

Public Transport Users Association

Candidates Transport Insights Survey Report

2024 City of Greater Geelong Council Elections

13th October 2024



**PUBLIC TRANSPORT
USERS ASSOCIATION**

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Introduction

The Public Transport Users Association (PTUA) Geelong Branch has surveyed candidates standing for election in the City of Greater Geelong Council election, to understand their perspectives and commitments on a range of transport topics. We hope that these results will assist voters in making informed decisions.

Geelong is experiencing rapid residential growth in Lara and Armstrong Creek and also has a new employment precinct at Avalon Airport - all of which have become entirely car dependent due to the lack of public and active transport connectivity. It is important that our elected local government representatives are aware of these challenges to avoid Geelong becoming a city of gridlock and frustration.

Although local governments, including the City of Greater Geelong, lack direct control over public transport services, they play a critical advocacy role by representing local transport needs to the State Government. Council should constantly be engaging with local communities regarding transport and using this data to push the state government to implement network improvements in the region including enhanced bus routes & more frequent train, bus and coach services.

Local governments can directly influence local active transport initiatives by building new footpaths, bike lanes, and pedestrian crossings to promote safe and sustainable transport options within their communities. Council also must collaborate effectively with the State Government to ensure that bus shelters, and stops meet the needs of the community and are accessible to all users. This is an area where Geelong is falling behind other regional cities and candidates should encourage improvements.

Additionally, micromobility has now emerged as a new method of transport for cities, with the state government allowing use of private e-scooters and e-bikes council must ensure that infrastructure meets the needs of this new transport mode whilst also ensuring the safety of other network users.

By providing this survey, the PTUA empowers voters with insights into each candidate's positions on these critical transport issues, helping the community to identify candidates with the potential to advocate for a more connected and sustainable transport future in Greater Geelong.

- Jarred Crowe
PTUA Geelong Branch Covenantor

How we conducted the survey

Candidates were sent an email invitation to complete the survey once we became aware of their intention to stand for election. In total 51 invitations were sent.

Candidates were asked if they agree or disagree with 10 statements to determine their position on a range of transport topics. Additionally, candidates were provided an opportunity to add comments to support their selection.

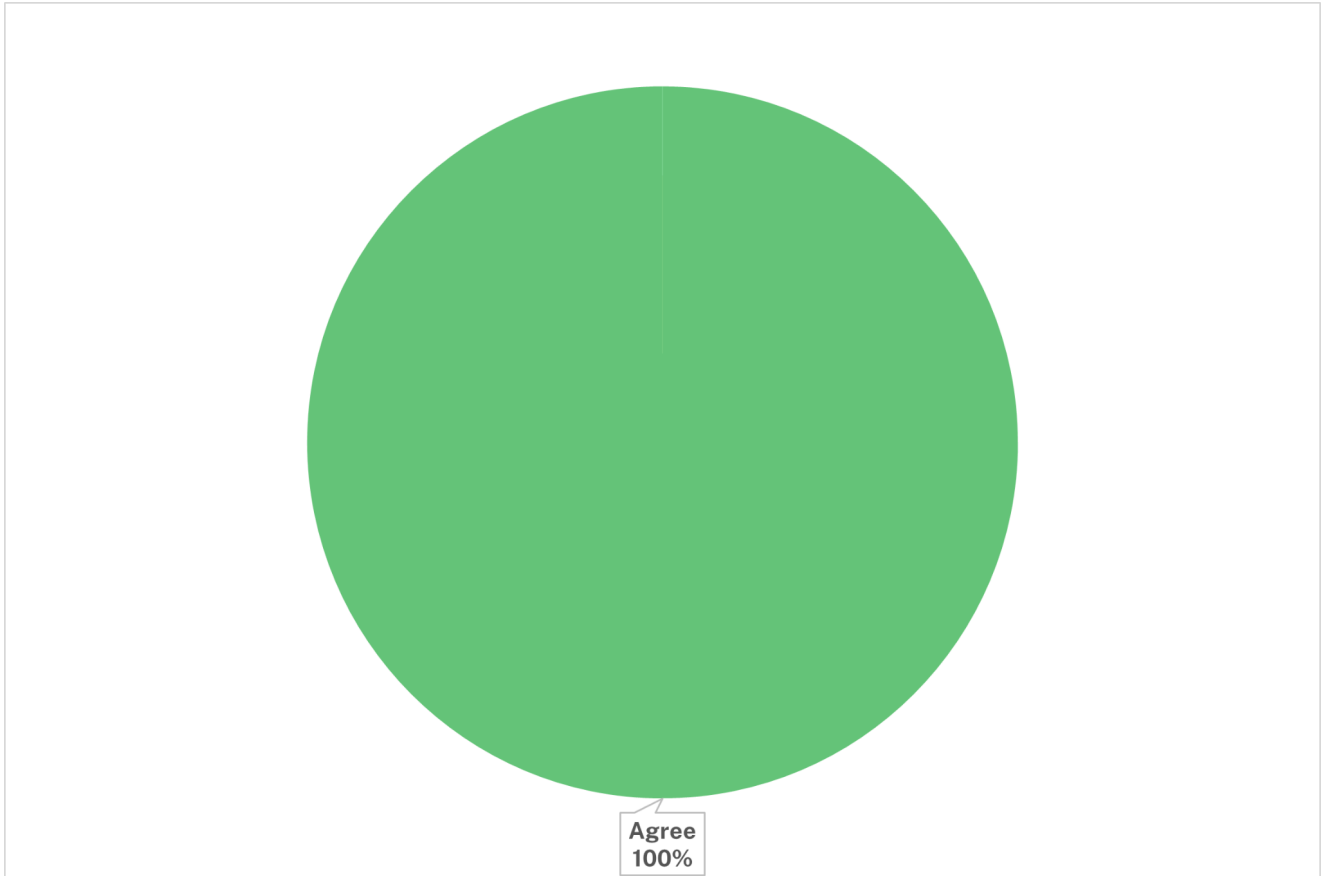
The 10 statements were:

1. The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.
2. A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport. A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.
3. More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.
4. The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.
5. Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.
6. The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.
7. Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.
8. The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.
9. Geelong is too car dependent.
10. Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse.

Results Overview

The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.

All candidates agreed that the council should advocate for better public transport. Many indicated that the current network struggled to cater for the growth of the region.



Of note

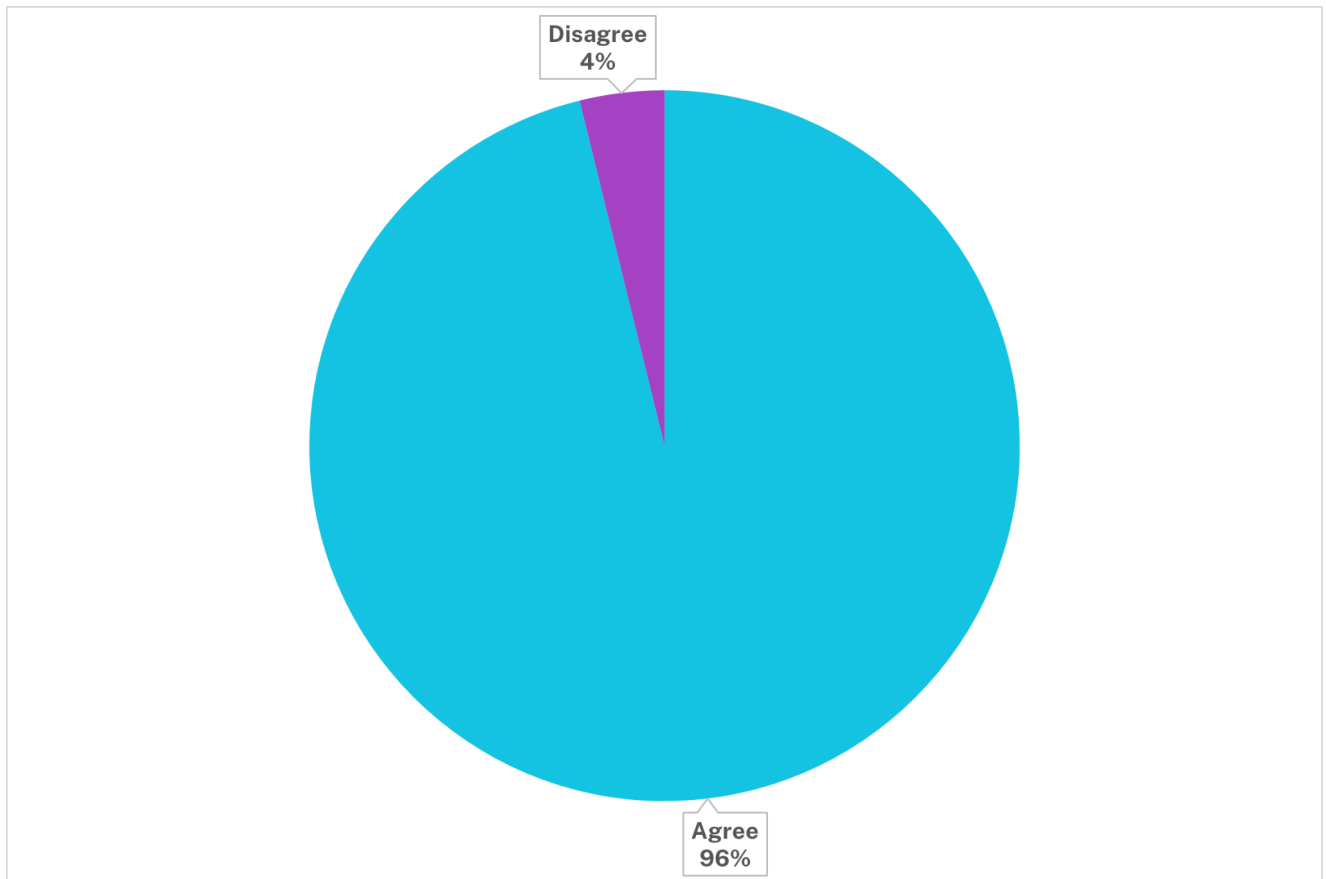
- Ron Nelson indicated that he supports removing the Moorabool Street Interchange.
- Kate Lockhart indicated support for a cross Bellarine bus service.
- Robert Blaszczyk mentioned that Bannockburn and other Golden Plains localities also need better service.

PTUA comment

- Councils play an important role in advocating for the needs of their constituents to the state government. There must be consistent calls for increased service frequencies of existing bus and train routes and the introduction of new routes in growth areas such as Armstrong Creek, Lara, Ocean Grove, and Drysdale.
- The Moorabool Street interchange is a fantastic location for a transport hub; however, poor design and ongoing maintenance issues have caused problems. The PTUA maintains that the interchange should remain on Moorabool Street, but a redesign of the physical infrastructure is required.

A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.

Most candidates supported the introduction of a public bus service to Avalon Airport with many indicating that a link between Lara and Avalon would be a good start. Some also indicated that a bus would provide a good interim service while a train service is constructed.



Of note

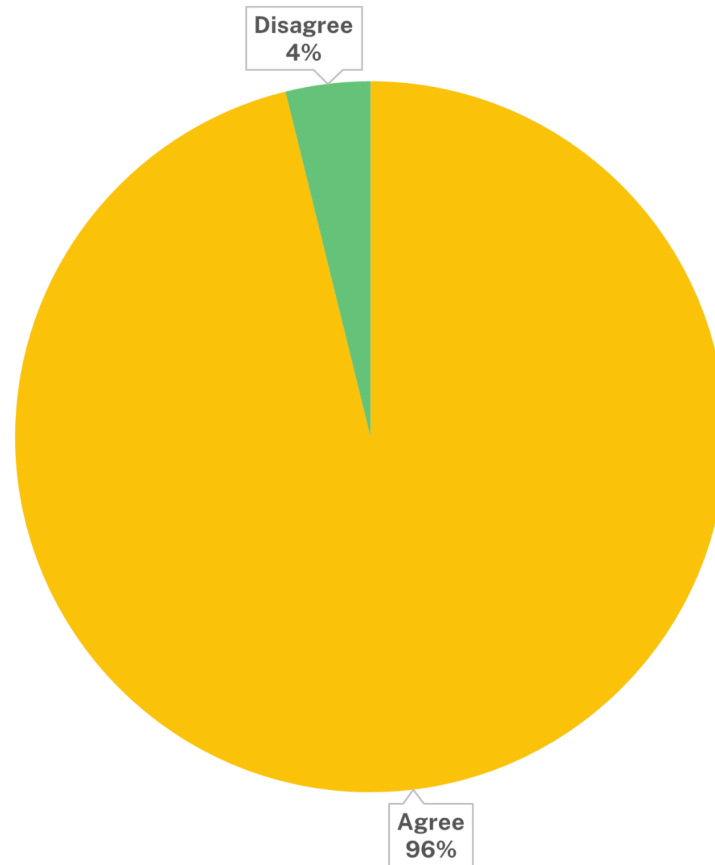
- Peter Desbrowe-Annear did not support a public bus service to Avalon but suggested that the private sector should provide a service.
- Emilie Flynn and Anthony Aitken noted that such a service would improve access to jobs in the Avalon precinct.

