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COMPLETE

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Page 1: 2020 Moreland Council Candidate climate survey

Q1

Candidate Name

Jacob Andrewartha

Q2

South Ward

Contesting Which Moreland Ward?

Q3

Are you a candidate for a political party? Which Party?
Or are you standing as an Independent candidate?

Sue Bolton Community Independants,
Other (please specify):
member of socialist alliance

Q4

If you are receiving campaign funding for this election, who are you receiving funding from? (list all or state 'None')

Electrical Trades Union and Socialist Alliance and then small individual donations from candidates and supporters.

Q5

Connections to Moreland Wards. I am a resident in:

South Ward,
Other (please specify Municipality where you live):
I live in Coburg

Q6

What are your other connections to Moreland wards

I am employed in

South Ward, North East Ward, North West Ward

I am a community advocate in

South Ward, North East Ward

Other (please specify) If you have other connections to Moreland, please state the ward(s) and the connection(s) briefly in 100 characters.

I've had involvement in locality-based activist groups such as Extinction Rebellion Moreland, Free Speech Moreland and Upfield Transport Alliance. I've also occasionally worked casually at schools as a after school care assistant in schools such as Fawcner, Brunswick, Coburg and Pascoe Vale.

Q7

Triple bottom line accounting brings to account three domains that we need for a good life. They are economic, environmental and social which includes health. Do you commit as a Councillor for Council to use triple bottom line accounting on all Council infrastructure projects and will you try to ensure that climate emergency is embedded in every Manager's performance plan?

(no label)

Agree with reservations

Q8

Transport: Upfield Rail Upgrade - Problems with parking and traffic congestion, capacity issues of public transport (once the pandemic passes) necessitate solutions for upgrading the Upfield Line. According to Infrastructure Australia, the northern region Transport Corridor will reach and exceed capacity in the next decade. Will you support duplication and extension of the Upfield rail line to Craigieburn and Wallan for provision of a more reliable and frequent rail service catering for the growing population in Moreland and residents in new growth suburbs further north?

(no label)

Strongly Agree

Q9

Transport: Tram Network Extension: As a Councillor will you support ongoing advocacy for the Victorian State Government to extend the No 58 West Coburg Tram along Derby street in Pascoe Vale, and No 19 North Coburg tram routes further north along Sydney Road to Campbellfield?

(no label)

Strongly Agree

Q10

Transport: Mode shift - What actions will you be pushing for to facilitate a mode shift to more sustainable modes of transport in Moreland as part of, or beyond, Moreland Integrated Transport Strategy (MITS), including changes to parking restrictions, increasing public transport advocacy, cycling and walking infrastructure?

If elected I'll push for solutions that have the biggest impact on reducing car usage which include advocating for increased public transport availability, safe cycling paths, pedestrian safety and the proximity of shops and parks.

International experience shows that when public transport frequency increases, people begin to opt for it and leave cars behind.

When public transport increases in frequency and span of hours, people do use it and leave cars behind. That is the international experience. Cars only got entrenched in western society when public transport got destroyed. A huge amount of public transport was destroyed in Australia in order to force people to buy cars and become reliant on cars.

The opportunities raised by this pandemic is there has being a trend of a massive increase in people cycling is that we need to increase the council budget for safe cycling paths, both making current cycling paths safer, and constructing new cycling paths.

Sue Bolton Moreland Team are strongly committed to finishing the Craigieburn shared path, building the missing link in the Upfield shared path between Box Forest Rd and the M80, creating a Fawkner shimmy and building the Glenroy to Coburg bike route.

Moreland Council needs to step up in it's advocacy around public transport, rather than just cheering it's current output of public transport which is clearly not enough to serve the needs of all Moreland residents.

The Upfield line must be duplicated with increased frequency at peak hour and throughout the day and night on both train lines. The Route 19 tram line should be extended to Campbellfield. The Route 58 tram line should be extended to Boundary road, all bus routes should be in sync with train routes from the first train to the last train. There is also a need to install more seats and shelters at bus stops to encourage bus use.

All bus routes need to operate at night and throughout the weekend. There is also a need to install more seats and shelters at bus stops to encourage bus use.

The tram routes need to have an increased frequency during the daytime and at night to alleviate overcrowding.

There also needs to be more pedestrian crossings, especially on busy roads so that people feel safe to walk around their neighbourhoods.

Q11

Heat Vulnerability: Large sections of Moreland's north are at the extreme end of the Heat Vulnerability Index, meaning residents are very susceptible to global warming. What will you do to address this beyond existing policies, including Moreland Urban Heat Island Effect Action Plan (Word Doc 48MB), Moreland Urban Forest Strategy 2017-2017 (PDF 9MB), Cooling the Upfield Corridor Action Plan?

Moreland Council has done work developing a number of Action Plans that contain many approaches.

These plans must be implemented however they should also go beyond their existing policies considering the nature of the Climate Crisis.

Sue Bolton Moreland team argues that one way of addressing heat vulnerability is to significantly increase tree canopy in Moreland, specifically in the hottest areas that are primarily in the Northern part of the municipality, for example while Moreland Council is committed to planting 5000 street trees each year, there needs to be a bigger allocation for maintenance.

Planning laws should be strengthened to force developers to plant more vegetation, and prevent situations where mature trees get ripped out of gardens when houses get demolished to make room for developments.

More work needs to be done on recording and preserving significant trees on private land.

Moreland Council should be playing a stronger role in advocating to protect urban habitats, there needs to be increased shading of playgrounds with planning to ensure that playgrounds that don't have much shade to increase the planting of trees.

