

Question

01

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

✓

Yes

No

Question

02

Name:

Anne Makhijani

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?

Over 18 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

Belbird Dell Advisory Committee - Secretary - 17years
Friends of the Healesville Freeway Reserve - convener - 10years
Nunawading Community Gardens - President - 4 years
Whitehorse Reconciliation Advisory Committee - member - 7 years
Gardens for Wildlife, Victoria - Steering Committee member - 3 years
and many others.

Question

08

I'm standing for Council because my priorities are:

1 Climate change mitigation initiatives

2 Keeping a tight rein on Budget expenditures

3 Ensuring rates are kept as low as possible

4 An enhanced emphasis on the local environment - trees, parks and streetscapes

5 Making sure local business is supported

6 Maximising walking & cycling opportunities

7 Minimising the dominance of the car in our society

8 To maintain Council services the way they are

9 Other (please note below)

The respondent skipped this question.

Question
10

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

I am a good communicator with strong connections in the community. I convened the group that advocated to save the Healesville Freeway Corridor and we were successful in saving the land as open space. So I have a track record in representing the community and getting results that are a long term benefit for all.

Question
11

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
12

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
13

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 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		✓		

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

The respondent skipped this question.

Question 16 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

Question 17 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?

It is good that people are more active. Council should monitor the impact to mitigate and negative impacts and plan for more prolonged higher use.

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

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		✓		

Question 20 You can paste your Candidate Statement into the box below.

Anne Makhijani - Candidate Statement

I am standing as an Independent candidate in Mahoneys Ward, one of the eleven new wards created in Whitehorse.

I have lived in Whitehorse for over 18 years, where our children went to school and grew up. Over this time I have forged deep links and connections in the local community.

Professionally I worked in the Clothing and Textile industry, in production and international logistics, giving me experience in finance, business, manufacturing and trade.

For the last 17 years I have volunteered in Whitehorse and beyond - Bellbird Dell Advisory Committee, Monash University Ethics Committee (reviewing research applications involving humans), Extended Families (supporting special needs families), Whitehorse Reconciliation Advisory Committee, Bungalook Community Plant Nursery, Nunawading Community Gardens and Friends of Healesville Freeway Reserve (FoHFR).

With the support of the community, I convened the FoHFR to advocate and successfully save the 35 hectare corridor as open space to benefit future generations and the environment.

Gardens for Wildlife, Whitehorse is another initiative I championed, a program that supports residents create wildlife friendly gardens in our city. I also serve on the Gardens for Wildlife, Victoria committee, where we assist

Local Governments and communities across Victoria start similar programs, for which research shows environmental, human health and wellbeing benefits.

I stand for

- Taking Climate Change seriously
- Sustainable Living through protection of our environment, reducing waste to landfill, tackling recycling, efficient energy use and restricting inappropriate development
- Efficient and non-wasteful expenditure of rates to get the best outcomes for the community and local business.

As a woman with a migrant, multicultural background, who has been actively involved in various aspects of community life. I have a deep and unique understanding of issues that affect various sections of our community and a track record of delivering outcomes that have long term benefits.

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