PTUA comment

- As Avalon Airport continues to develop as a jobs precinct, with companies like Cotton On, PetStock, and Hanwha establishing their presence, public transport must be provided to ensure workers can access job opportunities. The council should consistently advocate to the state government for the introduction of these services.

More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.

Most candidates supported public transport use for major events, with many pointing out that it is currently difficult or impossible for many Geelong residents to do so.



Of note

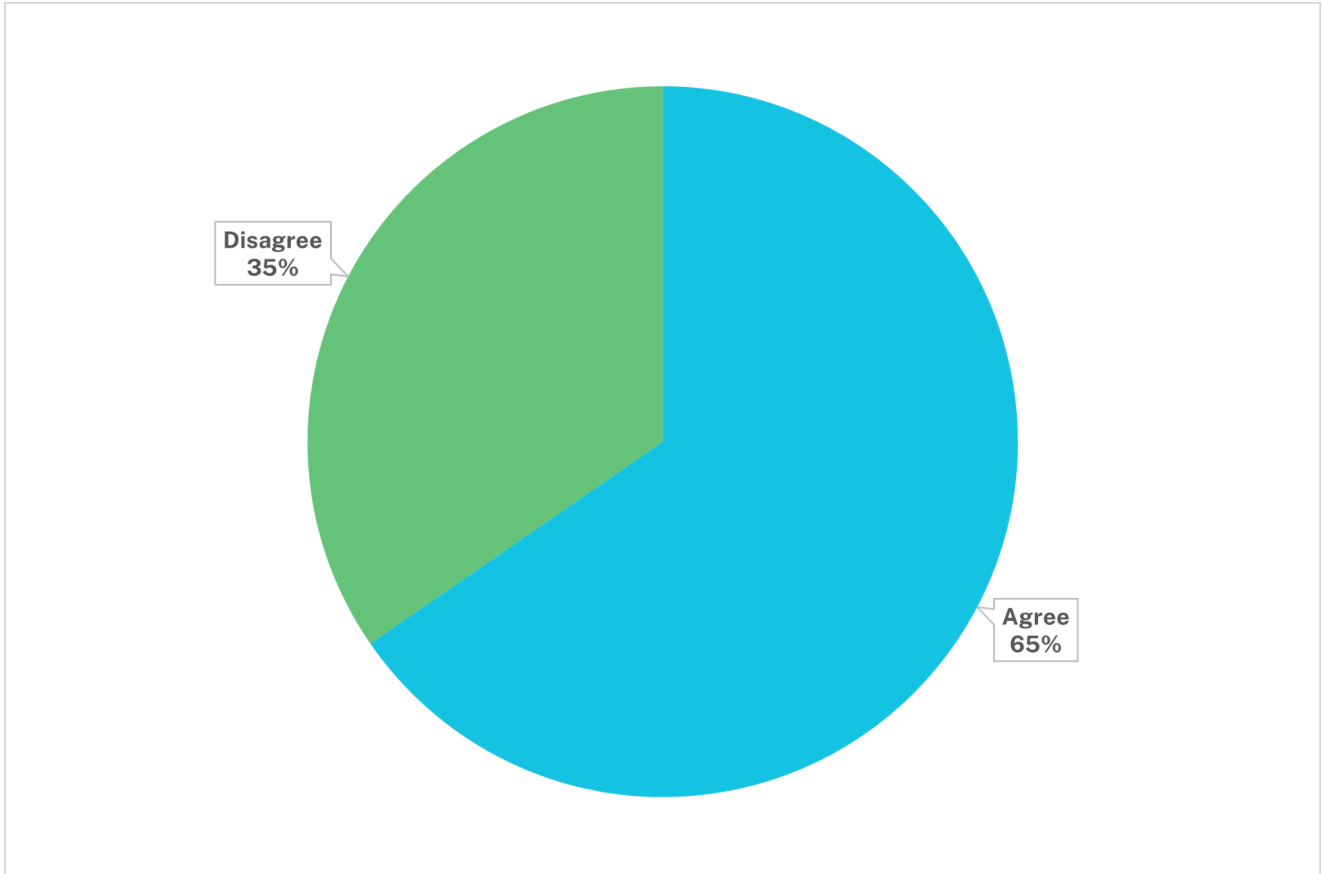
- Thomas Gant noted that public transport needs to be included in event planning particularly at Kardinia Park.
- Theresa Slater mentioned the success of Public Transport services provided for White Night and supported similar approaches for more events.
- Matthew Hood supported Park and Ride options for events at Kardinia Park.
- Sian Milton-McGurk noted that encouraging Public Transport use for patrons attending licensed events reduces drink driving risks.

PTUA comment

- Despite the close proximity to South Geelong Station and numerous bus routes on Moorabool Street, public transport services do not adequately accommodate major events at Kardinia Park. The PTUA believes that the council must advocate for additional event services and allow public buses to continue using Moorabool Street when the road is closed for events.

The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.

Candidates were divided on whether or not the council should fund bus shelter installations and upgrades, with most who disagree indicating that they believe that state government should be providing funding.

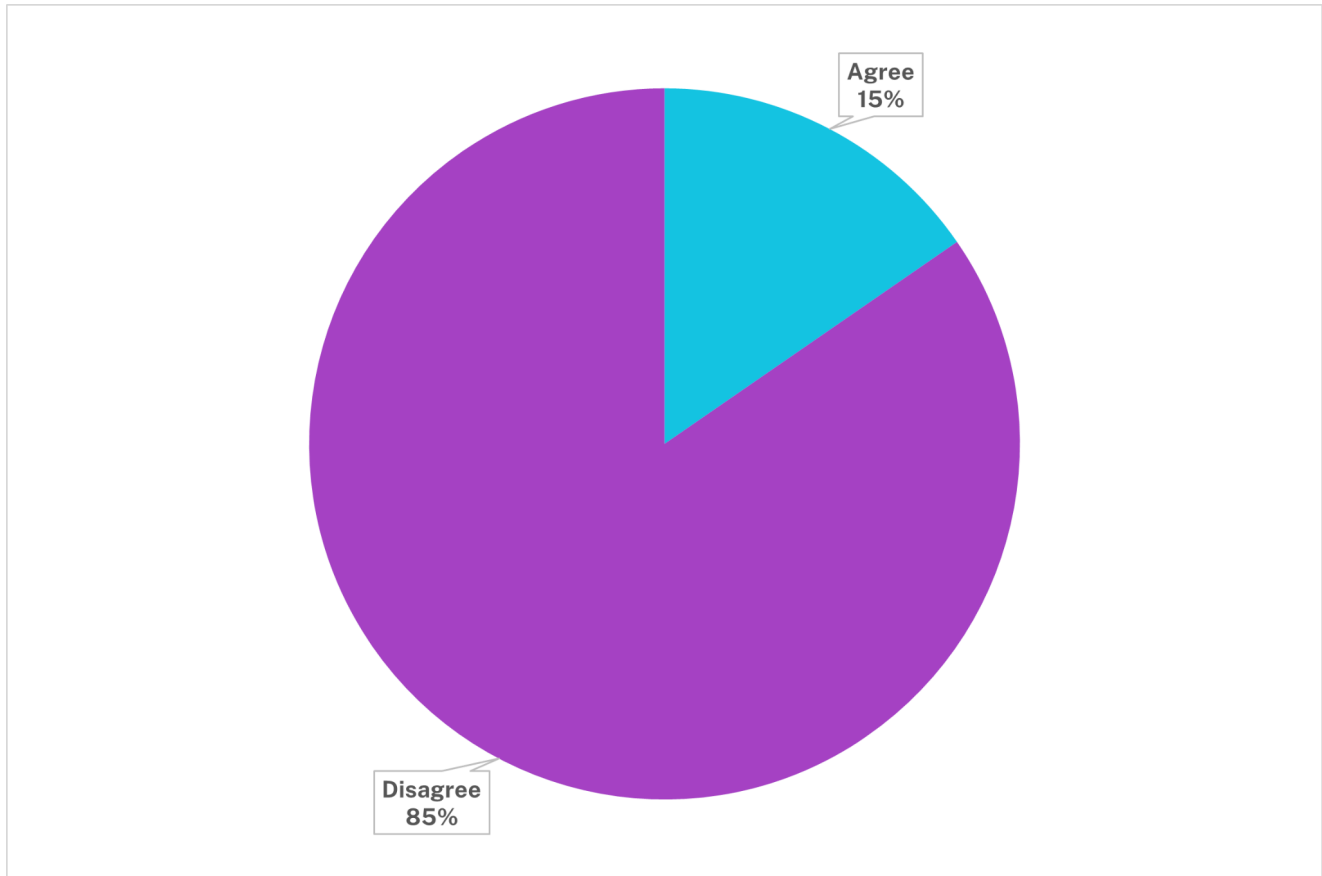


PTUA comment

- Many candidates believed that bus shelters are the responsibility of the State Government, while others thought they fall under the Council's purview. This demonstrates a greater need for clarity regarding this responsibility to ensure that bus shelters are well-maintained and not caught up in bureaucracy.

Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.

Most candidates indicated that bus shelters in Geelong are not meeting the needs of the community.



Of note

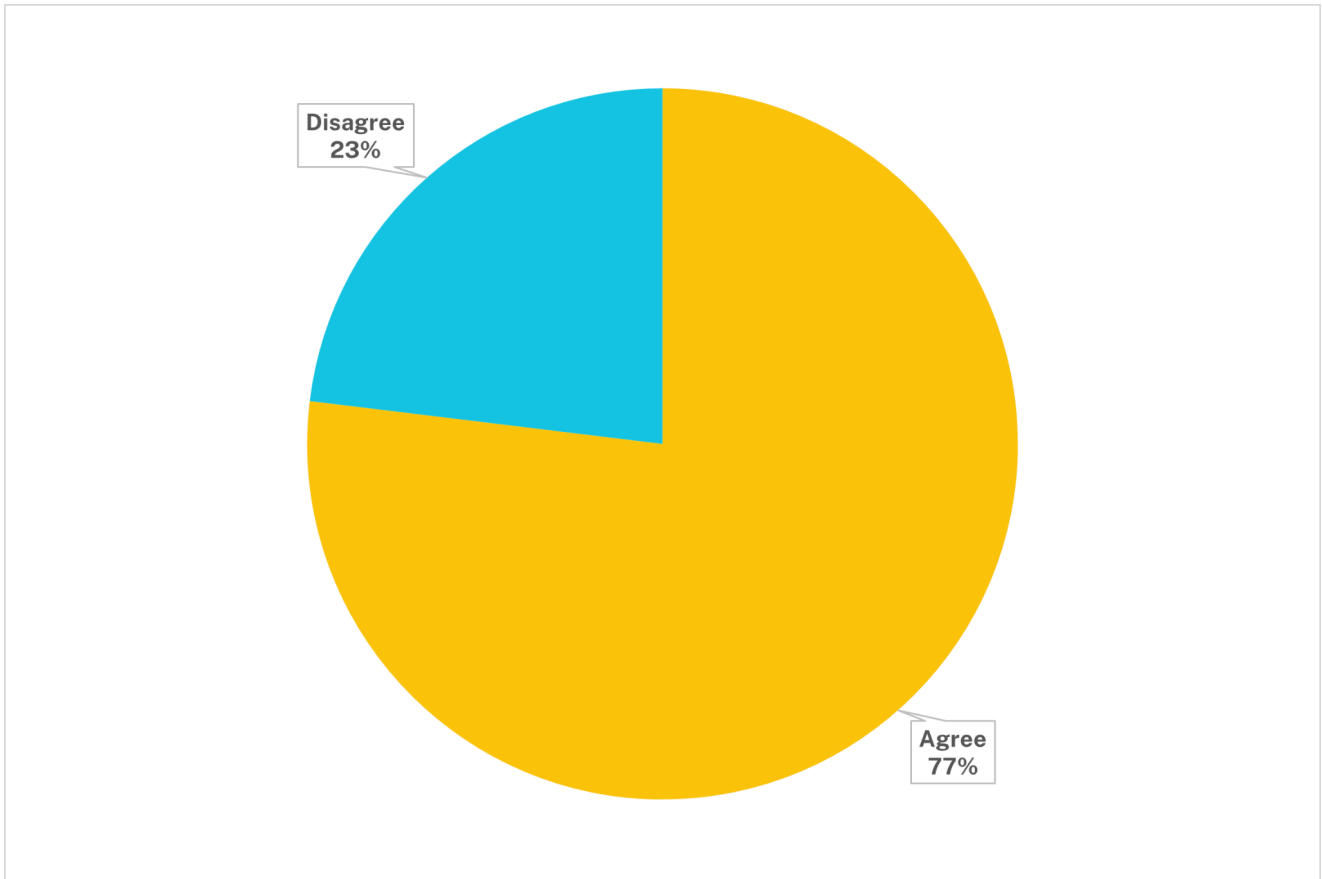
- Elise Wilkinson, Mathew Hood and Theresa Slater all mentioned accessibility of older shelters as an issue to address.
- Sarah Hathway indicated that stops in the northern suburbs lack seating and shelter and this is problematic due to the greater use of bus services in the North.
- Ron Nelson noted that shelters are predominantly only present at city bound stops, with little shelter available for services to Waurin Ponds.

