

Question

01

This survey is for election candidates only. Are you standing for election in Whitehorse

✓ Yes

No

Question

02

Name:

Andrew Davenport

Question

03

Ward you are standing for:

Cootamundra

Eley

Elgar

Kingsley

Lake

Mahoneys

Simpson

Sparks

Terrara

Walker

✓ Wattle

Question

04

Are you a current Councillor standing for re-election

✓ YES

NO

Question

05

Do you live in the ward?

✓ YES

NO

Question

06

For how long have you been a resident of Whitehorse?

14 Years

Question

07

List relevant community, political and/or professional organisations with which you are/have been actively involved with, your role(s) and the period of your involvement

Australian Institute of Company Directors - Graduate Member
CPA Australia - Associate Member
Hawthorn Football Club - Member
Box Hill Lions - Member
Rotary Club of Mont Albert and Surrey Hills - Honorary Member
Bennettswood Bowls Club - Past Social Member
Freemasons Victoria - Member
Liberal Party of Australia (Victorian Division) - Member

Question

08

I'm standing for Council because my priorities are:

- 1 Ensuring rates are kept as low as possible
- 2 Maximising walking & cycling opportunities
- 3 Keeping a tight rein on Budget expenditures
- 4 An enhanced emphasis on the local environment - trees, parks and streetscapes
- 5 Making sure local business is supported
- 6 To maintain Council services the way they are
- 7 Other (please note below)
- 8 Climate change mitigation initiatives

Question

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If the list above didn't have your main reason(s), please note them here:

Enhance opportunities for women and girls in sport.

Question

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What particular experience and strengths do you have which will help you address those issues and bring about change?

I have had 8 years experience as a Councillor in the City of Whitehorse and 20 years combined experience in the private sector and non-for profit board roles. I understand that in Local Government that change does not happen overnight, but is achieved through a series of good decisions over time. Examples where I have been involved in bringing about change is the Box Hill Integrated Transport Strategy which promotes the use of cycling, and increase budget expenditure in cycling and public open space enhancements. I have also led by example when it comes to cycling, as, at the end of my Mayoral year, I decided to use an e-bike for commute rather than the car.

Question

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Many Councils have a publicly available Community Engagement Framework to ensure good mutual flow of ideas between Council and the community. In relation to Whitehorse adopting a Community Engagement Framework:

	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
It's essential for good communication				✓
It's important but not urgent at present		✓		
The community is consulted well enough now		✓		
Community views are vital before decisions are made			✓	
Council surveys are too simplistic at present			✓	

Question

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Do you think special interest groups should have agreed opportunities for regular engagement with relevant Officers to share plans and progress, and give specialised advice and feedback?

	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
These groups have valuable special knowledge			✓	
Officers are professional and don't need additional advice		✓		
It's an interesting idea for the future but not now.		✓		
Officers consult well enough now		✓		
There are already many ways for groups to say what they think			✓	
These groups are just seeking special advantage for themselves		✓		

Question

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Do you think special interest groups should have periodic opportunities for engagement with Councillors where ideas can be shared and discussed on a 'round-table' basis?

	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
Ward meetings already serve that function		✓		
This could help reduce number of emails and phone calls Councillors receive		✓		
Councillors would benefit from getting specialised advice			✓	
Councillors are well enough informed now by officers		✓		
There are already enough ways for groups to say what they think			✓	
Council meetings provide this opportunity to groups already	✓			
An annual round-table type of forum for these groups should be considered.			✓	

Question

14

An effect of Covid-19 has been that people are exercising by walking and riding more than previously. Is this an opportunity for Council to take action to facilitate a sustainable, safer and permanent shift to people using Active Transport as a more common mode for local trips, school journeys etc?

	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
It's a temporary thing and				

	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
everything will pretty much go back to normal after Covid-19			✓	
Walking and riding is good for recreation, but it's not viable as a transport mode in Whitehorse		✓		
It's a good idea in theory, but Whitehorse can't afford the cost to do much about this	✓			
Whitehorse already does a lot and has longer term plans to make it better		✓		
This is a 'once-in -lifetime' opportunity and Council should do a lot more to ensure this happens			✓	

Question

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Do you have particular views you'd like to share in relation to the last question?

