

Question

01

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

✓ Yes

No

Question

02

Name:

HARRY MA

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?

10 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

Support Meals on Wheels, St Thom's Hope Food Pantry, Rotary Club , Red Cross by fund raising and donations

Innovation parter with CSIRO, executive training partner with RMIT,

Founder of Australian Chinese Giving Circle, which sent to local people more 30, 000 free masks, 2000 bottles of sanitiser, raising \$45,000 for local charities during the Pandemic, especially for free meals to local elders, international students of Deakin University, Box Hill Institute.

Member of Law Institute of Victoria

Question

08

I'm standing for Council because my priorities are:

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

Question

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

advocate for female -friendly sport facilities
provide more support for elders and youths

Question

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

. Being a lawyer for decades, I care about people, business and social justice, and would use these values to bring about positive change for the community. I am a social worker for more than 20 years with the ability and experience of organising, managing, listening and work with the people, to bring the positive change of our society.

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

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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	✓			

	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
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?

The respondent skipped this question.

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

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?

It gonna be good for the Environment friendly, and ease the traffic for sure, but park could be crowded.

Council should consider more space for park, such as former Standard Brickworks, Box Hill

Question

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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

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You can paste your Candidate Statement into the box below.

Harry Ma

Having lived in the City of Whitehorse for many years with my family, I know and love the local community and enjoy its rich histories and neighbourhood character, and am determined to protect those for you. Being a lawyer

for decades, I care about people, business and social justice, and would use these values to bring about positive change for the community. I am involved in several non-profit organisations to support our neighbourhood, such as the Red Cross, free meals to local elders. I devote my time to helping people start their own businesses, cooperating with the CSIRO and RMIT, which contributes to business innovation and job creation in the area. I give my time and sponsor events to introduce Australian values to new migrants, building a harmonious community.

If elected, I would work constructively with other Councillors and Council staff to enable Whitehorse Council to:

Listen to your concerns and represent your views, ease the cost of living and running business by keeping Council rates low, reduce fees and charges, advocate for new Sunday markets or pop up markets to reconnect communities and boost small businesses after COVID 19, fight inappropriate development by ensuring that adequate planning controls are in place, promote female participation in fitness activities by advocating for female-friendly sport facilities, promote more service for our elders and youth, and set a Whitehorse Community Vision and Whitehorse Council Plan which positively responds to your feedback. I will be a breath of fresh air for the council and be a voice for the local community while maintaining our traditions. It would be an honour to represent you for council and I seek your support. Please vote 1 for Harry Ma, Vote 2 for Amanda McNeill.