PTUA comment

- As many candidates have noted, bus shelters in Geelong are a real mixed bag. The council must take leadership of these assets and commit to funding them or actively work with the state government to improve them. The bureaucracy surrounding bus shelters must not continue.

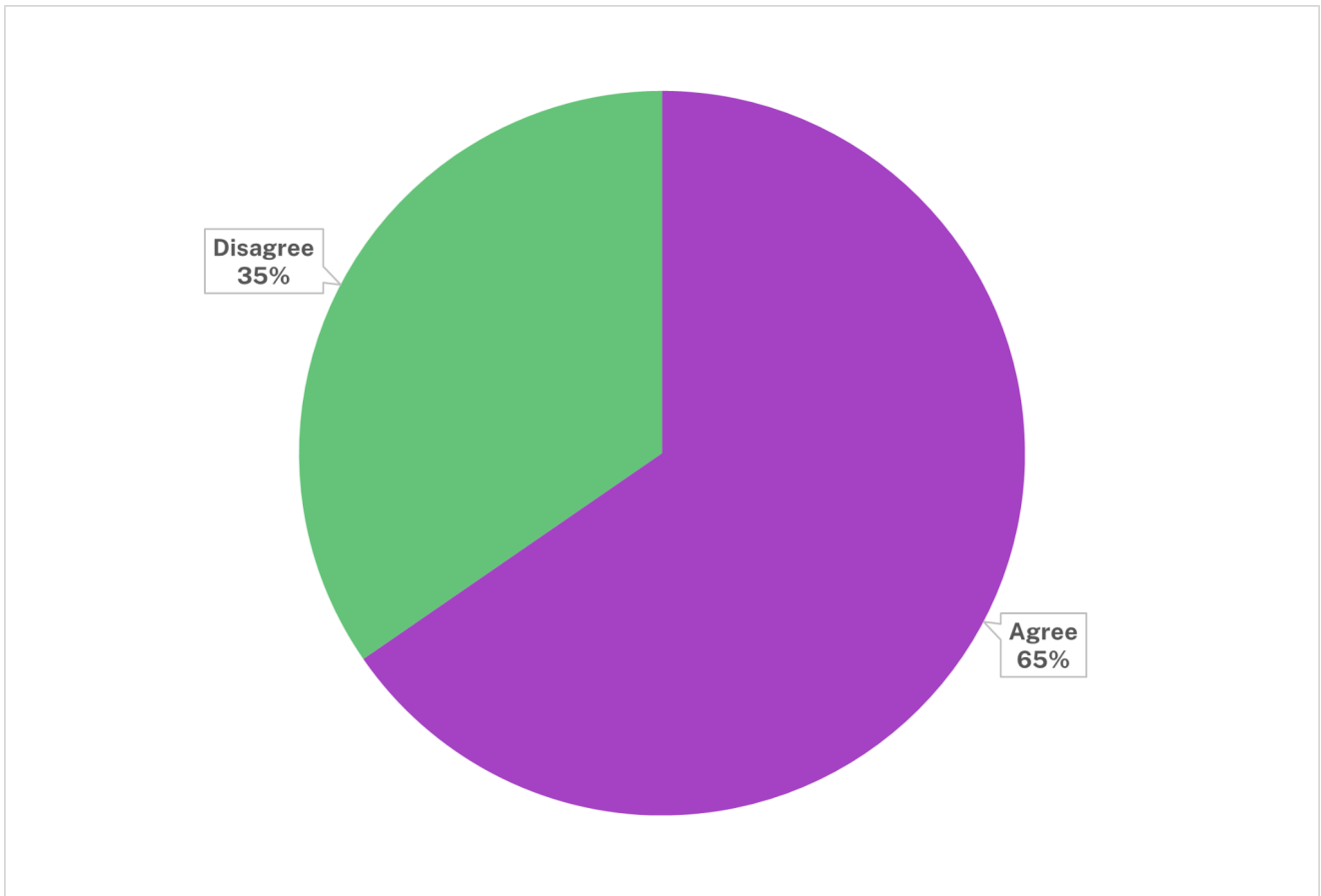
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.

A quarter of candidates who responded did not support the construction of new bicycle lanes. Of the supportive respondents most indicated that better planning is required.



Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.

This statement divided respondents with slightly more agreeing that the introduction of service would be beneficial. Most who disagree noted the high amount of safety incidents in other cities.

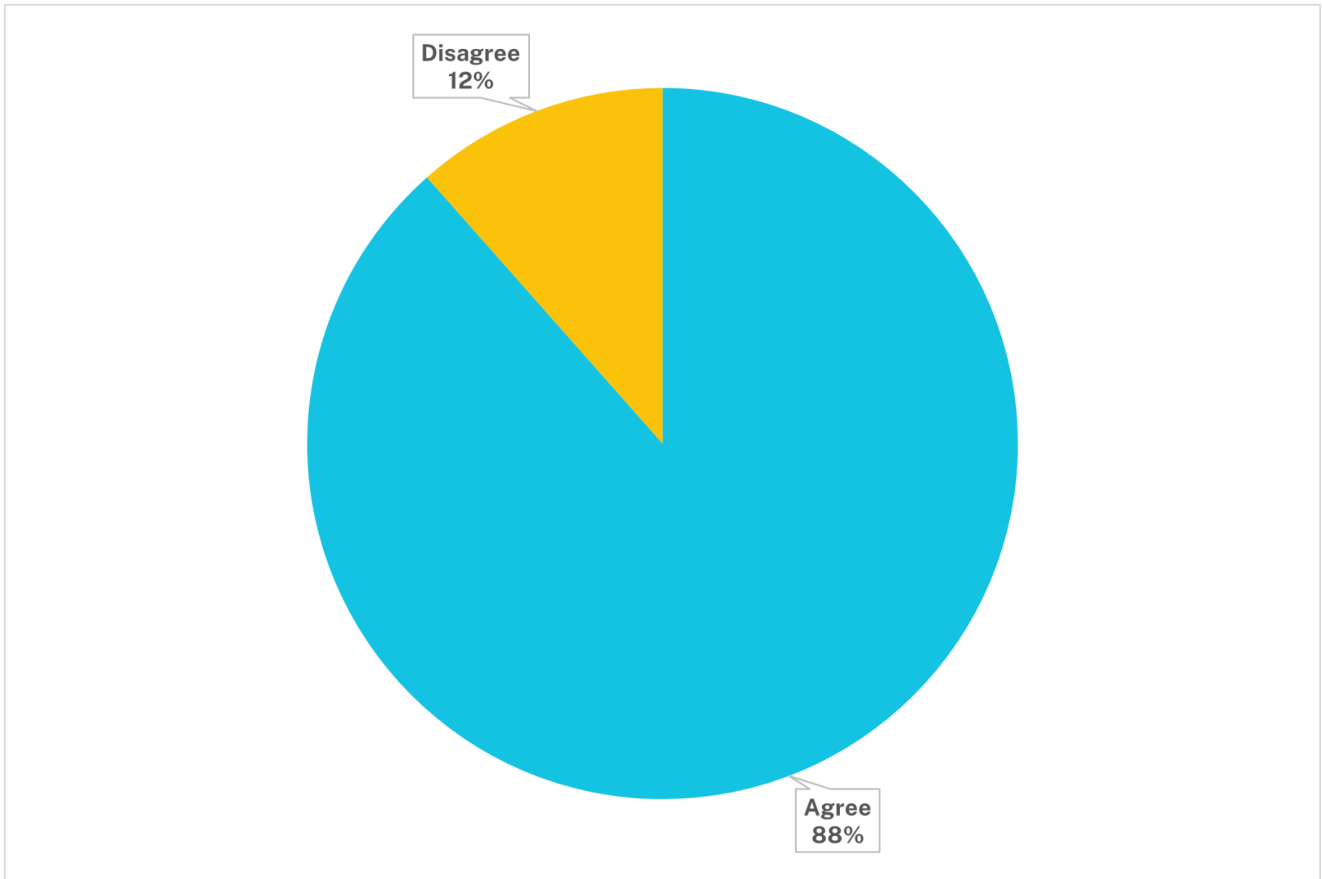


Of note

- Aleta Moriarty mentioned that parked hire micromobility vehicles can be a hindrance to persons with disabilities.

The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.

Most candidates agreed that footpaths benefit more residents than just those adjacent to footpaths and should be funded through the city's Capital Works budget.



Of note

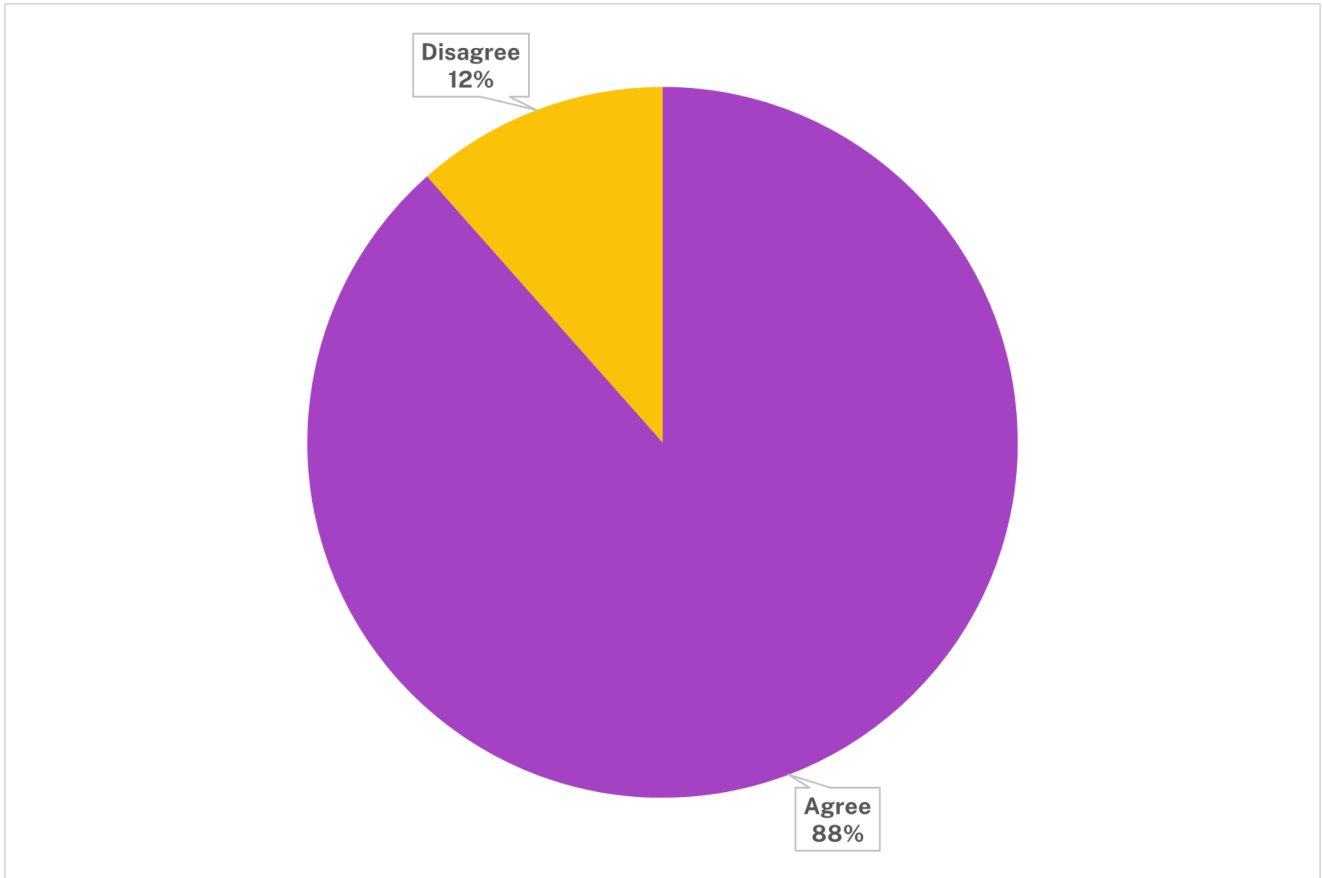
- Angela Carr, David Greenwood, Therese Slater and Mathew Hood noted that the lack of footpaths is a barrier for persons with disabilities.
- Anthony Aitken is supportive of a co-funding model where only footpaths on main roads are funded by Capital Works whilst local roads remain funded by Special Rates Schemes.

