

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

✓ **Yes**

No

Question
02 Name:

Tina Liu

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?

30 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

Box Hill First -- 4 years

Elgar Contact -- 4 years

Whitehorse Manningham Library Corporation (Chair in 2019) --- 3 years

Eastern Transport Coalition (Current Deputy Chair) --- 2 years

Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action --- 3 years

Whitehorse Business Group --- 3 years

Rotary Club of Mont Albert and Surrey Hills --- 3 years

Melbourne Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce --- 10+ years

Asian Business Association of Whitehorse --- 8 years

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
- 9 Other (please note below)

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

I have not ranked the issues for question 8 – as I believe each point is important and that Council needs to take a balanced and practical approach with the diverse needs of our community. I always welcome community input and the opportunity to further discuss issues that matter to our residents/ratepayers – please feel free to contact me on: tina@tina-liu.com.au / 0460 714 693. For more information about my advocacy and actions on Council, please visit my website: www.tina-liu.com.au

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

As a current Whitehorse Councillor who is a deep-rooted Box Hill local and has been involved in a number of different community / professional groups, I have in-depth understanding of our municipality, community needs and local government. I have a proven record of listening to and advocating for our community. I am reasonable, practical and I get things done.

My background in commerce and the running my own business has also given me the financial/economic acumen and I strongly believe in continuous improvement as a Council.

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			✓	

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	✓			

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.				✓

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 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			✓	

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

On Council, I have called for and supported the acceleration of Whitehorse's Easy-Rides route construction and additional funding for cycling initiatives/infrastructure. I also led the review and formulation of the new Box Hill Integrated Transport Study (10-year action plan to improve walking, cycling, and road infrastructure and initiatives), which was recently passed by Council. I note that WATAG was a part of the stakeholder reference group for the Study and thank WATAG members for their valuable insight and contribution.

Although we have made inroads in this space as a Council, I hope to have the opportunity to continue working with community groups such as WATAG and through my representation on the Eastern Transport Coalition, to further expand and advocate for better active transport opportunities/initiatives in Whitehorse.

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 am a strong supporter of this initiative and have been advocating to Council on behalf local businesses for swift action regarding outdoor dining provisions and more creative uses of spaces. As of Tuesday 6 October, I note that Whitehorse Council has launched a 'COVID Response: Outdoor Trading Permit' - open to local businesses in the hospitality sector.

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 has highlighted once again that our parks/gardens, local streets and other alternative modes of transport are of great importance to our community. It emphasises the need for Council to maintain, improve and further invest in such infrastructure/spaces.

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: If there was another option for this question (i.e. "Other") I would have selected that - but for the purposes of this survey in its current form and for me to progress further, I went with option two. Regarding the question, I don't think it is fair to compare. That being said, I would like to see further investment considerations for non-formal recreation activities. I am a supporter of general health and well-being - including physical/recreational activities, and I don't think it should one or the other (ie. formal vs. non-formal) - rather, both should be supported in a balanced and practical approach.

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		✓		

You can paste your Candidate Statement into the box below.

Please visit my website www.tina-liu.com.au for further information on what I stand for.