



**Friends of
the Earth
Melbourne**

MOBILISE - RESIST - TRANSFORM

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Friday, 5 October 2018

Sam Rae
State Secretary
Victorian Labor

by email only to info@vic.alp.org.au

Dear Sam

In the lead-up to November's pivotal state election, we're writing to Victoria's major parties to canvass their views, policies and promises for our community scorecard on transport.

Transport, urban planning, housing and suburban development are key issues for the election and the community is crying out for a clear vision for the future. To help play our part in this, we're developing a scorecard with each party's track-record, key promises and what they offer Victorians for the next four years.

Sustainable Cities was set up in 2017 as a joint campaign between the Friends of the Earth Melbourne, the Public Transport Users Association and a coalition of anti-toll-road campaigners and urbanists. Our campaign is about making Melbourne a truly livable city.

This election year, we've chosen to focus on transport.

Get On Board - Our Community Powered Transport Plan brings together public transport, road infrastructure, freight and active living into a single integrated campaign that we launched earlier this year.

We've been campaigning right across Melbourne – from Werribee to Mernda – talking to local residents, working with small businesses and flyering at railway stations across the city.

We've handed out thousands of fliers and spoken to hundreds of voters about the Suburban Rail Loop, Doncaster Rail and Melbourne Metro 2. The public overwhelmingly support more rail projects and more affordable and accessible public transport.

We hear from voters time and again that Victoria has dropped the ball on infrastructure for the last twenty years. We're so far behind, and while it's good that the current government is tackling the challenge head on, there's much much more we can do.

So let's talk about your vision for transport in Victoria.

We will be developing a scorecard. The scorecard will show your vision summarised in a few keywords, your yes/no responses to our big asks, links to your key initiatives and policies, and a final grade that the collective will develop based on your response and your track record in Parliament over the last few years.

The scorecard will be promoted widely through our social media channels, through email to our supporters, and to the media. We will also upload your full responses to our website.

We won't be instructing our members and supporters who to vote for or who to preference. We trust them to make up their own minds on what's best for Victoria.

We hope you reflect on our questions and asks and provide your response by **26 October 2018**.

Your vision for Victoria

These questions are open-ended and give you a chance to outline your vision for transport in Victoria.

Keywords will be pulled out of each response for the scorecard. If you have preferred keywords or slogans, please highlight them. Your full response will be available on our website.

- a. What is your **vision for transport** in Victoria?
 - b. How will you support Melbourne's **growing population** to move 8 million people by 2050?
 - c. How will you support better public and active transport in Victoria's **regional centres**?
 - d. How will you **improve connectivity** across the urban fringe and into the city?
 - e. How will you **combat congestion** and help people get where they're going cheaply and on time?
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Our big asks

These are yes or no questions and ask whether you will commit to these actions during the next term of Parliament if you form government or in a position to bargain for a balance-of-power agreement.

The scorecard will indicate a thumbs up for support, thumbs down for oppose and question mark where your position is unclear or significantly qualified. You are welcome to add clarification, more information or link to your policies or initiatives. Your full response will be available on our website.

Stopping bad projects

1. Will you oppose the construction of the **West Gate Tunnel**?
2. Will you oppose the construction of the **North East Link**?
3. Will you oppose the construction of the **East-West Link**?
4. Will you commit to a **phase-out of private tolls** on existing roads by 2030?

Stronger and more accountable local industry

5. Will you commit to an **independent inquiry** into the performance of Transdev who have been accused of running unsafe and unreliable services despite managing nearly 30% of Melbourne's bus network?
6. Will you commit to higher **local content quotas** for industry including the manufacturing of, where possible, all future rail, bus and tram stock to be built in Victoria?
7. Will you commit to not accept any **unsolicited bids** from private corporations and take all projects through a public and open tender and through the Infrastructure Australia assessment process?
8. Will you commit to **reversing privatisation** of transport infrastructure, services and operations?

Building a 21st century rail network

9. Will you commit to an extended and expanded **level crossing removal** program, focusing on roadways that are important for tram and route bus movements?
10. Will you finish Melbourne Metro 1 on time and start the construction of **Melbourne Metro 2**?
11. Will you finish the Airport Rail Link and start the construction of the **Melbourne Suburban Rail Loop**?
12. Will you commit to finally building the **Doncaster Rail Line** to connect Doncaster and Kew to the CBD?

Connecting our city

13. Will you commit to **expanding the inner city tram network** to urban renewal precincts like Fishermans Bend and a new cross-city route linking the train stations in North Melbourne and North Richmond?
14. Will you investigate **building inter-suburban tram and SmartBus links** in suburban Melbourne linking key rail corridors and commercial precincts with people's homes?
15. Will you commit additional funding to building more and safer **outer suburban cycling** and active transport links?
16. Will you commit to a publicly-accessible, costed and **integrated transport plan** with a hard target of 35% of all trips by public or active transport by 2030?

Get trucks off our local streets

17. Will you commit to a legislated target of 30% of all **heavy freight by rail** by 2030?
18. Will you develop and fund a five-year **rail modernisation project** to complete standard gauge conversion, increase track running speeds, upgrade rail signalling and improve rail network utilisation?
19. Will you investigate a **publicly-owned freight rail network** for Victoria, with open access intermodal terminals at key locations across the state including at the Port of Melbourne?
20. Will you **strengthen enforcement** of road freight time, noise and environmental restrictions including setting stronger penalties and the creation of a new stronger State Environmental Protection Policy?

We'd love to be able to provide links to your specific election initiatives and transport, urban planning and housing affordability policies. Feel free to include links to those with your response.

Thank you once again for your time and hard work. Best of luck with the election and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours in Solidarity

Rachel Lynskey | Campaigner

on behalf of the Sustainable Cities Collective at the Friends of the Earth Melbourne

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I acknowledge that I meet and work on the land of the Wurundjeri people and that sovereignty of the land of the Kulin Nations was never ceded. I pay respect to their Elders, past and present, and acknowledge the pivotal role that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to play within the Australian community.