PTUA comment

- Generally, footpaths benefit the wider community, not just the adjacent residents. Footpaths are also crucial for those with mobility needs in accessing bus stops, therefore, we believe that the council should fund the construction of more footpaths through the Capital Works budget, particularly on roads with bus routes.

Geelong is too car dependent.

Most respondents agreed car dependency is high in Geelong, however many attributed this to the lack of transport diversity available to residents.

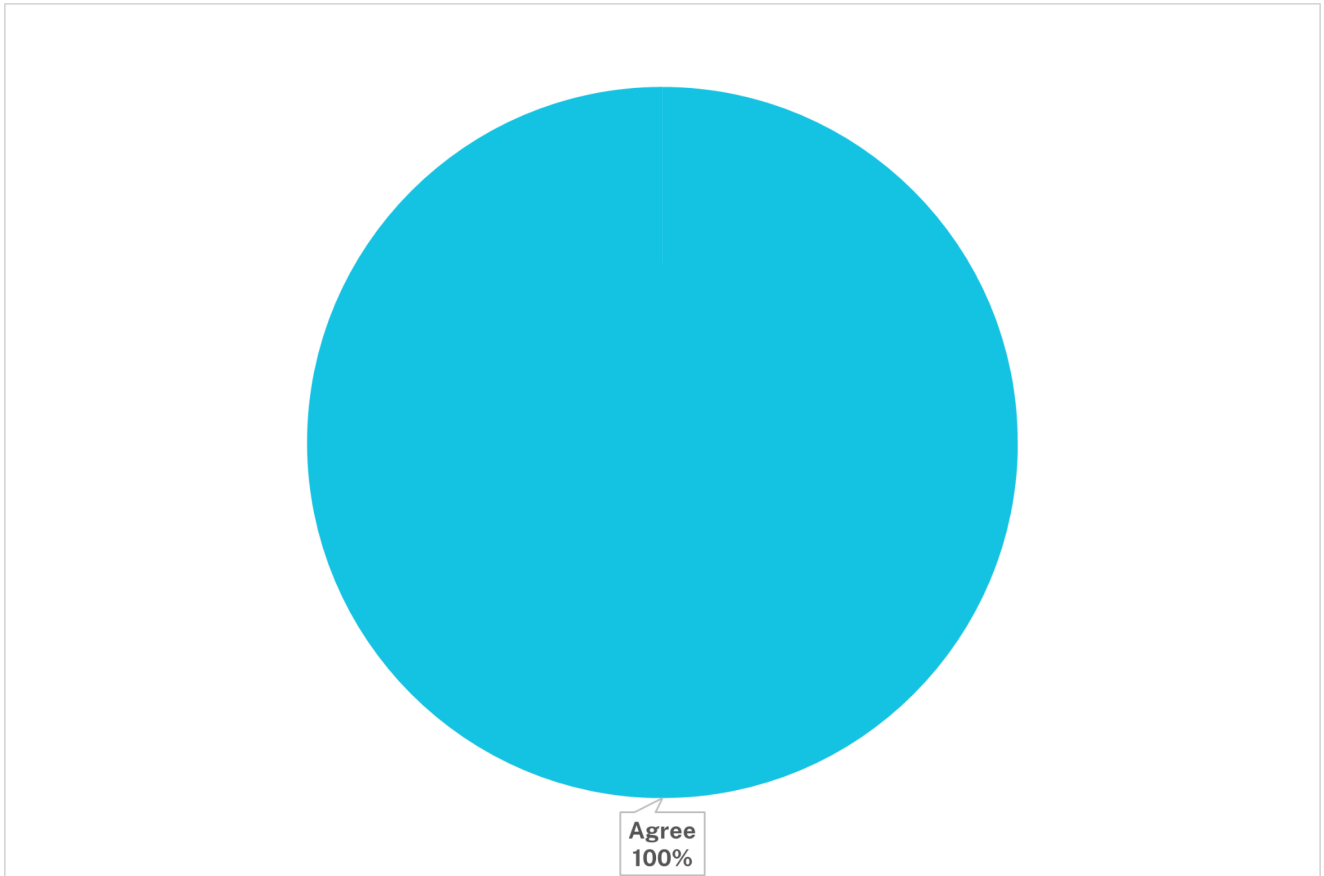


Of note

- Angela Carr, Kate Lockhart and Thomas Gant all attributed infrequent public transport as a factor to high car dependency.

Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse.

All candidates who responded agreed that road traffic is getting worse, with some indicating that it is at dangerous levels. Most attributed this to the growth in the region with investment in public and active transport not matching such growth.



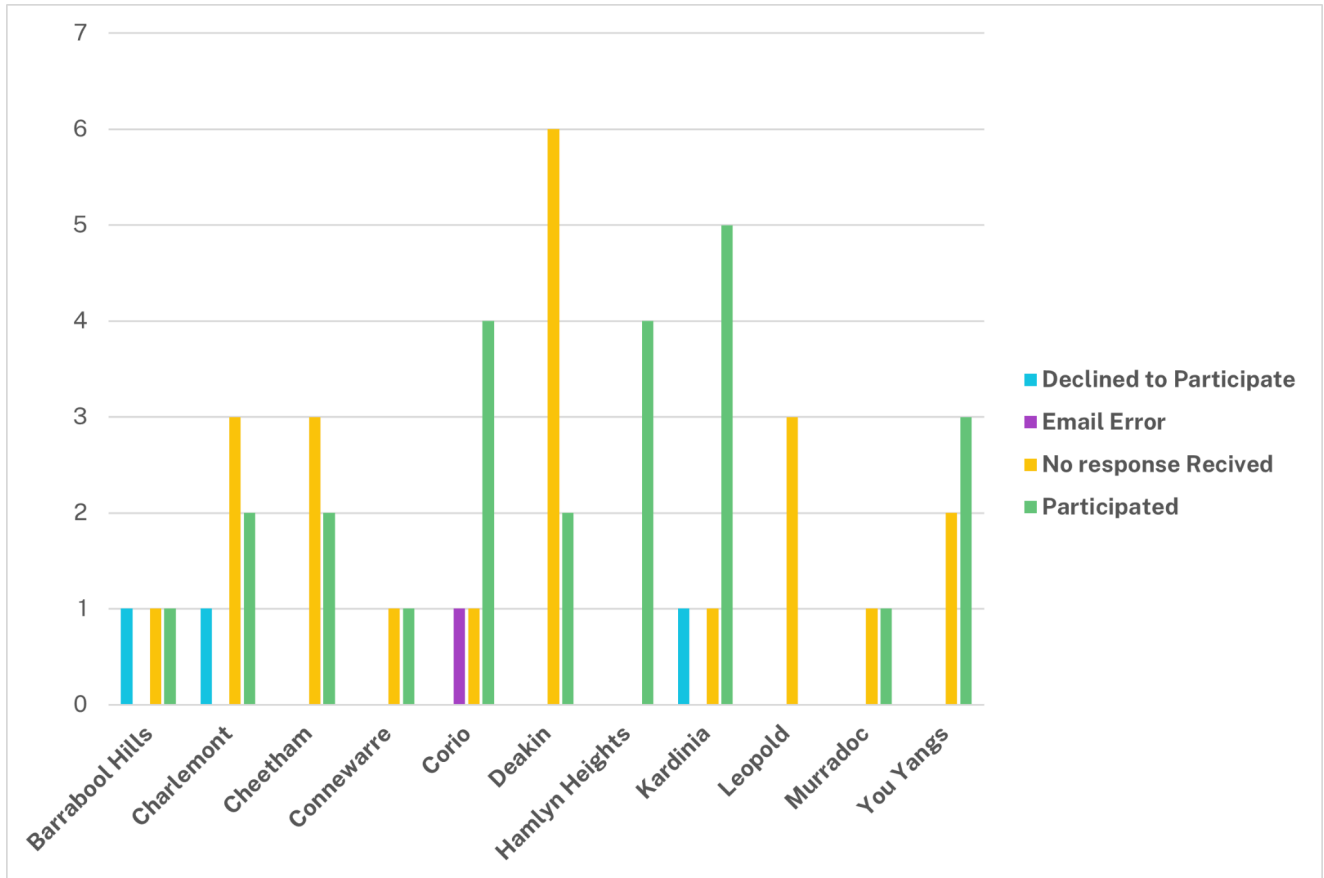
Of note

- Thomas Gant supported the extension of the Geelong Ring Road to Portarlington Road.
- Elise Wilkinson noted that Bellarine residents feel isolated without cars due to limited public transport.

Candidate Participation

All candidates received an invitation to participate in the survey prior to or on 17th September 2024. The survey was closed on 11th October 2024.

During this timeframe 28 of 51 (54.9%) candidates provided a response, below is a breakdown of participation per ward.



Individual Participation per ward

Barabool Hills Ward

Aleta MORIARTY	✓ Yes
David McGINNESS	✗ Declined
Ron NELSON	✓ Yes

Charlemont Ward

Teagan MITCHELL	✗ Declined
Susan JOACHIM	? No Response
Emma SINCLAIR	✓ Yes
Sunny DHALIWAL	? No Response
Blake HADLOW	? No Response
Sian MILTON-MCGURK	✓ Yes

Cheetham Ward

Mellissa HUTCHINSON	? No Response
Thomas GANT	✓ Yes
Jon METRIKAS	? No Response
Jess HARPER	✓ Yes
Mellissa CADWELL	? No Response

Connewarre Ward

Elise WILKINSON	? No Response
Angela SHEARMAN	✓ Yes

Corio Ward

Azadeh DOOSTI	! Email Error
Sarah HATHWAY	✓ Yes
Anthony AITKEN	✓ Yes
Maddie SLATER	? No Response
Danny MAHFOUD	✓ Yes
Robert BLASZCZYK	✓ Yes

Deakin Ward

Derek WALLACE	? No Response
Izzy SCHERRER	? No Response
Nicholas KENNEDY	? No Response
Joshua HAITSMA	? No Response
Sue COX	✓ Yes
Anastasia HILTON	? No Response
Andrew KATOS	? No Response
Andy RICHARDS	✓ Yes

Hamlyn Heights Ward

Joey NICITA	✓ Yes
Angela CARR	✓ Yes
Eddy KONTELJ	✓ Yes
Mathew HOOD	✓ Yes

Kardinia Ward

Emilie FLYNN	✓ Yes
Stretch KONTELJ	✗ Declined
Johnny DUNSTAN	✓ Yes
Peter MURRIHY	✓ Yes
Peter DESBROWE-ANNEAR	✓ Yes
Daniel GARCIA	✓ Yes
Candice COSTOSO	? No Response

Leopold Ward

Trent SULLIVAN	? No Response
Shona McKeen	? No Response
David LYNCH	? No Response

Murradoc Ward

Kate LOCKHART	✓ Yes
Rowan D STORY	? No Response

You Yangs Ward

Theresa SLATER	✓ Yes
David GREENWOOD⊗	✓ Yes
Lorraine KULIC	? No Response
Christopher BURSON	✓ Yes
Nicole LYNCH	? No Response

⊗ Candidate was retired by VEC

Individual Responses

Barrabool Hills Ward

Aleta MORIARTY

Why are you nominating for council?

I want to help create a Geelong where nobody is left behind, and climate action is undertaken.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	<i>I have done a survey on this and many people indicated they needed to be upgraded.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Agree	<i>These need to ensure that they are not impeding accessibility of footpaths for PWD, as this has been raised by constituents a lot as an issue.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as	Agree	<i>would need to analyse with greater detail</i>

opposed to Special Charge Schemes.		
Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	

David McGINNESS

David declined to participate but provided the following response.

Since nominating as a council candidate, I have received numerous requests to complete questionnaires and make various pledges. By completing these it could be seen that I have an interest in the matter and therefore have a conflict of interest if there were to be a vote on the matter in a council meeting. As such I would have to declare this and remove myself from the meeting and not participate.

To avoid such complications, I will not be completing questionnaires and pledge requests.

Ron NELSON

Why are you nominating for council?