There is also a need to install more public water fountains in key locations across Moreland to deal with heat vulnerability.

Q12

Waste Management. Moreland aims to be a leading council in sustainable waste management, yet its rate of diverting waste to organics and recycling sits just above the state average. What will you do to help Moreland in the rollout of the Food and Garden Organics Collection Service, and achieve Moreland's 2030 zero waste to landfill target as part of Zero Carbon in the Planning Scheme – ESD Policy v2.0?

A issue with recycling is that we have a situation where different recycling companies have different rules on what can be recycled.

Councils should work with real estate agents to inform tenants of the rules around waste, recycling and food & organics collections.

Conditions should be attached to planning permits to ensure that developers do their constructions in a way that provides space for green bins for organic waste, food and composting.

Q13

Energy Efficiency and Renewables. Moreland has a goal of “Efficient and 100% renewably powered energy”. Yet Moreland has one of Victoria’s lowest uptake of solar PV. How can Moreland “walk the talk” on renewable energy and meet the community goals set in the Zero Carbon Moreland – Climate Emergency Action Plan 2020/21 – 2024/25?

Moreland Council can play a role in working with different organisations to facilitate a increase in rooftop solar such as social/community housing organisations, CALD community groups, schools, groups such as Earthworker.

However beyond such solutions the council needs to phase out the use of gas for the heating of swimming pools that it runs.

It must continue pushing for protection of solar panels in the planning schemes.

And Moreland council should act to investigate a range of schemes to improve the uptake of solar panels, one example could be community solar projects which can give access to energy savings, enterprise bargaining agreements for workers to include access to solar panels.

Q14

Pollution and litter: How will you educate and incentivise business in industrial zones (especially in the North East Ward) to avoid pollution and litter from entering our drains and our creek systems?

Planning permits must include conditions in relation to waste and litter. There needs to be stronger regulations to ensure that waste water pumped into our creeks does not include pollutants.

Council in their dealings with with businesses such as big box retailers must ensure that their rubbish is secured and does not blow into nearby streets.

Q15

Supporting business and the environment as part of Covid RecoveryWhat actions will you take to help Council promote environmentally sustainable jobs as part of a Covid recovery such as by possible development of large abandoned sites for a sustainability hub (such as former Kangan TAFE automotive campus)? How else will you advocate for supporting small business Covid recovery that includes environmental co-benefits?

I support the development of sustainability hubs and the development of environmentally sustainable jobs, however I don't believe that the emphasis should be on giving incentives to businesses that implement environmentally-sustainable practices (even if they are supportable in practice) should be the main priorities of Moreland council in terms of advocating for green and sustainable jobs as part of a covid-19 recovery plan, as the Climate crisis demands more than market-based solutions to the crisis.

Q16

Food SecurityHow would you address food security in Moreland beyond the existing Moreland Food System Strategy? (including as a part of the clean Covid recovery)?

For those who are on low wages or receive centrelink benefits food insecurity is a major issues.

In it's existing policies there are various initiatives for Council to support urban agriculture, however council needs to enact other measures such as establishing food banks to provide food for all who need it.

Q17

100

Food Security. The IPCC Special Report on Land and Climate Change Summary for Policy makers (2020) articulates major emissions reduction can be achieved from adopting a primarily plant based diet (B6.2). Will you advocate for public health policies that promote proper nutrition and dietary change by Moreland residents as per the IPCC (C2.4)?

Q18

Buildings, Biodiversity and Urban cooling: What would you do as a Councillor to ensure that with new building developments, Moreland has sufficient vegetation cover to contribute to biodiversity outcomes and urban cooling beyond existing policies in the Urban Forest Strategy, Moreland Nature Plan, and the Achieving Zero Carbon in the Planning Scheme – ESD Policy v2.0 project?

Developers need to be forced to plant sufficient vegetation cover to contribute to the urban habitat. This can only happen if the council is successful in lobbying the state government to allow councils to mandate vegetation cover.

Q19

Cement Emissions. Use of Portland Cement contributes to 8% of global emissions. Alternative low emissions/zero emission cement products are available at reasonably competitive rates. Will you commit to amending Moreland Council Procurement policy sustainability filter to purchase low carbon/zero emissions cement/concrete products?

(no label)

Strongly Agree

Q20

Climate Citizen Assemblies: Under the new Local Government Act 2020 (community engagement policy), all councils in Victoria are required to use deliberative practices for the development of their Community Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan and Asset Plan, at the bare minimum. The gold standard of this kind of democratic, deliberative practice is a Citizens' Assembly. So, will you support such a democratic framework for Council's climate emergency response by establishing a Citizens' Assembly?

(no label)

Agree with reservations

Q21

What are your top four priorities for the Council Plan to be formulated for 2021-2025.

Priority 1

Rapid phase-out of fossil fuel (gas) for heating Moreland's pools

Priority 2

Implementing the new clause in Moreland's procurement policy: Excluding from future contracts, tenders or business dealings from any companies involved in developing new coal mines."

Priority 3

Increased council advocacy for improvements in public transport, particularly duplicating the Upfield Line

Priority 4

Increasing tree canopy in Moreland.

Q22

Do you have any other comments on Council Climate Leadership and Advocacy (include any actions you have taken on this)? Do you have any supplementary comments relating to the questions above, comments on other issues related to climate change not covered, or comments on climate change generally?

Moreland Council needs to support climate activism and climate action and should play the role of pressuring federal and state governments alongside corporations to take serious action to address the climate crisis.