Council is great at making plans, but, implementation of cycling and walking infrastructure hasn't progressed as fast enough, and more can be done. My view is that the easy cycling routes should be implemented in a faster timeframe, and investment made in cycling and walking infrastructure in major activity centres. Further, Council should concentrate more on deploying infrastructure and less on 'educational programs'.

Question

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Do you support Council taking action to repurpose open space, footpaths and roadside parking at shopping centres so that cafes and restaurants can re-open with more patron space outside when restrictions are eased.

If it takes away car parking it wouldn't work

This is good for inner city areas but It's not really practicable in Whitehorse

✓ Council should give this strong consideration

Council should do this immediately to help local businesses

Comment: I would only do this in major activity centres, and not the neighbourhood strip shops.

Question

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In your view, with so many more people walking and cycling, what will be the effect on parks, local streets, traffic and the community generally, and what should Council do about this?

Council should make additional investments in enhancing Parks and Gardens including additional walking and cycling infrastructure and on demand lighting in parks to improve safety at night.

Question

18

In the Budget, approx 20% of people get approx 80% of the capital budget for formal & non-formal recreation activities.. See the link above. Please choose one statement that best represents your view:

✓ This is unfair and I think non-formal infrastructure should get a more equitable % of capital spent

It sounds a good idea in theory, but It's difficult to know where extra funds could be spent to redress this imbalance and make a difference to those who only participate in non-formal activities

Council has always supported formal sports and I think that budget constraints mean that Council can't afford to spend extra on infrastructure for non-formal activity.

I don't see a problem with the way things are

Comment: There is a tension between allocating of funding to provide better formal recreation activities to support female participation in sport and non-formal recreation activities. In my view, additional investment could be made in public open space to support non-formal recreation activities by utilising the open space reserve. If re-elected, I'll work towards allowing more funds to be used for non-formal recreation infrastructure.

Question

19

The Whitehorse Cycling Strategy includes building Easy Ride Routes. Considering the need for better cycling facilities identified in the Strategy, and the effects on cycling participation caused by Covid-19, what are your views?

	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
Easy ride routes are a good idea and should be implemented quickly			✓	
Taking 4 years to start on the first route is not good enough				✓
Taking over 10 years to get the first 6 of 20 possible routes is not good enough			✓	
These are a good idea but not particularly urgent		✓		
Council can't afford to spend more \$ on this to speed up implementation		✓		
Having these routes won't have much effect on people riding more		✓		
The routes are all on the road and these routes won't really add to safety for cyclists		✓		

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our community as a Councillor in the Wattle Ward area for the last eight years. I have strived to improve Council services, while scrutinising costs and activities carefully so that rates can be kept as low as possible. I have actively listened to your feedback and represented your concerns at Council.

If I am re-elected, I will continue to work hard to serve our community in Whitehorse where I, and my family have been resident for 14 years.

I will keep working to protect the unique character of our neighbourhood and discourage inappropriate development. I will continue to support Council providing high quality services that assist youth, seniors and families from all faiths and cultures. I will encourage investment in Council parks and gardens; deliver better walking and cycling infrastructure; advance opportunities for women and girls; re-inforce support for the elderly to stay home longer; and strengthen business development in the area. I will push for the introduction of an Organic Food and Garden Waste service to reduce waste going to landfill. I will maintain support for volunteers involved in sporting clubs and community groups.

You need a Councillor with proven experience during these times. I will utilise my eight years experience as a Councillor, and, twenty years of combined private sector and non-for-profit board experience to ensure that Council emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic in the best position as possible. Please call me on 0480295156, email me at andrew.m.davenport1@gmail.com or message me at [facebook.com/CrAndrewDavenport](https://www.facebook.com/CrAndrewDavenport) to let me know how I can best serve you. Please vote 1 Andrew Davenport, 2 Santi Whiteside, then, number all other boxes in any order.

Cr Andrew Davenport - Experienced. Accessible. Committed.