We need a long-term vision for Geelong, whilst focusing on our core values of keeping rates low while providing free parking and public transport across Geelong. I am proud of my record of community work and will continue to fight for my community. I will continue to assist our local football, netball and soccer clubs south of the river because they are the soul of our suburbs. I have upgraded local parks and playgrounds which are vital to our growing community. A recent Council survey concluded the residents in this ward are the happiest in Geelong. I am proud to be involved in Rotary, Beyond Blue, and Give where you live. I am Community focused and community minded. Your voice is the most important thing to me and I have listened.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>The bus interchange needs to be at the train station for greater connectivity and removing the buses in Moorabool street will ease the pain faced by traders and residents in the CBD.</i>
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	<i>There should be a bus in the short term but there should be a train service from Avalon for greater connectivity</i>
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	<i>This would ease congestion on our roads.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Disagree	<i>Because transport is a State Government responsibility this should be funded by the State and maintained by the City.</i>
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	<i>The main issue with bus shelters is that they are predominantly city bound, so if you wish to catch a bus to Warrn Ponds for example there isn't a bus shelter to protect you from the elements.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Disagree	<i>The City should focus on fixing the roads and footpaths first as a priority.</i>
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Disagree	<i>They have already proven to be dangerous and in some cases deadly.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using	Agree	<i>Agreed. I have already championed \$1 million extra dollars for this project.</i>

Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.		
Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	<i>We need better and more connected public transport as a priority.</i>
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	<i>Population growth has caused this issue with poor public transport infrastructure by the State Government.</i>

Charlemont Ward

Teagan MITCHELL

Teagan declined to participate but provided the following response.

If community members, advocacy groups, individuals, businesses or services, have questions about my values, opinions, vision for the future, or what I hope to achieve if elected to Council, I encourage you to reach out to me for an open and honest conversation. I am all about transparency, and pertaining to the Local Government Act, which requires at all times Councillors have open minds about the things that are brought before them, surveys can often tie people to a perspective and an opinion, which is not the job of a Councillor and not something I want to be bound by.

Please reach out to me if anyone has any questions. I look forward to hearing from anyone interested in my views, please call or email me on 0402 253 500 or teagan4charlemontward@gmail.com my page also highlights my areas of interest for anyone wondering, which can be found here <https://www.facebook.com/teagan.charlemontward?mibextid=ZbWKwL>

Susan JOACHIM

No response was received from Susan.

Emma SINCLAIR

Why are you nominating for council?

Together, we have an incredible opportunity to shape a vibrant and thriving community in one of the fastest-growing regions in the country. My vision is to create a sustainable, liveable and desirable place to live for years to come, to ensure our established suburbs don't get swallowed by development to be a city that leads the country in integrity and innovation.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>Geelong is too dependent on cars. As our city expands, our reliance on a single form of transports will create unmanageable congestion and prevent us from reaching climate targets. Public transport should be an accessible and affordable option for our community.</i>
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	<i>Agree in principle but not but would need to look at costs allocation. At minimum a shuttle between Lara Station and Avalon should be in place</i>
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>Agree in principle but would have to understand the budget. Sheltered waiting areas will encourage PT use</i>
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	<i>As a cyclist, I am a big fan of active transport, but won't bike my commute in Geelong because I can't get across the river. At minimum we need existing bike lanes to connect to and through the city so there are safe paths to the CBD from our suburbs.</i>
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Disagree	<i>I'm not inclined to say yes without seeing more data. I know more than one person that has been hospitalised using these bikes. I would want to see more work around safety before making a call on this.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as	Disagree	<i>I will need to see costs in the relation to the city budget to comment on this. In principle, areas where there are safety concerns or high traffic should be prioritised by the council.</i>

opposed to Special Charge Schemes.		
Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	<i>See answer above.</i>
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	<i>Traffic is increasing from development not just in COGG, but along the surf coast and beyond. Increased usage and poor planning around coordination of roadworks is driving congestion.</i>

Sunny DHALIWAL

No response was received from Sunny.

Blake HADLOW

No response was received from Blake.

Sian MILTON-MCGURK

Why are you nominating for council?

I am a young and passionate local community member, with a vision to transform our area into a safe, greens and people focused community.

I currently work for a federal government agency as an assistant director of work health and safety. I love my work and I am deeply passionate about fighting for and upholding workers rights.

Charlemont is at risk of being left behind in the decision-making process, and I want to ensure that all members of our diverse community have an opportunity to have their voices heard.

The community has many young families and young households, many people who have recently purchased their first home or are renting. These are some of the people that have been hit hardest by the cost-of-living crisis, abandoned by the major parties and deserving of a representative who will fight for them.

In Charlemont ward, there is a distinct lack of infrastructure, including bus routes and bike paths. As your councillor, I will fight to build the infrastructure that our community needs.

I will push to lead local climate action, support genuinely affordable housing, for more public transport for the future and safe bike riding and walking.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>Geelong is growing exponentially and Council needs to ensure that public transport infrastructure is growing with it. The council should be continuously adapting to the changing needs of the community.</i>
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	<i>Major licenced events can often increase the risk of driving under the influence, by utilising public transport we would hopefully see a reduction in drunk driving incidents. Events can often increase congestion and cause a delay in necessary services.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>Living in Geelong means we are often subject to erratic weather, often being a deterrent to using public transport. The construction and upgrades of bus shelters will provide a safe and protected location to await transport. Increased lighting and visibility will also improve the safety and security of bus stops, particularly at night.</i>
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	<i>There are a number of new stops that either do not have adequate shelters or shelters at all. Additional stops were added without the construction of appropriate bus shelters.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	<i>The more infrastructure that is built to support bicycles and micro mobility vehicles the more connected our community is and the more we can move towards a less car reliant society.</i>

Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Agree	<i>Hire schemes assist the update of these vehicles, owing or transporting these micro mobility is not viable for some people. In addition, being a popular tourist location, there are often visitors that can utilise hire vehicles to explore the city.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.	Agree	<i>Safe footpaths are a necessity in all areas, it provides an opportunity to live an active and healthy lifestyle. Capital works funding is the preferred method of funding for this kind of infrastructure. However, as footpaths are so crucial to a community I would be willing to consider alternatives, noting that this would depend on the outcome for ratepayers</i>
Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	<i>We are in the midst of a climate crisis and Geelong continues to be a car reliant community. We see increased congestion and traffic, causing frustration and major delays. Encouraging alternative transport is not only better for the community but necessary to forge a path to a more sustainable city.</i>
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	

Cheetham Ward

Melissa HUTCHINSON

No response was received from Melissa.

Thomas GANT

Why are you nominating for council?

I'm nominating for Council because I believe that improving public transport is key to building a more sustainable and connected Geelong. With better infrastructure and more reliable services, we can reduce our reliance on cars, ease traffic congestion, and create a greener, more accessible city for all. My vision for Geelong includes expanded bus routes, more frequent services, and better integration with cycling and walking paths, making public transport the easiest and most convenient choice for residents. As your councillor, I will advocate for smart investments in public transport to meet the needs of our growing community and ensure that everyone, regardless of where they live, has access to safe, affordable, and efficient transport options.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>I agree. The City of Greater Geelong should consistently push the State Government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and the Bellarine. This is essential to meet growing demand, reduce traffic, and promote sustainable travel options for the region.</i>
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	<i>I agree that a public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport, but I believe the solution used by Luton Airport in the UK offers the best model. Luton has a dedicated bus service connecting the airport with key transport hubs, like train stations and nearby cities. For Avalon, the bus could come from Lara or Little River, or even a dedicated stop, providing convenient, direct access for passengers. This system would reduce traffic, promote public transport, and make Avalon more accessible, aligning with the needs of a growing airport.</i>
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	<p><i>The lack of bus services from Kardinia Park to key locations like the city center and High Street in Belmont both before and after major events highlights a major flaw in Geelong's public transport system. In a growing city, public transport should be designed to accommodate the needs of large crowds, especially during events. This is particularly true for a venue like Kardinia Park, which hosts high-profile games and draws large numbers of people from all over Geelong and beyond.</i></p> <p><i>The absence of buses from such a central location suggests a lack of planning and responsiveness by the current administration to the community's needs. Many people attending events may prefer or rely on public transport, either because they don't want to deal with parking, they don't have a car, or they want to avoid traffic congestion. By not offering public</i></p>

		<p><i>transport options that fit the needs of event-goers, the administration is not supporting a more efficient, environmentally friendly, and inclusive way for people to travel.</i></p> <p><i>Moreover, public transport access to major event venues is a hallmark of a well-connected and future-thinking city. It shows a commitment to reducing car dependency, which can lessen traffic congestion and lower emissions. Geelong, as a rapidly expanding city, should be leading the charge in offering modern, efficient transport solutions that cater to its growing population and visitors alike. Failure to address this issue not only inconveniences the community but also sends a message that public transport is not being prioritised or integrated into the city's broader development plans.</i></p> <p><i>In short, more robust public transport services for major events are essential for making Geelong more accessible, reducing traffic and pollution, and meeting the expectations of a modern city.</i></p>
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	<i>There are certainly improvements that can be made in this space. I notice that it is slowly happening though.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	<p><i>We absolutely need to expand and connect Geelong's bicycle infrastructure to ensure people can use it safely and confidently. At the moment, we're in a bind due to political infighting among career politicians who are unwilling to make the tough decisions required to prioritise sustainable transport. This lack of decisive action is holding us back from creating the kind of connected, bike-friendly city we need.</i></p> <p><i>We cannot expect more people to choose cycling or micro-mobility options like e-scooters until we provide safe, accessible, and continuous infrastructure. This means building dedicated bike lanes that are physically separated from traffic wherever possible. These separated lanes provide greater safety and encourage more people, including families and casual cyclists, to use active transport. Additionally, we need to stop wasting time with disputes between the City and the State Government and instead work collaboratively to secure the necessary funding</i></p>

		<p>and support for these projects. Prioritising bike lanes and micro-mobility infrastructure is essential for reducing congestion, promoting healthier lifestyles, and creating a more sustainable future for Geelong.</p>
<p>Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p>With the correct oversight, I believe there is definitely a place for micro-mobility services like Lime and Neuron in Geelong. These services offer convenient, eco-friendly alternatives to car trips, especially for short journeys, helping to reduce congestion and carbon emissions. By providing options like e-scooters and e-bikes, we can encourage more people to opt for sustainable transport, particularly in the city center and along key transport corridors.</p> <p>However, to ensure their success, it's essential to implement clear regulations around safety, parking, and accessibility. We need to make sure these services are integrated with existing public transport options, creating a seamless experience for users. Additionally, managing the rollout with proper community consultation and infrastructure support, such as designated parking areas and safe riding zones, will help avoid common issues such as clutter and misuse. With thoughtful planning, micro-mobility can play a valuable role in creating a more sustainable and connected Geelong.</p>
<p>The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p>By using Capital Works funding, the city can invest in the wellbeing of all residents and create more connected and pedestrian-friendly suburbs, rather than restricting these benefits to those who can afford additional charges.</p>
<p>Geelong is too car dependent.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p>I agree that Geelong is too car-dependent, but addressing this issue requires a balanced and thoughtful approach. It's not about banning cars, but rather about offering better alternatives so that people have real options other than driving. To reduce car dependence, we need to focus on creating more accessible and frequent public transport options, such as improved bus networks or even exploring innovative solutions like trackless trams.</p> <p>At the same time, we need to encourage more people to live in the city itself, reducing the need for long commutes and making walking or cycling more viable. By building a more walkable, well-connected Geelong with a stronger public transport system, we can make it easier and more attractive for people to leave their cars behind when they don't need them,</p>

		<p><i>while still ensuring the city remains accessible and vibrant for everyone.</i></p>
<p>Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p><i>You're right, road traffic in Geelong is getting worse, and the solutions are complex. While completing the ring road to Barwon Heads Road could significantly reduce the number of trucks passing through the city, it's not a simple fix. The river crossing and the cost of extending the ring road to Portarlinton Road are major obstacles, and we need to carefully consider whether completing the ring road to Barwon Heads road alone will provide enough relief.</i></p> <p><i>In the short term, improving freight routes and enhancing traffic flow through targeted infrastructure upgrades might help, but ultimately, we need to look at long-term solutions that address both freight and commuter traffic. This includes pushing for state and federal investment in completing the ring road, while also exploring complementary strategies such as encouraging the use of rail freight and improving the efficiency of existing road networks. We also need to invest in public transport and create more viable alternatives to driving for commuters, which will help take cars off the road and ease congestion. Balancing these options is crucial to finding the right solution for Geelong's future.</i></p>

Jon METRIKAS

No response was received from Jon.

Jess HARPER

Why are you nominating for council?

I am nominating for council to make a real change to our community.

- Tackling the cost-of-living crisis through increasing council run social and community services, library funding, community spaces and social housing;

- Improving and maintaining transport infrastructure including roads, foot paths, bike paths and public transport.

- Addressing climate and environment issues at a local level including promoting Storm Water capture and recycling as well as opposing the Lara Waste Incinerator and Offshore Gas Terminal in Corio Bay.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>Our Bus shelters outside of the CBD are in need of significant improvement.</i>
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as	Agree	<i>There are many parts of Newcomb, Whittington and St. Albans Park that are missing foot paths which forces residents onto roads.</i>

opposed to Special Charge Schemes.		
Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	

Melissa CADWELL

No response was received from Melissa.

Connearre Ward

Elise WILKINSON

Why are you nominating for council?

