

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 *

Natalie Abboud

Your party affiliation (or Independent) *

The Australian 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: No, But I am ready to join!

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: my in laws live in Craigieburn and as soon as our 5 year old is ready, we plan to conquer the Craigieburn Shared Path.

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:

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:

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:

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:

The Greens have been working hard on Council to get a robust costing of bicycle infrastructure spend, so a true \$/person can be determined. We are committed to using the Bicycle Expenditure Index (BiXE), from Bicycle Network, to benchmark Council's bike spend. The previous Greens councillors were instrumental in boosting the \$/person in previous budgets beyond \$5 and will continue to do so as we feel that is not an adequate amount given the increased use of bikes in Moreland.

<https://www.bicyclenetwork.com.au/general/policy-and-campaigns/2550/>

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:
 - Cycling is a great way to get around – it cuts pollution and congestion, helps the environment and improves the health of ourselves and 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 hasten the implement the Moreland Bicycle Strategy 2011-2021 including: completing the upgrade and lighting of the Upfield Shared 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, Cumberland Road and Gaffney Street. We realise the relationship between Council and VicRoads and VicTrack needs to be strong and will work towards developing and maintaining those links.

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! *

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