



Press Release - 13 October 2024

Geelong Candidates Survey Highlights

Public Transport Priorities

The Public Transport Users Association (PTUA) Geelong Branch has released survey results from candidates standing for election in the City of Greater Geelong Council, aiming to gauge their perspectives on transport issues and provide insights for voters.

With rapid growth in Lara and Armstrong Creek, along with a new employment precinct at Avalon Airport, Geelong faces increasing car dependency due to inadequate public and active transport options. PTUA stresses the need for local government representatives to understand these challenges to avoid congestion.

Key Findings:

- **Advocacy for Public Transport:** All candidates agreed on the importance of Council advocating for improved bus and train service frequencies in Geelong and The Bellarine. Many also acknowledged the current network's inability to cater to growth.
- **Public Transport to Avalon Airport:** Most candidates supported establishing a bus service to Avalon Airport, recognizing its importance for job access.
- **Transport for Major Events:** Candidates largely agreed that public transport should be used for major events in Geelong, addressing the current lack of adequate transport options.
- **Bus Shelter Funding and Conditions:** Responses were divided on whether the City of Greater Geelong should fund new and upgraded bus shelters, with many believing this responsibility lies with the State Government. Most concurred that current shelters do not meet community needs, citing issues with accessibility.
- **Footpath Development:** Many candidates agreed that new footpaths should be funded through the City's Capital Works budget, benefiting the wider community and promoting accessibility for those with mobility needs.
- **Traffic Concerns:** Most acknowledged Geelong's high car dependency and worsening traffic, linking these issues to insufficient transport diversity.

Jarred Crowe, PTUA Geelong Branch Covenantor, stated, "This survey empowers voters with essential insights into each candidate's positions on critical transport issues. Understanding candidates' commitments helps the community identify those likely to advocate for a more connected and sustainable transport future."

The survey received responses from 28 of the 51 candidates (54.9%) on pressing transport topics.

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