I am a compassionate, effective and collaborative leader. I have well developed skills in working with teams to solve complex challenges as a Social Worker working within public health. I am a powerful advocate and as a current Bellarine Ward Councillor I bring experience working alongside my community to achieve much needed infrastructure and programs. My vision for Geelong is a City renowned for innovation and sustainability that works alongside the Wadawurrung traditional owners to protect the unique natural environment and heritage. A city with a thriving arts and commerce with world leading institutions that provide essential services and research. A diverse and inclusive community that is healthy and connected with improved universal access to housing and public and active transport.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	<i>All options should be explored to determine the most energy efficient and accessible transport options for people to travel to and from Avalon Airport.</i>
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Disagree	<i>COGG should continue to collaborate with all stakeholders to improve all aspects of public transport infrastructure and passenger access and safety. Public transport infrastructure is currently the responsibility of State Government, and this is not able to be included in Council budget. However it is important for Council to continue to advocate for improvements and new facilities.</i>
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	<i>There is work to be done to maintain and improve bus shelters across COGG. We receive regular feedback as Councillors about shelters that need new roofing, seating or just don't exist where they should be located to enable access to essential services.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and	Agree	

micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.		
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.	Agree	<i>This is currently an enormous challenge for COGG given the need for footpaths across the region. Current budgeting does not allow for this to be addressed through the Capital works program and SRS are used to negotiate contributions. They are challenging however and can be divisive for our community. Ideally there would be sufficient funding in Capital Works and this could be supported through an annual financial budget contribution for asset renewal just as the roads are. Footpaths like roads would then be assessed upon urgency and renewed or built throughout the year.</i>
Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	<i>We need investment in active transport infrastructure to encourage cycling and active transport. Many experienced cyclists have reported dangerous behaviour from other road users and poor cycling infrastructure particularly across the CBD and Bellarine. Education and investment is required to support people using more active modes of transport. Better State Government investment in accessible and reliable public transport is required to enable universal access across COGG so people can feel confident and safe in relying upon public transport and leaving the car at home.</i>
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	<i>We need to work collaboratively to make public transport more viable. I frequently hear from young people and older people who are isolated across the Bellarine as public transport is limited and requires travelling into the CBD to be able to traverse the region. Buses are less frequent on the weekends when required and make it difficult to rely upon.</i>

Angela SHEARMAN

No response was received from Angela.

Corio Ward

Azadeh DOOSTI

No response was received from Azadeh.

Sarah HATHWAY

Why are you nominating for council?

My name is Sarah Hathway. I'm a Corio resident, a social worker in the public health sector, a community activist and a mum. I've also been a Councillor for this community since June 2023. I've been fighting to save Council land for public housing, working with residents to revitalise public spaces like Labuan Square, campaigning for the environment and against racism. I am the Socialist Alliance endorsed candidate for Corio Ward and I want to continue campaigning and advocating for this community.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>Agree. I regularly receive feedback from residents in Corio Ward about how our local public transport options could be improved as many residents in the Northern suburbs do not have cars and are reliant on public transport to get around the Northern suburbs as well as into the Geelong CBD.</i>
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	<i>We need a public bus and rail link to Avalon Airport.</i>
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	<i>Agree. Traffic congestion could be greatly improved with thought through park and ride systems where residents could park at particular locations around the city and catch public transport to major events such as football games at GMHBA stadium and other local major concerts, events and festivals.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Disagree	<i>The provision and funding of NEW bus shelters is the responsibility of PTV or State Government. It should be the role of Councillors to listen to residents and advocated for needed public transport infrastructure to the State Government.</i>
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	<i>No. In the Northern suburbs of Geelong there are a number of bus stops with no bench seat or shelter. This is particularly problematic given how many residents in Corio Ward are reliant on public transport for school, work, and general movement around the community. We also have a lot of residents in the Northern suburbs with chronic health issues and/or disabilities. The current public transport infrastructure is not up to standard or meeting community need.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	<i>Yes. I support active transport such as cycling and walking and we need the appropriate infrastructure to support these modes of transport that is safe for cyclists, pedestrians and drivers.</i>

Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Disagree	<i>The Lime bike hire previously was not successful in my view. The scheme was largely only used along the Geelong Waterfront and at the Deakin Waurm Ponds campus and was also quite expensive. There was also the issue of bikes being left all over the community that presented accessibility issues for other residents. I would be open to discussing future trials if these issues could be addressed.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.	Agree	<i>Agree. Footpaths are a basic necessity. Council should start compiling a list of streets/areas without footpaths and triage works to areas most traversed. I don't think it is reasonable to charge a SCS on top of rates for basic amenities.</i>
Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	<i>I agree, Geelong is too car dependent. Personally I would struggle without a car to get my child to school and myself to work in the morning on the other side of the city. Without the cycling and walking infrastructure in place and improvements to the public transport network, Geelong's car dependency will continue.</i>
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	<i>It seems like both road congestion and serious road trauma incidents are increasing.</i>

Anthony AITKEN

Why are you nominating for council?

Provide a strong experienced voice for the northern suburbs in Geelong.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>The people movement strategies in Geelong are too focused on Active Transport options (Bike Riding) instead of the primary solution which is public transport. Do not devalue trackless trams as a solution mix option too.</i>
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	<i>Not just Avalon Airport but other areas including the Jail precinct in Lara to improve worker access and visitor access.</i>
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	<i>Many of our events suffer because the only option to access them is via cars.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Disagree	<i>We need to develop a wholistic plan and priorities where the limited expenditure should go. New and upgraded Bus Shelters maybe a lower priority if funds needed to provide the actual public transport options.</i>
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Agree	<i>I think people are more interested in frequency and ontime performance of a public transport service than quality of bus shelters at the present time. But happy to review data that disputes this.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Disagree	<i>At this point of time active transport solutions is not the answer to reducing the number of cars trips in Geelong. A higher priority should be to improve public transport.</i>
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Disagree	<i>It is sad as the concept sounded good, but E-scooter have now been removed from many cities because of the safety hazards they pose to the users and bystanders.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.	Disagree	<i>Our Primary footpath network along main roads should be funded by the city's capital works budget, However many areas were created and subdivided to not have footpaths. Footpaths can be installed in those areas through a user pay model. You shouldn't buy into an area without footpaths then expect the rest of Geelong to pay for it.</i>

		<i>The recently passed Ocean Grove Ocean Grove Principal Pedestrian Network is an example of this co-funding model.</i>
Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	

Maddie SLATER

No response was received from Maddie.

Danny MAHFOUD

Why are you nominating for council?

I'm nominating for council because i care deeply about the Corio Ward and its future. Having lived here with my partner and five kids, I'm invested in the community's well-being. I want to improve essential services like local roads and rubbish collection, ensure sustainable growth, and make the area leading into Geelong from Melbourne more appealing. With over 20 years of community involvement, including volunteering with schools, sports clubs, and local committees, i understand the issues residents face. My experience and dedication make me confident that I'm the best choice to represent and advocate for your community.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>This one's a tricky one, yes the city definitely should provide shelters, however I'd be chasing funding for this, and advocating for this</i>
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Agree	<i>Geelong should at least trial it</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.	Agree	<i>This one's another tricky one, maybe it could be means tested. The majority of footpaths should be built using capital works funding, all if they're in residential areas</i>

Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	

Robert BLASZCZYK

Why are you nominating for council?

I live, work and play in the Corio Ward and believe I am in the best position to understand what people want and need in this ward. Vote Local.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>We should also consider the connections out Golden Plains Shire way, as Bannockburn is a growing area.</i>
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	<i>This would be made easier if there were more options, safety and frequency.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	<i>Aging population and more cyclists on the road, this makes sense.</i>
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.	Agree	<i>This needs to be further explained and researched if the need is required.</i>
Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	<i>During peak hour it is quite busy.</i>

Deakin Ward

Derek WALLACE

No response was received from Derek.

Izzy SCHERRER

No response was received from Izzy.

Nicholas KENNEDY

No response was received from Nicholas.

Joshua HAITSMA

No response was received from Joshua.

Sue COX

Why are you nominating for council?

We are an hour from Melbourne & don't have electric trains. No infrastructure. Roads a disgrace. Geelong has been forgotten for years by the Premier of Melbourne not Victoria.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>Yes. But with billions spent on Melbourne I wouldn't hold your breath?</i>
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.	Agree	
Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	

Anastasia HILTON

No response was received from Anastasia.

Andrew KATOS

No response was received from Andrew.

Andy RICHARDS

Why are you nominating for council?

It's time that families in Belmont, Grovedale, Waurm Ponds, and Mt Duneed had a strong local voice listening to our community and standing up for us on council.

I'll make sure our children can access local kindergarten and childcare to get the best start in life, and fully fund Waurm Ponds, Armstrong Creek and Belmont libraries.

I'll deliver storage facilities for Mt Duneed Men's Shed, and fund Grovedale Tigers much needed netball courts upgrade.

I'll deliver a new home ground for Armstrong United Pelicans, allowing Armstrong Creeks Sharks to expand as well.

I'll fund lighting for Grovedale Tennis Club's Francis Street facilities, find Barwon Soccer Club more room to train and play and fund Belmont Lions commercial kitchen project.

I'll push the Victorian government to build a Mt Duneed high school, provide more local police and fund a fire station.

I'll keep cost of living down by opposing paid parking being introduced into our community and won't support increased council fees and charges.

I'll make sure council delivers on road, footpath and park maintenance, and won't cut essential council services like aged care.

I'll be available to listen to your concerns.

I'll stand up for our community on every issue.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>As the former Transport Portfolio holder on Geelong Council from 2008 to 2016, it's been disappointing to see the lack of advocacy to the state and federal government since that point in time. If elected, I am committed to getting this issue back on the agenda, and pushing for better public transport in my ward in southern Geelong, and right across the city.</i>
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	<i>Given the cost of car parking at Avalon Airport, and it's distance from other forms of public transport, I agree that a public bus service should be provided.</i>
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Disagree	<i>This is currently the case (funded by the Council) however most public transport is funded by the state government, and bus shelters should be too.</i>
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	<i>A lot of work to do here - no shelter, no signage, no seat, etc.</i>

The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Disagree	<i>Cycling and Public Transport are two different issues.</i>
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Disagree	<i>The city is too spread out and lacks the population density to make a hire scheme successful.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.	Disagree	<i>This is completely unfair and unjust for the many residents who have had to fund there own scheme in the past.</i>
Geelong is too car dependent.	Disagree	<i>It's only car dependent because there is not enough public transport, and no other options.</i>
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	<i>Population growth equals traffic congestion.</i>

Hamlyn Heights Ward

Joey NICITA

Why are you nominating for council?

I am running for Council because, as an Early Childhood Educator, I want to work towards a better, brighter future for Geelong. We need a Council that will deliver the infrastructure we need right now, while developing a compelling vision for the future. As a Greens Councillor, I'll champion genuinely affordable and sustainable housing and ensure new developments

include public and affordable homes, grow services that assist with cost-of-living pressures, like community childcare, libraries, sporting facilities and playgrounds, bring down power bills and take climate action through solar bulk-buying for home-owners and renters, and supporting households to get off gas, deliver safe walking and cycling infrastructure, like separated bike lanes and improved pedestrian crossings, and improve our parks and green spaces, while supporting wildlife and biodiversity.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	<i>Far too many of our local bus shelters are suffering wear and tear, or lack the seating and/or shade measures to meet the community's needs.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Agree	

The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.	Agree	
Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	

Angela CARR

Why are you nominating for council?

I am nominating as I believe we need a wider representation of the community on local council, as a parent and social worker I am committed to delivering services that support everyone in our community and I am not backed by big business or developers. In a cost of living crisis council can play a fundamental roll in the continuation of low cost services that support families, those on low incomes and the aged. Greater accessibility to Public transport is an important measure to ease the cost of living burden. I would like to see more frequent bus services and the building of bus shelters, this would certainly enhance usage across the region.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.	Agree	<i>This is definitely needed. People with mobility issues such as the aged, people using wheelchairs and parents with prams the lack of footpath access is dangerous and makes moving around the suburbs difficult, especially when people are forced to mobilise on the roads which is a safety issue.</i>

Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	<i>Currently our bus services lack the frequency to make them a reliable and practical way to move around. The lack of services connecting from one side of town to the other is problematic and as it currently stands, cars are the only practical option for busy working parents to move around the region.</i>
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	

Eddy KONTELJ

Why are you nominating for council?

