

#21

COMPLETE

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Page 1: 2020 Moreland Council Candidate climate survey

Q1

Candidate Name

Rachel Payne

Q2

South Ward

Contesting Which Moreland Ward?

Q3

Reason Party

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

Q4

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

I have a modest budget for corflutes, flyer printing and a social media budget provided by Reason Party. This budget was received through member donations and fundraising. To date I have spent less than \$1000 and I think that will probably be my total budget. I have not recieved any large donations.

Q5

South Ward

Connections to Moreland Wards. I am a resident in:

Q6

What are your other connections to Moreland wards

I am an employer in **South Ward**
I am employed in **South Ward**
I am a community advocate in **South Ward**

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 Strongly

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?

I will lobby the State Govt to improve transport for Moreland residents by (1) pushing for an extension of the Upfield train-line to Craigieburn and Wallan (2) push for more trains more often on the Upfield line.

As someone who commutes into the city the trains don't come frequently enough (on the Upfield line).

There should be solid investment and commitment to upgrading the Upfield bike path - better lighting and widening to make it safer and more accessible to more bike-riders. I don't agree with the idea of a 'bike superhighway' down Sydney Rd - this doesn't encourage a mentality to stop and shop or eat at a restaurant and would kill business on Sydney Rd. There are better places to offer bike paths that would be safer and more accessible.

I will advocate for an extension of the 19 tram line. The more public transport is on offer to all of Moreland and beyond the less cars will be on the road as it will be quicker for commuting.

I will be pushing for Moreland to reuse and recycle tyres for urban use, through innovative technologies. Bike paths, walking tracks and low-traffic roads can be created using recycled/repurposed tyres. This is much cooler than asphalt/concrete, environmentally sustainable and reduced landfill (50M tyres a year go into landfill) and is also naturally irrigating as water flows through. This creates a safer alternative to concrete as water will irrigate and is low-impact.

I'm also advocating for a Street Safety for Women campaign to encourage street safety for women when walking in Moreland, particularly at night. This would be a education campaign as well as a 'neighbourhood watch' app that would provide added safety. Many women in Moreland, myself included, feel unsafe at night and this needs to stop. I walk everywhere at night and often don't feel safe. Council could do so much in this space to educate community, encourage community engagement and support women.

I also think the limited parking for residents in new, high density living needs to be reviewed. It seems that the community overwhelmingly doesn't feel this is working and we want to make it as easy as possible for people to get around without using a car, but telling people you can't have a car is not working. Many two-person households may have one car between them and only use it on weekends to go to regional Victoria for example. I think this policy should be reviewed and the onus should be on the developer to plan for enough car spaces to accommodate these residents. I'm not saying a car park per person but something realistic that ensures cars aren't being parked on the street or in council car parks. I also feel that this reduction in parking is also in developments outside of activity areas and needs to be reviewed.

I do agree with parking limits and think it should be space only used for those stopping and shopping (i.e. 1-2 hours). I would also like to see some of the streets that are treated as peak-hour thoroughfares such as Albion St reviewed to slow down drivers and get them back onto the main roads like Moreland. Hopefully the rail overpass will see less congestion on these routes.

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?

I most definitely support all plans to reduce urban heat in Moreland. As someone who previously lived in Coburg (and now in Brunswick) during a heat wave, I have experienced first hand how intense this heat is.

Council should be doing more to replace concrete and asphalt with innovative and heat reducing alternatives and creating more green space.

I will be pushing for Moreland to reuse and recycle tyres for urban use, through innovative technologies.

Melbourne Uni has been doing some impressive work on creating urban paths that can be used for footpaths, cycling tracks, car parks and low-volume roads. They are made out of old tyres and provide natural irrigation for trees, stop water pooling and are cooler than conventional concrete paths. Plus it is recycling old waste. I think Moreland Council should jump at the chance to get onboard with this opportunity.

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?

I will be advocating for an audit on current recycling practices and cost effectiveness. This will include looking into effectiveness, proposed bin system changes and what can be improved. The results will inform a targeted education program to promote understanding and accountability. I'd also like to see real solutions to soft plastics recycling and app-food delivery waste.

(1) An audit on current recycling processes and cost.

Targeted education program : promoting understanding and accountability.

(2) Real solutions to soft plastics recycling and app-food delivery waste.

(3) A review of the responsibilities of private contractors or body corporate recycling requirements for high-density residential areas.

(4) A targeted education campaign on household waste and recycling, further promoting the green waste bin and encouraging accountability of all of community.

I will also be pushing for more bins and recycling stations in public and green spaces, with Council ensuring these are tended to everyday.

