

Moreland Bicycle User Group - Council Candidates Survey 2016

The Moreland Bicycle User Group (BUG) is conducting a survey of candidates for Moreland in the 2016 Council election to inform members of candidates' attitudes to cycling.

The survey should take no more than 5 minutes.

Your name *

Mark Riley

Your party affiliation (or Independent) *

The Greens

How often do you ride a bicycle? *

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- Never
- Other:

Are you a member of any cycling organisations?

- Brunswick Cycling Club
- Coburg Cycling Club
- Melbourne Bicycle Touring Club
- Moreland BUG
- Bicycle Network (formerly Bicycle Victoria)
- Other BUG
- Other:

Which of the following are you familiar with?

- Brunswick Shimmy
- Craigieburn Shared Path (along Craigieburn railway corridor)
- Merri Creek Path
- O'Hea Street Bike Path
- Upfield Shared Path (along Upfield railway corridor)
- Other: other shimmies around Brunswick which avoid the main roads eg., Ewing, Minnie, Barrow etc.

What is your perception of bicycle safety in Moreland? *

- About right
- Not very safe
- Very unsafe

- Other:

Safety for cyclists in Moreland is varied. We have some areas, like the Southern section of the Upfield Bike Path, that are well-lit and signed. However there are other areas that aren't safe -- especially Sydney Road and the northern part of the Upfield Bike Path. There are significant safety issues for people riding bikes in Moreland and with the increasing number of riders, it will only become a bigger issue if the necessary protections are not addressed. To ensure the safety of riders there needs to be appropriate infrastructure, clear signage, separation from motorised traffic and high-quality lighting. Though the level of bike safety is varied across Moreland, the Greens know commuter and recreational sections of the municipality which require urgent attention. Moreland City Council needs to create a robust and coordinated relationship with VicRoads and VicTrack in order to progress many bicycle related projects - areas of significant concern are along Cumberland Road, Gaffney Street, Sydney Road, Box Forest Road and the Upfield Shared Path.

Road safety, environmental sustainability, greenhouse emissions and public health & obesity are important public policy issues which are influenced by decisions you will make if you are elected. Do you see bicycle riding helping to solve any of these problems? *

- Unrelated
- Some
- Significant part of the solution

- Other:

Absolutely - cycling provides the social and physical stimulation core to the health and well being of people and society. We know bicycle groups, the Moreland BUG, host regular social rides which provide support for new riders, integrating social and physical activities for all to attend. This is a very important and valued activity adding to the public policy issues listed above.

Do you think that the best solution to road traffic congestion is: *

- Building more roads
- Providing sustainable transport options such as public transport and safer cycling that take cars off the road
- Other: Providing real alternative sustainable transport options, such as high-quality integrated public transport, safer pedestrian links and safer cycling infrastructure which aims to promote a mode shift to a more active transport. This will ultimately take more cars off the road.

What is the most appropriate traffic speed for our local streets to ensure safety for all users? *

- 30 km/h
- 40 km/h
- 50 km/h
- 60 km/h
- Other: 40 kmh across the municipality with lower speeds in our local streets.

The Moreland Bicycle Strategy

(<http://www.moreland.vic.gov.au/globalassets/key-docs/policy-strategy-plan/bicycle-strategy-2011-21.pdf>) states that "To deliver these projects Council will need to increase funding commitments beyond historic levels [\$5 per resident] and commit to increasing bicycle expenditure in response to growth in cyclist numbers, population and inflation." In your view is \$5 per resident: *

- Too much
- About right
- Not enough
- Other:

What is the role of Council and Councillor decisions in promoting cycling in Moreland? *

- None/there are other priorities to focus on
- Minimal - happy to lend passive support for projects funded by others
- Moderate
- Major - cycling is a local issue with significant local benefits
- Other:

Where do you see the role of cycling in Moreland in four years and what would your contribution to that be? Don't forget to press "SUBMIT" when you have finished. Thanks for you participation! *

Cycling is a great way to get around -- it cuts pollution and congestion, helps the environment and improves the health of our city. Moreland has a very active cycling culture and Council has a responsibility to ensure cycling is as safe and accessible as possible.

The Greens will increase funding on cycleways and walkways by 50%. This will enable Council to implement the Moreland Bicycle Strategy 2011-2021 including: completing the upgrade and lighting of the Upfield bike path; completing gaps in the Merri creek trail; improving bicycle parking at train stations and throughout the city and continuing to ensure developers integrate bicycle facilities into new dwellings.

The Greens will also advocate for more separated bikes lanes for safer travel, including on Sydney Road.

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