership in order to see solutions implemented I'll continue to be a strong advocate for that, too.

I definitely support outdoor dining, slower speeds, pop-up bike lanes, parklets and other streets-for-people initiatives to help with COVID-19 recovery. Council has already made some progress in implementing these and I'd love to see this continue for the health of our local community and our high streets!



Candidate, Lake Ward – Adrian Jackson

Do you own a bike and if you do, where is your favourite place to ride?

I own a bike but have not ridden it for years and prefer to drive or walk to the shops. I am 68 now. I don't have a favourite place for bikes but Richardson St is safe, wide and flat and near my place. We don't need white bike symbols painted on the road either.

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Port Phillip Council?

Riding and walking are very easy in Port Phillip already.

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

Yes, and bike lanes work well in Beaconsfield Pde but interfering with council street or over engineering can be an issue and cost money needlessly. Bikes can move on the council road OK as they are and have done so for 100 years. Remember everything costs ratepayers' money and my rate went up \$300.00 this year to \$5711 which is a rip-off.

Will you support progressive initiatives such as outdoor dining, slower speeds, pop-up bike lanes, parklets etc. as a way to help businesses recover from COVID-19?

Yes, in fact I suggest to the council 10 years ago to reduce speed limits in residential street to 40 kph even though I am a car driver but the mostly left-wing council back then did nothing and the 40 kph limit only occurred with government instance.

I have lived in Port Phillip since 1980 and nothing has changed in my Richardson Street for cars and bikes and it's all OK too. That is partly why I bought my house here with excellent 90-degree parking (4 spaces) for me and others plus a rear lane for access to garages and rubbish removal trucks.

Regards, Adrian Jackson. Candidate for Lake Ward



Candidate, Lake Ward – Bernard Mandile

Do you own a bike and if you do, where is your favourite place to ride?

Yes I do own a bike and my children too. WE have been enjoying many bike rides along the Beach path to Princess pier and all the way to Garden City.

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Port Phillip Council?

Im committed to making safe bike paths, where it doesn't interfere with traffic, takes away parking and keeping footpath safe so we can all use these facilities. I will look for roads that are not popular and will be safe for riders.

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

No, I think there's always room to improve - seeing kids ride to school safely would be great and not taking parking away from residence and traders.

Will you support progressive initiatives such as outdoor dining, slower speeds, pop-up bike lanes, parklets etc. as a way to help businesses recover from COVID-19?

Yes I do support things that will help business recover from COVID-19. We are lucky to live in a great City so we can enjoy all the different facilities that Port Phillip has to offer.



Candidate, Lake Ward – Denis Nyaguy

Do you own a bike and if you do, where is your favourite place to ride?

I've been a regular cyclist since I was a kid and use my bike to ride to work (not since COVID!) and also for leisure including during summer when I compete in triathlons. My favourite place to ride is along the bay trail (I'd like to see the section between Brookes Jetty and West Pavilion due to it not being separated and safe).

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Port Phillip Council?

If elected, I will be a strong and active promoter of active transport in our community. I have spoken and lobbied the current Council to support active transport and develop better strategic transport strategies and on going changes to bolster cycling in Port Phillip. While a member of the St Kilda Marina Community Panel I fought and succeed in ensuring the Bay Trail was extended along the Marina Peninsula and that the new St Kilda Marina ensure that the current Car/Foot/Bike conflicts on the site were resolved.

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

No. I think Port Phillip have been too slow in the rollout of new protected bike lanes and other active transport infrastructure.

Will you support progressive initiatives such as outdoor dining, slower speeds, pop-up bike lanes, parklets etc. as a way to help businesses recover from COVID-19?

I support all of those options and want to see our Council be bold in investing in active transport infrastructure we know will make our community a better, safe and more health one for all residents. I think Council has failed to use the opportunity presented by COVID to rollout temporary protected bike lanes as has occurred in the City of Melbourne. I will work to ensure that better more protected bike lanes and better footpaths are core to Council's COVID response.



Candidate, Lake Ward – Roger Ward

Do you own a bike and if you do, where is your favourite place to ride?

I own three. A mountain bike, road bike and commuter. My favourite place to ride is in the mountains. I have been cycling just about everyday since I was 4!

If elected, how will you support making it easier for people to walk and ride in Port Phillip Council?

Absolutely this is one of my key policies. One of my frustrations is crossing Kingsway and St Kilda road, I want to improve the safety for cyclists here.

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

They are trying but I feel it needs somebody who rides everyday to really understand the issues.

Will you support progressive initiatives such as outdoor dining, slower speeds, pop-up bike lanes, parklets etc. as a way to help businesses recover from COVID-19?

Absolutely the more the better!