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 City Council has a good track record of being proactive when it comes to the climate crisis, including the Zero Carbon Moreland Framework 2040 ensuring zero carbon emissions and 100% renewable energy timeframes.

However more could be more done for residents to gain access to renewable energy, so I will be advocating for a council-led Solar Panel Scheme.

Essentially, this would see residential households provided access to solar panel energy. Installation would be paid for by council and then rate-payers can pay this back, interest-free, through annual rates over a set period of time.

Currently, Moreland City Council has an initiative similar that is only available to commercial businesses and organisations. It is paid for by investment and returns dividends. Other councils have run with a similar proposal to provide solar access to residents.

A scheme like this can be targeted towards lower income households, renters, or pensioners. This would allow even the most financially vulnerable in Moreland to afford solar, and could be key to lowering the cost of living in a recession and difficult recovery period, and add value to the property.

So while Moreland Council currently offers plenty of avenues for advice and quotes, they only offer payment schemes for businesses and organisations.

Paying for residents solar panels, and then having them pay it off through rate increases without interest is the next logical step.

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?

I am still learning about industrial zones and commercial responsibilities in relation to pollution and toxic waste, however as I am with the Reason Party we are about evidence-based, innovative and forward thinking policies. Therefore I would commit to a review of current practices; what accountability do these businesses have in relation to waste and environmental impact? What incentives are currently in place and what can be improved upon?

I firmly believe that it has to be a whole of community approach with business taking a role in ensuring they are leading the way in environmental accountability. I feel that consumers are more aware of ethical production and environmental impact and this would also reflect on what businesses and commercial entities they support. There is plenty of work to do in this space.

Q15

Supporting business and the environment as part of Covid Recovery What 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?

(1) Innovation and Sustainability: Reason Party is currently liaising with RMIT School of Design academics and researchers to develop co-design studios with students and Moreland Council looking at innovative, low cost, community-based sustainability and social innovation practices and solutions. This will tie into and enhance the Innovative District Model that Moreland Council is already proposing.

(2) Council-led residential solar panel scheme (as discussed at Q. 13) will create more jobs and I will be actively looking into ways that Council can expand the current policies and processes to see more commercial buildings and businesses move to solar energy.

(3) I will be advocating for Council to take a lead role in getting our High Streets popping again through direct support to small business through commercial rent subsidies and creating opportunities for start-up businesses. Sydney Rd is especially suffering so I would also like to see new ways of encouraging new business (start-ups) into the area, including looking into shared work space as well as re-thinking these commercial spaces for not-for-profits and other community organisations. Let's improve on what we have rather than building new.

I am still learning about new and innovative ways we can do more for the environment and I am a member of the Australian Conservation Foundation where I am learning more about new building technologies, ways to improve heating and cooling through sealing of buildings and innovations in materials to create more sustainable and viable living.

Q16

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

I am still learning what food security entails and ways of addressing this issue, however I have been thinking about ways of re-thinking our urban spaces to allow more community gardens. I would like to see our residential laneways installed with vertical and hanging food gardens. This could be a great council initiative that would encourage innovative designs that would maximise water irrigation (if it is vertical the trickle down effect) and with some good engineering would see food garden canopy's in laneways so residents could still have car and back-laneway access when needed. With the right kind of pully system this would be something I feel residents would use and contribute to if Council showed the initiative.

Q17

85

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?

I am pushing for a review of the Design Excellence Scorecard as I think so much more could be included in here to ensure greater sustainability and less environmental impact through new technologies.

As I am part of Reason Party, we advocate for consultation with key stakeholders and experts to make informed policies and decisions, that are reviewed regularly as new technologies are constantly improving.

I would also like to see Moreland Council commit to a zero carbon planning scheme.

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)

Strongly Agree

Q21

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

Priority 1	Residential Solar Panel Scheme
Priority 2	Recycling Audit
Priority 3	Street Safety for Women Campaign and Development of APP
Priority 4	Renewing our Commercial Precincts post-pandemic

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?

I think the Moreland Open Spaces Strategy needs to be reviewed and audited. It concerns me that the money received for subdivisions and development that is to be used to add more green space for residents (a) doesn't have to be used in the area it is acquired (for example, collected in South Ward and invested in NW Ward) and (b) doesn't necessarily have to be spent on 'green space' but can be used to improve amenity and on current restoration of parkland (there is a budget for this separately). This is not very transparent.

I also feel there is a real lack of community consultation around our green spaces, parkland and recreational areas when there is a proposal to change these amenities and this is causing distrust in council. More transparency and community consultation is a must for Moreland Council!