Being elected a Councillor in Geelong and having the opportunity and ability to give back to the community, and the region, is a privilege and honour. Now more than ever, I believe we need capable, experienced and strong leadership. I feel I bring a good balance of all these attributes to Council. My aim is to play my part in ensuring Geelong is a diverse and welcoming community where all residents, community members, investors and visitors can achieve their aspirations in their personal, professional and community lives without fear or limitation. "Our potential and ambitions should only be limited by our imagination". It is for these reasons and more that I am standing to be re-elected to the City of Greater Geelong Council.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	<i>Yes, there is no question this is very important, particularly from an affordability perspective.</i>
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	<i>Agree, however, for this to occur the public transport options must be accessible, safe, affordable and meet the needs and demands of the community. In addition, major event venues and locations need to be planned strategically to provide the most convenient accessibility for attendees and patrons. As an example, GMHBA Stadium with its excellent accessibility and proximity to public transport options should be used far more for live entertainment and events, other than just football.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>Yes, however, State Government should also contribute to these costs.</i>
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	<i>Whilst I have answered that I disagree with the question, I preface that at times they do meet the communities expectations and needs. However, there are many bus shelters that are sub standard and need upgrading, enhancing, relocating or replacing.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	<i>Yes, however, subject to the infrastructure meeting the needs and being appropriate and respectful of all road users, residents and businesses. The design and routes must be well thought out, the infrastructure should not be over engineered, and must also be considerate</i>

		<i>of the ongoing requirements for on street vehicle parking.</i>
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Agree	<i>Whilst I agree, I only do so on the basis that these can be managed effectively and safely. Recent examples of such schemes here in Geelong and other cities in Australia have not set a positive precedence. More thought and planning needs to go into this before proceeding again. The serious safety hazards associated with such programs, and the poor management of assets such and e-bikes and e-scooters, in many cases is unacceptable.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.	Agree	<i>I agree using Capital Works funding is more affordable and a far better outcome for the community.</i>
Geelong is too car dependent.	Disagree	<i>This question can be answered either way. The reason I disagree with this is that unfortunately most Geelong residents and visitors to Geelong have little choice but to use private vehicles to travel on most occasions. Some of the reasons for this is that public transport options in Geelong do not meet the needs or demands of the community. Decades of urban sprawl has increased reliance on private vehicle transport, and Geelong also does not have a well run and managed micromobility hire scheme in place. So it is not that Geelong is necessarily too car dependent, but rather people are using private vehicles accordingly to try to effectively manage their transportation needs given the environment they live in and the options they have available.</i>
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	<i>Getting worse is one way of putting it. Our city is one of the fastest growing cities in Australia, and as such, road traffic will continue to increase. In addition, the public transport options in Geelong do not meet the needs or demands of the community.</i>

Mathew HOOD

Why are you nominating for council?

I'm running as an independent and committed to seeing council return to basics. My vision is for a city where all voices are heard (not just the loudest) and local issues are at the forefront. By enhancing core services, supporting local business and investing in much needed infrastructure, we can create a city that meets the needs of residents today and into the future.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<p><i>Transport links are the lifeblood of any thriving city. Reliable and accessible public transport is essential for connecting people to work, education, healthcare, and wider community activities and events. It strengthens local economies by making it easier for residents and visitors to access businesses and services.</i></p> <p><i>In a growing city like Geelong, improved bus and train services can help ease the growing traffic congestion problem we are seeing today. Enhanced transport options also provide for greater mobility for people who don't drive.</i></p> <p><i>I would hope all councillors would advocate for transport improvements across the region to ensure Geelong remains liveable and connected.</i></p>
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	<p><i>A bus service should be servicing Avalon Airport to meet the current demand and improve the airport's accessibility for residents and visitors but as the airport continues to grow with more flights, I believe a train connection would be the ideal long-term solution. But for now, 100% Avalon should be serviced by a bus service.</i></p>
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	<p><i>I fully support encouraging more Geelong residents to use public transport for major events however I do believe there are huge gaps in our PT infrastructure. Would love to see a park and ride option made available for some of our key major events, particularly those at GMHBA Stadium.</i></p>
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Disagree	<p><i>As the bus services are state run through PTV, the state government should be stumping up the cash for construction of new bus shelters but I believe CoGG should be lobbying with our local members to get our fair share of state funding to update shelters across the region, which once installed would be maintained by CoGG.</i></p> <p><i>The current state of shelters in the region is unacceptable,. Most shelters fail to provide</i></p>

		<i>adequate weather protection or seating, making them unfit for purpose and discouraging public transport use.</i>
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	<i>While we do have bus shelters in place, many have passed their use-by dates and are in desperate need of upgrades to ensure they offer proper protection, comfort, and accessibility.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	<i>I support the development of bike lanes where cyclists actually ride, but they need to be thoughtfully planned to avoid negatively impacting traffic flow, unlike Gheringhap Street, which I've driven and cycled, and has become a mess and is confusing for both drivers and cyclists.</i>
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Agree	<i>I am but I'd want to see it rolled out cleaner than City of Melbourne. The scooters on footpaths become a bit of hindrance up there, but perhaps in high foot traffic zones there could be scooter zones stopping them getting in the way on the footpath.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.	Agree	<i>Building the footpaths has a wider community benefit as it is encouraging active transport, and ensures accessibility for all residents. This investment enhances community connection.</i>
Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	<i>Geelong is car dependent because we lack adequate public transport options.</i>
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	<i>Traffic is getting worse due to insufficient investment in infrastructure, which has failed to keep pace with population growth. We need better PT options across the city and I'd love to see the completion of the Ring Road out to the Bellarine, taking cars off our city's streets. We really need to start pushing the state to support our expanding city.</i>

Kardinia Ward

Emilie FLYNN

Why are you nominating for council?

I want to build a better future for Geelong. We are in the midst of enormous change, as one of the fastest-growing cities in Australia. At the same time, our city faces urgent environmental and social challenges: the proposed Lara waste-to-energy incinerator and floating gas terminals, alongside a lack of housing and alternative transport options. Geelong's growth is at a crossroads. We can either continue down the business-as-usual path of urban sprawl and heavy traffic; or we can build connected, sustainable, thriving neighbourhoods.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>As Geelong grows, our needs change. This means that advocating for frequent public transport services across the city is an ongoing concern. The City of Greater Geelong should be continuously looking to improve these services in line with changing needs. Safety is always a significant concern for the community and more frequent services promote greater safety.</i>
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	<i>Avalon airport is a key industrial area for many workers from all over Geelong, especially in the North. For some of these workers, getting to and from their place of employment is tricky, so for this purpose I would be highly supportive of a public bus service to and from Avalon. Of course, public access to the airport is important for the general public in accessing flights and other services.</i>
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	<i>Major events in Geelong can cause congestion around the venue and often require early planning to ensure that parking is found. If more people accessed public transport to attend these events both of these issues can be alleviated. For licensed events it can also increase safety with a decrease in drunk driving. With more pedestrians, bike riders and public transport users near to the venues, local businesses will also see an uptick in patronage around event times.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>There are many reasons that improved bus shelter access and facilities would benefit Geelong and the Bellarine. With safety being a key concern for the community, much of this can be improved with increased lighting and visibility. As our weather can sometimes be unpredictable this can also encourage the community to use public transport if they know there is somewhere safe to wait while travelling.</i>

<p>Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.</p>	<p>Disagree</p>	<p><i>The current state of our bus shelters are falling short of community expectations. There are areas where new or changed routes have seen new stops added, without the addition of any nearby shelters. Some of the older shelters are also making the city look outdated. This makes the use of buses less appealing for many parts of the community.</i></p>
<p>The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p><i>With the increased popularity and use of e-scooters, e-bikes, and other bicycles, we should ensure that the community is encouraged to use them as viable and regular transport options. Unfortunately, parking in many bike lanes or lack of dedicated bike lanes is making this option unsafe. Increased connection across the city means that riders can commute for business purposes as well as leisure and would lead to a more lively and livable Geelong. Additional options include bicycle priority routes in urban areas, such as now exists on Gertrude St.</i></p>
<p>Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p><i>Owning an e-scooter or e-bike is not a practical option for some. Therefore, micromobility hire schemes can encourage the community to enjoy the city, run errands, and commute without the use of their motor vehicle. Geelong welcomes millions of visitors per year and improved lanes and hire schemes means they can enjoy everything the city has to offer in a healthy and sustainable way.</i></p>
<p>The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p><i>Many people benefit from better footpaths around Geelong, not just the property owners where they are built. An active and healthy city means that exercise is important to the community and many enjoy this by walking. The safety and availability of footpaths can influence walking routes, socialising, and impact business activity such as postal delivery and metre reading. By using Capital Works to fund new footpaths, The City of Greater Geelong will keep our community connected.</i></p> <p><i>My preference would be for these upgrades to be paid for via capital works funding. However, if this is not possible, given the importance of footpaths, I would be willing to consider Special Charge Schemes, or a combination, depending on what that looks like for ratepayers.</i></p>
<p>Geelong is too car dependent.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p><i>Not only is congestion and parking a growing concern and frustration, but the community is calling for more action on the climate crisis. Cars are already a source of pollution and congested traffic makes this worse. Geelong could lead the way in reducing dependence on cars by improving bike lanes and public transport options. By encouraging Geelong to</i></p>

		<i>use their cars less, we can pave the path to a sustainable and vibrant city.</i>
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	<i>Ask anyone from Geelong if they feel like road traffic is getting worse and you would likely hear a frustrated 'yes!' This is not just the perception of the community, it is a fact. By 2041 our car traffic will be up 491% if nothing is done (source: G21). The local Greens candidates for the council election are committed to improving Geelong's services and environment.</i>

Stretch KONTELJ

Stretch declined to participate but provided the following response.

Thank you for your email. As a candidate, I have received numerous requests to sign pledges and complete surveys and questionnaires in support of various causes. I have decided not to sign any pledges or complete surveys or questionnaires at this time. If elected, I am committed to considering all matters that come before Council based on their individual merits, with a focus on what will best serve our community without fear or favour. That is my promise to you.

Thank you again for reaching out.

Johnny DUNSTAN

Why are you nominating for council?

*I want to get Geelong Going ! I love my City by the Bay ! I Will fight for fair on rates, roads and health care
I am passionate and stand for our Australian flag*

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Disagree	
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Disagree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital	Agree	

Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.		
Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	

Peter MURRIHY

Why are you nominating for council?

I am a current Councillor and there is still a lot to be achieved and I have the passion and energy to work hard for positive results.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	<i>This is so important.</i>
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	<i>We must attempt to change people's mindset about the use of their vehicle into Geelong especially to Major Events but this cannot be achieved unless Public Transport improves.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Disagree	<i>This should be a shared responsibility between State Govt and Council.</i>
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	<i>There needs to be greater focus on the condition of Bus Shelters.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	<i>If these can be built with minimum disruption to other traffic we should build them.</i>
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Agree	<i>I am a supporter of this type of transport. I have my own E Scooter and luv it.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established	Agree	<i>Whilst I agree there must be some contribution from residents.</i>

suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.		
Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	

Peter DESBROWE-ANNEAR

Why are you nominating for council?

I am born and bred in Geelong. Have had my own Finance business for the past 25 years. Have bought up 3 Daughters. Have lived, Perth for a few years early 1980 Queensland late 80's also Melbourne 90's. But Geelong will always be my home. A lot I believe has changed for Geelong and I don't think for the best. The flow of the city with traffic, the empty shops, graffiti etc. When I see a cruise ship in the harbour I feel a sense of embarrassment of what they see after coming from the waterfront. There needs to be a lot more common sense when looking at the planning for the future.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>Make sure bus routes cover most parts of areas people frequently use. Private enterprise can cover what is needed.</i>
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Disagree	<i>Private businesses can cover what is needed. Council or government do not need the extra expense.</i>
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	<i>Public transport is unreliable in Geelong.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Disagree	<i>I think they should think more about where they are going to put these lanes.</i>
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Disagree	

<p>The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p><i>The rates over the years should have a fund set aside to cover this.</i></p>
<p>Geelong is too car dependent.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p><i>Lack of good and reliable public transport.</i></p>
<p>Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p><i>Not enough planned infrastructure.</i></p>

Daniel GARCIA

Why are you nominating for council?

To bring evidence based advocacy to Geelong Council

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	<i>they do not</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.	Agree	
Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	

Candice COSTOSO

No response was received from Candice.

Leopold Ward

Trent SULLIVAN

No response was received from Trent.

Shona MCKEEN

No response was received from Shona.

David LYNCH

No response was received from David.

Murradoc Ward

Kate LOCKHART

Why are you nominating for council?

I am standing for council to genuinely listen to, understand and serve our community's needs. To be an advocate for community groups and organisations; to facilitate improved access and quality of the public services and infrastructure that Council has a leading hand in providing; and acting on Climate change.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>Bellarine need cross Bellarine service primarily Drysdale to Ocean Grove and return, it would be beneficial to run from Barwon heads to Portarlington. St Leonards also needs greater frequency to connect to Drysdale and beyond.</i>
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	<i>Advocacy to the bus companies, consider smaller more frequent buses.</i>
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Disagree	<i>Its currently just not possible</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Disagree	<i>I would need more information to respond to this question</i>
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Agree	<i>Insisting on an answer is coercive. I doubt if it is true but don't appreciate the coercive design of the survey.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	<i>I would like to see the data for specific bike lanes in specific locations. Connecting local footpaths may be more cost effective and beneficial for more vulnerable people.</i>
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Disagree	<i>Not sure, I would like to see the data to support this.</i>

<p>The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.</p>	<p>Disagree</p>	<p><i>Not sure, There is public and private benefits in connected footpaths so negotiation the shared funding is an important part of the consultation process to refine the costs and benefits.</i></p>
<p>Geelong is too car dependent.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p><i>There is insufficient public transport infrastrucure and frequency in some parts of the Council.</i></p>
<p>Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p><i>More population, generally means more cars while public infrastructure lags behind.</i></p>

Rowan D STORY

No response was received from Rowan.

