



# Hobart Council Candidate Statements

## Ryan Posselt

Members of Bicycle Network Tasmania,

I am a strong advocate for improved cycling infrastructure in Hobart City. For years I have cycled for commuting, exercise and recreation. I am a road cyclist and a mountain biker and my two year old has developed a love for balance bike riding.

I recognise the many benefits of cycling to both individual and community. As individuals, cycling keeps us happier and healthier. It decreases the burden of disease as we age and keeps us moving. Lessening our need for complex health management. For the community, the benefits are multifactorial. Cycling reduces congestion. Every commuter is one less car on the road meaning journey times are faster for those that must drive. By replacing cars with bikes, air pollution and noise in the CBD is reduced making the city a more pleasant place to be. The more people riding bikes, the less we need to spend on maintaining expensive road infrastructure. Riding bikes keeps people out of hospitals in the long run, decreasing the burden on the health system. Improved health outcomes also decrease sick days, which improves economic productivity. The benefits of cycling cannot be overstated.

What is more, traditional barriers to cycling are being stripped down by technological advancements. The evolution of e-bikes and cargo e-bikes has taken the pain out of going up hill. Have a look next time you are in south Hobart – spot the number of people gaining significant elevation at 25km/h, in work clothes, with kids on the back. The game has changed!

If elected to Hobart City Council, I will be strong advocate for cycling infrastructure, both for commuting and recreation, including mountain biking infrastructure. Coming from a health background, I believe in best practice, evidence and expert advice. I am a consumer of cycling infrastructure, not an expert.

Bicycle Network Tasmania forms an important part of the mix as both expert and advocate body. In principle, I support the recommendations of the Tasmanian Bicycle Council's 2019 report for bi-directional separated cycleways in Hobart CBD. If elected, I will listen to the experts, look at the evidence and work to implement tailored solutions to Hobart that provides optimal cycling infrastructure. This includes working toward a Battery Point Walkway to provide safe, practical and pretty passage from Sandy Bay into the city. And as micro-mobility devices, such as e-scooters, continue to gain popularity the time has never been better to build a cohesive network of dedicated infrastructure



for bikes, e-bikes and micro-mobility devices.

Build it and they will come!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Posselt".



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*Ryan Posselt*  
*Hobart City Candidate 2022*

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