You Yangs Ward

Theresa SLATER

Why are you nominating for council?

I am a Geelong born and raised mother who wants to see this area thrive. I want the people of You Yangs to have a representative who listen and uses the community concerns and consultation to inform decision making.

Being a Greens supported candidate I am advocating for improved public and passive transport options that support sustainable and environmentally positive action for the wider area.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	Yes
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	<i>Avalon airport can be a massive support to bring tourism and others to our area. For a bus system that supports gaining access to both the Lara and Geelong areas and encourage people to utilise and access local shops, cafe and industry.</i>
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	<i>Myself and my family used the buses that were provided to attend events such as White night and events at the stadium. This makes the travel too and from these events easier and eases congestion in a more environmentally positive way. The availability of these services encourages locals to participate and can reduce costs associated for families in an environment of rising living costs</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>People who are using public transport should be able to do so without standing next to signs with no shelter exposed to the elements. A lack of safe shelter discourages people for using the existing system or be confident in the commitment of government to making the public transport system sustainable, affordable and accessible for all residents.</i>
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	<i>These shelters are not shelters, many of the current bus shelters are no fit for purpose and do not support safe accessible places to wait for buses.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and	Agree	<i>There is an existing bicycle path proposal that has not been implemented. Currently there are sections of the 'principal bike network" that pose a physical risk to those who would try to use them.</i>

micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.		
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.	Agree	<i>Accessibility is key to all if the population being able to participate in the community.</i>
Geelong is too car dependent.	Agree	
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	

David GREENWOOD⊗

⊗ Candidate was retired by VEC

Why are you nominating for council?

As a lifelong resident of the Geelong region, I have a deep connection with our community and a commitment to creating positive change for the future. My decision to nominate for council stems from a desire to represent the diverse voices of our region, particularly in the northern suburbs where local issues often go unheard. My vision for Geelong focuses on strengthening grassroots initiatives, such as supporting sporting clubs, arts programs, and community projects, all while improving essential infrastructure and addressing key concerns like road safety, equitable access to services, and environmental sustainability.

In Lara, where I live, residents face a variety of challenges, from road infrastructure concerns to the impacts of the proposed Waste-to-Energy Incinerator, which I stand firmly against due to its proximity to family homes. I also advocate for the revitalisation of Serendip Sanctuary, promoting local events, and supporting family businesses, restaurants, and cafés. Through these efforts, I aim to make our city a more inclusive, vibrant, and sustainable place.

With over 15 years of experience managing a successful arts business, employing staff and contractors, and engaging with local councils, I understand the importance of thoughtful planning and consultation. I'm running for council because I believe in fostering open communication, addressing overlooked issues, and ensuring the diverse cultures and needs of all residents are met.

Geelong deserves leadership that listens, acts, and empowers the community. My goal is to be that voice, working tirelessly to ensure we all thrive, and that our region is well-positioned for the future.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<p>The City of Greater Geelong must consistently advocate for improved public transport services across Geelong and The Bellarine to address the growing population and the increasing demand for equitable and accessible transport. With over 250,000 residents in the Geelong region and projections suggesting the population will grow to 393,000 by 2041, it is critical that our bus and train services evolve to meet these demands. The current transport system, with limited bus and train service frequencies, disproportionately affects low-income earners, students, and those without access to private vehicles, reducing their ability to access employment, education, and essential services.</p> <p>Introducing more frequent bus services, especially on weekends and evenings, is essential to ensure equitable access for all</p>

		<p>residents, particularly in outer areas like Lara and The Bellarine Peninsula. Currently, many areas are underserved, with infrequent services creating isolation for those without cars. A shift towards a more reliable and frequent service would increase usage, reduce congestion on our roads, and support a transition to more sustainable travel patterns, in line with the State Government's goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45-50% by 2030.</p> <p>Geelong should also push for extended free transport periods and better integration of transport zones to encourage more public transport use. Melbourne's success with Zone 1+2 fare caps could be replicated in Geelong to ensure more affordable travel within the region. This would benefit lower-income residents and support those commuting between Geelong and Melbourne for work. By advocating for similar schemes in Geelong, the council can support a more inclusive transport system that promotes economic participation and social inclusion.</p> <p>The city's bus service frequency remains a challenge, with many routes operating on a 30 to 60-minute schedule, far below the frequency seen in metropolitan areas. Comparatively, regional centres like Ballarat and Bendigo have seen improvements in their bus networks, and it is vital that Geelong does not fall behind. Consistent advocacy is key to ensuring the State Government prioritises Geelong's transport infrastructure, providing funding and support for more frequent bus and train services, particularly in growing areas like Armstrong Creek and The Bellarine.</p> <p>By improving service frequency and affordability through measures like free transport periods and better zone integration, we can create a more equitable and accessible transport</p>
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		<p>system that serves the needs of all Geelong residents, supports economic growth, and contributes to a more sustainable future.</p>
<p>A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p>Providing a public bus service to Avalon Airport is essential for improving accessibility and convenience for travelers and locals alike. Currently, the only charter bus service available operates from Southern Cross Station in Melbourne, forcing passengers to transit to a train for Geelong after their bus journey. This adds unnecessary complexity and inconvenience, particularly for those travelling to and from regional areas, and reduces Avalon Airport's accessibility for local residents.</p> <p>Due to contractual restrictions, neither charter buses like Gull nor public bus services are currently allowed to enter Avalon Airport property. This leaves passengers with limited, often costly transport options, such as taxis or ride-sharing services. The absence of a direct public bus link is a significant barrier for many travelers, particularly those from low-income backgrounds or without access to private vehicles, who rely on affordable public transport options.</p> <p>Introducing a dedicated public bus service would streamline access to Avalon Airport for residents of Geelong, The Bellarine, and surrounding areas, while also alleviating the burden of transitioning from buses to trains at Southern Cross. Furthermore, it would support airport employees, boost tourism, and contribute to regional economic growth by making Avalon more accessible.</p> <p>Other Australian airports, such as Gold Coast and Canberra, already provide integrated public transport options, demonstrating the feasibility and benefits of such services. Establishing a public bus service to Avalon Airport would not only enhance convenience but also promote sustainability by</p>

		<p>encouraging the use of public transport, reducing traffic congestion on key roads, and aligning with the state's emission reduction goals. By advocating for these changes, the City of Greater Geelong can foster greater regional connectivity and make Avalon Airport a more viable and accessible choice for all.</p>
<p>More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p>Encouraging more people to use public transport when attending major events in Geelong is critical for improving traffic flow, reducing congestion, and promoting sustainability. Geelong regularly hosts large-scale events, such as sports matches at GMHBA Stadium, cultural festivals, and concerts, which attract thousands of visitors. However, the influx of private vehicles often leads to overcrowded streets, parking shortages, and increased pollution.</p> <p>Promoting public transport as the preferred mode of travel for these events would alleviate these issues, offering a convenient, affordable, and environmentally friendly alternative. With frequent trains running between Melbourne and Geelong, and buses serving local areas, there is significant potential to increase patronage of these services. Improved bus and train frequencies on event days, coupled with special event-specific public transport routes, could make it easier for attendees to travel to and from venues without the stress of finding parking or navigating congested roads.</p> <p>Cities like Melbourne have demonstrated the success of public transport for major events, with dedicated routes to venues and free or discounted travel passes on game days. Geelong could adopt similar initiatives to incentivise the use of buses and trains, particularly for large events. By offering free or discounted public transport for ticket holders, the city could encourage higher usage, reduce the carbon footprint</p>

		<p>associated with large events, and contribute to a more sustainable future.</p> <p>Additionally, increased use of public transport for events would benefit the local economy by creating demand for more frequent services, improving employment opportunities in the transport sector, and encouraging event attendees to explore the city via easily accessible public routes. In the long term, normalising public transport as the primary option for major events will lead to a more efficient, less congested Geelong that is better equipped to host large gatherings while prioritising environmental sustainability and public convenience.</p>
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<p>Whilst I am not fully over this particular statement in regards to proposals. I do understand the current arrangements outside the Mall and not satisfactory in supporting our locals, small business and congestion through the city. I would hope that the future outcome/planning of the next life of Market square would address these issues.</p>
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	<p>The current state of bus shelters in Geelong falls short of meeting the community's expectations. Many shelters are either not undercover, out of service, or fail to provide a safe and secure waiting area for passengers. In some cases, bus shelters are closed or poorly maintained, leaving locals stranded or requiring them to walk significant distances to catch the next available bus.</p> <p>From my personal experience as a business owner in Norlane, I have witnessed the direct impact of these issues on our community. The bus shelter outside my business at 22 Princes Highway has been inactive since the construction of the Norlane Arc. This closure has forced locals to walk to the nearest stop near Ray Outdoors (about 1km away),</p>

		<p>creating significant inconvenience, particularly for those with mobility issues or those relying on public transport as their primary mode of travel.</p> <p>This situation highlights the need for a review and upgrade of Geelong's bus shelter infrastructure to ensure it is safe, accessible, and weather-protected for all passengers. It is crucial that shelters provide adequate coverage from the elements, are properly lit for safety, and are well-maintained to meet the growing needs of the community. The City of Greater Geelong must work with state transport authorities to prioritise upgrading or reinstating inactive shelters, particularly in high-traffic or underserved areas like Norlane. Addressing these issues would promote the use of public transport, enhance the commuter experience, and contribute to a more connected and accessible city.</p>
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Agree	
Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.	Agree	
The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.	Agree	I struggle to answer this question. As a person with a physical disability, I need a foot path more than potentially the general public to I can walk. I am not across the budget of Geelong and available finances to properly answer this, but I do approve accessible footpaths.
Geelong is too car dependent.	Disagree	
Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse	Agree	

Lorraine KULIC

No response was received from Lorraine.

Christopher BURSON

Why are you nominating for council?

I would like to see council getting back to what it is supposed to take care of and stop wasteful spending. Then putting those savings back into services and increasing the standard of living without the cost of living.

Survey Responses

Statement	Agree/Disagree	Additional Comment
The City of Greater Geelong should consistently advocate the State government to improve bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Agree	<i>I travelled for years on the train to and from Melbourne, stuck in compartments, behind seats, claustrophobic with the amount of people, to then be stuck on the train for hours when the heat made it limited speeds. I can't believe how far behind we are on trains in this country that should realistically be the world leader due to our tyranny of distance.</i>
A public bus service should be provided to Avalon Airport.	Agree	<i>At least a bus from Lara station to Avalon.</i>
More people should use public transport when attending major events in Geelong.	Agree	<i>Being an ex police officer, drink driving occurs a lot more if there is not enough transport. Making it easier to be responsible makes it less likely to occur and therefore, safer for all.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should fund the construction of new and upgraded bus shelters in Geelong and The Bellarine.	Disagree	<i>I am not against it, if there is a valid reason they need to be upgraded. I don't want to just say yes without seeing the need.</i>
Bus shelters in Geelong meet the expectations of the community.	Disagree	<i>As above, I am a train user, not busses, so I don't know and don't want to speak for people without them being able to say so.</i>
The City of Greater Geelong should build more dedicated lanes for bicycles and micromobility vehicles such as e-scooters.	Disagree	<i>The laws on electric devices are not up to date yet. So I think we can have plans in place, however just taking a lane of traffic to then maybe increase scooter users doesn't sound wise to me as yet. I am open to being shown otherwise, I myself own a onewheel, which by the law I cant use anywhere besides private property. So a lane I still couldn't use legally.</i>

<p>Geelong should welcome micromobility hire schemes such as Lime or Neuron.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p><i>I think electric devices are an amazing way to get around, provided they are legal and people are being safe. I would like to know the pros and cons Melbourne have had with them to make this better, but I like the idea.</i></p>
<p>The City of Greater Geelong should build new footpaths in established suburbs using Capital Works funding as opposed to Special Charge Schemes.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p><i>If rate payers have footpaths that aren't up to standard. They should get a new one. That's what they are paying for.</i></p>
<p>Geelong is too car dependent.</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p><i>There is hardly enough parking, the roads are always full of traffic. However, that is due to it being hard to get anywhere without a car. So I think if you resolve the issue of getting to and from with public transport. It can be resolved.</i></p>
<p>Road traffic in Geelong is getting worse</p>	<p>Agree</p>	<p><i>The ring road was great to free the city a bit, however, the population is booming, so it will always be increasing road users. It's just an outcome that is going to continue to happen to any city as it grows.</i></p>

Nicole LYNCH

No response was received from Nicole.